

The Drama of Redemption

Exodus 1-40 - NCBC, March 13, 2022

Main Point: **God sovereignly works to save His own people for His own glory.**

- **God sovereignly works ...**
 - In Moses
 - In Pharoah
- **...to save His own people...**
 - Set apart by God's redemption
 - Set apart by God's revelation
 - Set apart for God's residence
- **...for His own glory**
 - So His name is known
 - So His wonders are shown

Application: **Fear the Lord, Believe His Words, & Rejoice in God's Presence!**

Opening Announcements:

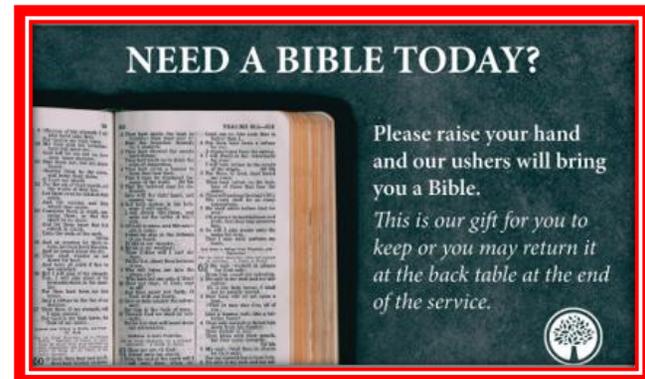
- **This Saturday, Mar 19, at 8am** all the men of our NCBC family will be gathering for a wonderful breakfast with John Camiola from Nigeria. Register on the Check-in Card or the app.

<<Great is Thy Faithfulness>>



God is so faithful. He keeps His promises and He gives His own presence to cheer and to guide us. May our worship be pleasing to Him now as we gather our hearts around His Word.

Please open your heart and your Bible to **Exodus**, the second book of the Bible, where we continue our *More Than a Children's Story* preaching series.



If you do not have a Bible with you, we'd love to give you a Bible. Simply raise your hand as the ushers come by, as you'll definitely benefit from having an open Bible with you as we explore the book of **Exodus** today.

Our goal for this preaching series is to proclaim God's glory by piercing through the blinding familiarity of these Old Testament stories so we can all rediscover the greatness of our good and sovereign God. The Old Testament has so much to teach us today about the character of our God and His drama of redemption.



So today we turn our attention to **Exodus**, where we learn how God delivered His own people from slavery in Egypt and made them a special nation distinct from all other nations on the earth.

Today's sermon is like a movie trailer... it's designed to encourage you to go read the entire 40 chapters of **Exodus** later this week. **Exodus** is a thrilling study!

To introduce this, we'll read from **Exodus chapter 6**. So if you're able, please stand in honor of the reading of God's Word, as I read from the ESV translation, starting in **Exodus 6, verse 1**:

But the LORD said to Moses, "Now you shall see what I will do to Pharaoh; for with a strong hand he will send

them out, and with a strong hand he will drive them out of his land." 2 God spoke to Moses and said to him, "I am the LORD. 3 I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as God Almighty, but by my name the LORD I did not make myself known to them. 4 I also established my covenant with them to give them the land of Canaan, the land in which they lived as sojourners. 5 Moreover, I have heard the groaning of the people of Israel whom the Egyptians hold as slaves, and I have remembered my covenant. 6 Say therefore to the people of Israel, 'I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from slavery to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment. 7 I will take you to be my people, and I will be your God, and you shall know that I am the LORD your God, who has brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. 8 I will bring you into the land that I swore to give to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. I will give it to you for a possession. I am the LORD.' "

This is the reading of God's Word. Let's Pray.

"**Exodus**" is a word that means, "exit" or "departure," so this second book of the Holy Scriptures describes how God brought His people – the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob – out of Egypt so that they could come to the land of Canaan which God had previously promised them.

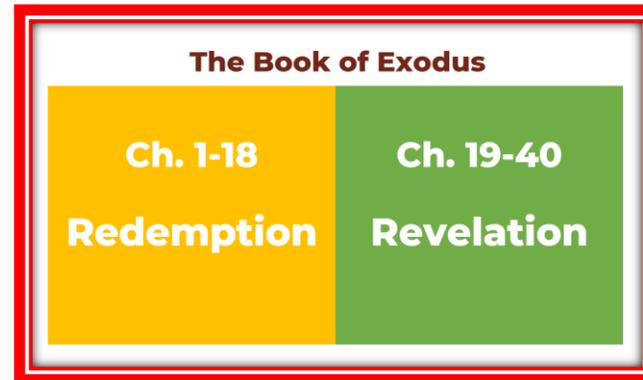
We know from the end of **Genesis** how God brought Jacob's family to Egypt to incubate them and turn 70 people into a nation of over 2 million people.

Exodus chapter 1 verse 7 says *the people of Israel were fruitful and increased greatly; they multiplied and grew exceedingly strong, so that the land was filled with them.*

Therefore, they became severely oppressed by the fearful Egyptians. **Chapter 1** describes how the Egyptians enslaved the Hebrews, and ruthlessly subjected them to bitter labor. By the end of **chapter 1**, the Egyptians even placed a death sentence on any male child born to a Hebrew.

Some 320 years after **Genesis 50**, these were dark days in Israel's history for sure. But as the narrative unfolds, we see that our good God is still in control, and He is actively working to bring about His people's salvation all in the manner that will increase the fame of His own Name.

So please understand: the book of **Exodus** reads like a dramatic play. It is a book that is full of wonder, suspense, and mystery. If you read **Exodus** carefully, your soul will cycle repeatedly between the ravines of crushing heartbreak and anguish, to the heights of praise and joyful song!



The book of **Exodus** divides into two clear sections: the first **18 chapters** are all about redemption, and then **chapters 19-40** are about God's revelation. In the first half, God delivers His people out of Egypt, in the last half God reveals His law and tabernacle instructions. **Chapters 19-40** reveal how God intends for saved people to live now that they've been rescued from slavery. So the first half of Exodus is about *salvation*, and the last half is about *sanctification*.

Now listen carefully, because this book of **Exodus** is very important to a proper understanding of all of Scripture. The Old Testament exodus is a picture of how God miraculously saves His own people from sin. The exodus is to the Old Testament what the cross is to the New Testament. After all, we could summarize the main point of **Exodus** with this sentence:



God sovereignly works to save His own people for His own glory. So today I simply want to unpack each part of this sentence, to show how **Exodus** teaches us how God sovereignly works, to save His own people, all for His own glory.

So let's dive in now to see how **Exodus** teaches that,

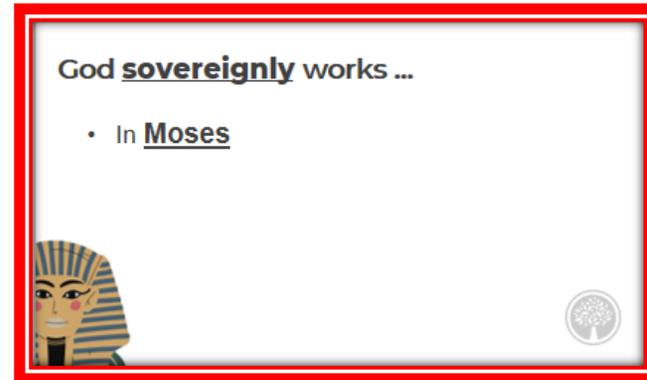


God **sovereignly** works. Now remember, that word "sovereign" refers to God's rule and control over all things. So if you learn anything from **Exodus**... learn

¹ Exodus 1:22

this: our God is not passive! The God of the Bible is not aloof or apathetic. He is never uninvolved with His people.

Our God is always working and active and exerting His good control in our lives. So let's first consider how God exerts His good control,



In **Moses**.

Chapter 2 introduces us to a young Hebrew family who has a baby boy in the middle of Pharaoh's murderous population control initiative. Can you imagine the heartache and grief of this family when the midwife declared, "It's a boy!" and Moses was born?

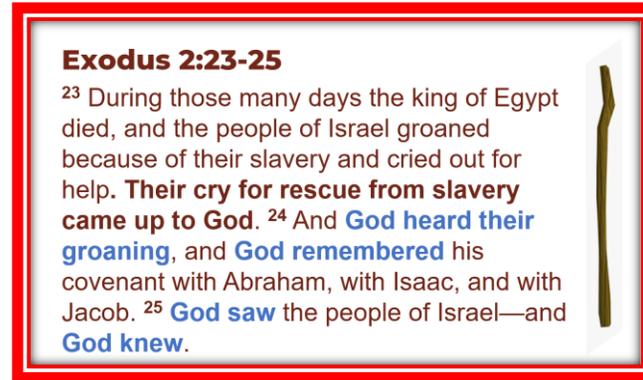
"Lord, not a son! Pharaoh requires every little boy to be drowned."¹ Why would a sovereign God give us a boy, and not another girl, in the midst of this ethnic holocaust? It's hard for us to imagine the bitter trauma and distress of God's people during this time, isn't it?

So after 3 months of hiding Moses, this distraught mom realizes there's no future for her or Moses in hiding. So she makes a basket-ark, and puts baby Moses among the reeds, and leaves her daughter to watch and see what will happen to Moses.

And in God's sovereign providence, **verse 5** describes how Pharaoh's *own daughter* discovers Moses, adopts him as her own child, but then miraculously allows Moses' own mom to nurse the child until Moses is weaned on her behalf.

Church – God is fully in control, and He is good. Even when it seems that evil is winning all around you, God is working, and accomplishing His purposes. God worked sovereignly in Moses' life to bring him into Pharaoh's own home, to receive the best education and leadership training that Egypt could offer, all for His redemptive plan that would come 80 years later in the exodus.²

Now notice **chapter 2, verses 23-25**:



In the middle of these first 80 years of Moses' life, God's people were groaning because of their slavery, and they were crying out for help.

Can you relate loved ones? Do you ever cry out to God for rescue, only to wonder if God even hears you? Look at **verse 24**,

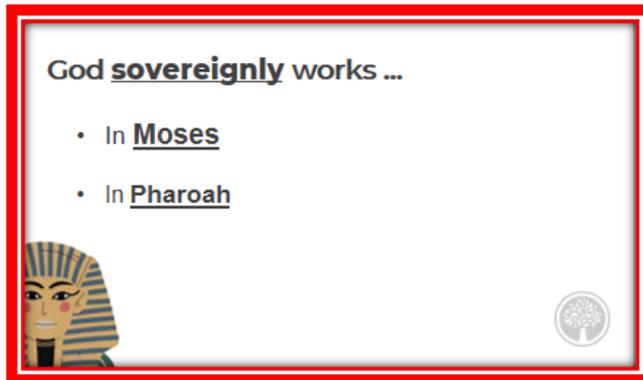
And God heard their groaning, and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. God saw the people of Israel—and God knew.

Encourage your groaning soul with this truth, loved ones: God hears you, God remembers His promises, God sees you, and God knows³ what you are enduring. Never stop trusting in Him. God is sovereignly working, even through all of our waiting.

² Moses lived as Egyptian royalty for 40 years, under he committed murder (Exodus 2:11-12; Acts 7:22-24). For the next 40 years of his life, Moses lived as a fugitive in the wilderness of Midian, since Moses was 80 years

old when they finally spoke to Pharaoh about letting Israel go (Exodus 7:7).
³ For further study on God's knowledge in Exodus, see: 3:7, 9, 19; 4:14; 33:17.

Of course this becomes clearer as we keep reading through **Exodus**, and we start to see how God not only supernaturally calls and enables Moses,⁴ but God is also sovereignly working,

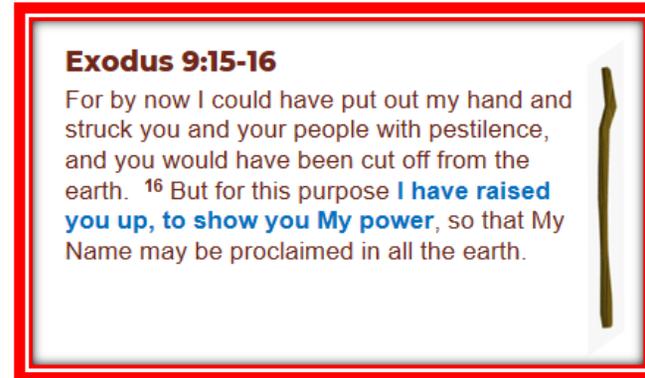


In Pharaoh as well. Just as God was providentially raising up Moses, so also God was working to raise up this most powerful leader of the known world at the time.

⁴ C.f. Exodus 3-4

⁵ 1 Samuel 2:7; Psalm 75:6-7; Luke 1:52; Acts 17:26; Romans 13:1-5)

⁶ C.f. Romans 9:14-24; Remember of course, that every human being is a sinner both by nature and personal choice. And no sinner ever deserves God's mercy or is owed God's mercy. God is perfectly just and righteous to condemn all morally responsible image-bearers to eternal death, since the wages of their own sin is death. Therefore, when we recognize the full extent of our sinful rebellion against God's good and perfect holiness, it is



Exodus 9 verse 16 explicitly says that *God raised Pharaoh up to show God's power, so that God's Name may be proclaimed in all the earth.*

So whenever our world starts to suffer under the evils of dictators or power-hungry nations, we must remember that no enemy of God has ever ascended to their place of power apart from God's own work to raise them up.⁵

God sovereignly works in the responsible unbelief of evil rulers to bring about His further glory.⁶

Nowhere is this more clearly seen in Scripture than through Pharaoh's hard heart.⁷ Let's pick up this theme,

stunning to realize that God ever would saves and rescues even one sinner, much less someone like me! No wonder Paul erupts in the praise of Romans 11:33-36 after considering these deep and glorious truths in Romans 9-11!!

⁷ In fact, the apostle Paul uses Pharaoh's hardened heart as an example of God's purposeful election and justice at work in bringing about His sovereign mercy upon whomever He wills.

Exodus 4:21

And the LORD said to Moses, "When you go back to Egypt, see that you do before Pharaoh all the miracles that I have put in your power. But I will harden his heart, so that he will not let the people go."



in chapter 4, verse 21, which reads,

And the LORD said to Moses, When you go back to Egypt, see that you do before Pharaoh all the miracles that I have put in your power. But I will harden his heart, so that he will not let the people go.

Notice, God sovereignly hardens Pharaoh's heart so that Pharaoh will *not* let Israel leave Egypt.

Now this doesn't make a lot of sense to us at first. If God's goal was primarily to deliver His people from Egypt, why would He sovereignly cause Pharaoh to resist such a deliverance?

But in fact, God's ultimate goal was larger than just delivering His people from Egypt. God's ultimate goal is always His own glory! **Exodus** exposes a huge all-powerful sovereign God who always acts and moves for the sake of His own Name, His own glory, and His own praise.

⁸ Exodus 4:21; 7:3-4; 9:12; 10:1-2, 20, 27; 11:9-10; 14:4, 8, 17-18

Now I recognize there's some glorious mystery to all the ways God's sovereignty is the ultimate cause for man's responsible sin. But you can't get around the clear witness of Scripture on this.

10 verses in **Exodus** explicitly say that the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart.⁸ 10 additional verses imply that Pharaoh was responsible for hardening his own heart.⁹

Exodus 9:34-10:2

But when Pharaoh saw that the rain and the hail and the thunder had ceased, he sinned yet again and hardened his heart, he and his servants. ³⁵ So the heart of Pharaoh was hardened, and he did not let the people of Israel go, just as the LORD had spoken through Moses. ^{10:1} Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go in to Pharaoh, for I have hardened his heart and the heart of his servants, that I may show these signs of mine among them, ² and that you may tell in the hearing of your son and of your grandson how I have dealt harshly with the Egyptians and what signs I have done among them, that you may know that I am the LORD."



For example, look at **chapter 9, verse 34** where we see man's responsibility paired with God's sovereignty.

When Pharaoh saw the rain and the hail and the thunder had ceased, he sinned yet again and hardened his heart...

So notice... Pharaoh sinned here and responsibly choose to harden his own heart, right? But now keep reading in **verse 1 of chapter 10**, where God clearly says, *I have hardened his heart...*

⁹ Exodus 7:13, 14, 22-23; 8:15, 19, 32; 9:7, 34, 35; 13:15

God clearly claims to be the ultimate cause for Pharaoh's sin. For notice, He gives three reasons for hardening Pharaoh's heart:

So *that* I may show these signs (or plagues) among them, so *that* Moses can tell future generations how God works among the Egyptians, and so *that* you may know that I am the LORD.

Translation: God is always sovereignly working for the fame of His Name, to gain the reputation He deserves among all the people He's created.

So church, learn from **Exodus** that God is always sovereignly working. Evil can never thwart God's good plan.¹⁰ Our life's circumstances do not determine God's plan; instead God's plan always determines our circumstances.

And remember, God is not cruel or unjust. He is good. For **Exodus** teaches that God sovereignly works,



...to save His own people. God sovereignly works in **chapter 14** to defeat Pharaoh and his army and deliver His people from 400 years of slavery in Egypt!

There is so much amazing grace to be found for sinners as you read through **Exodus**! Our God's Name is Yahweh, and He is a God of salvation and sanctification who makes Himself a sanctuary for all who trust in Him.

So let's quickly trace how God sovereignly works to save His own special people in **Exodus**. After all, we must never think that God treats everyone the same. God is just, but He is not fair.¹¹ God is not egalitarian. Instead He is a God who has *mercy on whom He shows mercy, and has compassion on whom He has compassion.*¹²

¹⁰ Genesis 50:20; Romans 8:28

¹¹ All born-again believers celebrate that God is not fair, but instead He is a God of mercy!! For if God was only fair, we'd all receive only what we deserved: eternal separation away from our God. Jesus' parable about the

laborers in the vineyard (Matthew 20:1-16) teaches this same profound lesson which humbles human pride and magnifies God's abundant mercy: It's not fair, it's mercy!!

¹² Exodus 33:19; Romans 9:15-16

Exodus makes it abundantly clear that God treats Israel special. In **chapter 4 verse 22**, God tells Moses that *Israel is my firstborn son.*¹³

Therefore God's chosen people are,



Set apart, or made distinct from all other people, by His Redemption.

When God brings the 10 plagues on Egypt and her gods,¹⁴ pay careful attention to how God repeatedly treats His own people different than other people.

For example,

¹³ C.f. Jeremiah 31:9; Hosea 11:1; Matthew 2:14-15

¹⁴ Exodus 12:12; interestingly the Egyptians worshipped a wide variety of deities, including but not limited to: a god of the Nile who claimed to be the “life-blood” of Egypt (Plague 1: Nile turned to blood); a frog god who claimed to have the power of resurrection (Plague 2: Frogs); a god of fertility who was in the form of a cow (Plague 5: Cattle Killed); a god of medicine who claimed authority over health (Plague 6: Boils); a goddess of



In **Exodus chapter 8, verses 22-23**, God says *I will set apart the land of Goshen, where my people dwell, so that no swarms of flies shall be there, and you may know that I am the LORD in the midst of the earth. Thus I will put a division between my people and your people.*

Again in **chapter 11, verse 7**,

*So you may know that Yahweh makes a distinction between Egypt and Israel.*¹⁵

Repeatedly in these first **18 chapters**, God sets Israel apart in His redemption, as He Himself sovereignly,

the sky who was responsible for the weather (Plague 7: Hail); a god who claimed authority to protect their crops (Plague 8: Locusts); various sun gods (Plague 9: Darkness); and even Pharaoh himself, who claimed to be divine (Plague 10: Death of the Firstborn). For a fuller study of how the 10 plagues were direct conquests over the Egyptian gods, please see *Moses and the Gods of Egypt* by John J. Davis.

¹⁵ C.f. 8:22-23; 9:4, 6-7, 26; 10:23; 11:7; 12:13, 26-27

Exodus 6:6-7

Say therefore to the people of Israel, 'I am the LORD, and **I will bring you out** from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and **I will deliver you from slavery** to them, and **I will redeem you** with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment. ⁷ **I will take you to be my people**, and I will be your God, and you shall know that I am the LORD your God, who has brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.



fulfills the 4 salvation promises revealed in **chapter 6, verses 6-7**. 4 redemption promises that get pictured in the 4 cups of the Jewish Passover celebration¹⁶ – where God promises,

I will bring you out... I will deliver you from slavery... I will redeem you...and I will take you to be my people.

What glorious redemption God promises for His own special people!

But after God delivers Israel from Egypt in the first **18 chapters**, the last half of Exodus reveals how God's people are,

¹⁶ For a fuller study on the theological significance of Exodus 6:6-7, please see my sermon on 1 Corinthians 11:23-32 entitled, "The Festival of the Redeemed" preached at New Castle Bible Church on September 6, 2015.

God sovereignly works ... to **save** His own people ...

- Set apart by God's **redemption**
- Set apart by God's **revelation**



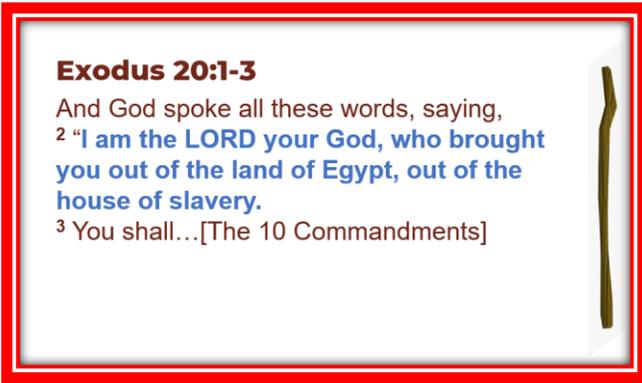
Set apart by God's **revelation**.

Having been redeemed by God, now God intends for them to live as a holy nation...a kingdom of priests who reflect God's own character and live differently from the fallen world around them.¹⁷

In **Exodus chapters 20-23** God reveals His law, summarized by the 10 commandments. And please don't misunderstand these commandments. The Mosaic law was given to people who were already saved.

<https://myncbc.org/media/festival-of-the-redeemed/>

¹⁷ Exodus 19:4-6



Exodus chapter 20 verse 2 makes that clear. The prologue to the 10 commandments starts with a clear statement of how God has already rescued them from Egypt's slavery.

Therefore, the law was given to teach the redeemed how to live as God's people distinct from the rest of the world. The 10 commandments are therefore all about *sanctification*, not salvation!

The 10 Commandments		
The "Bill of Rights" for God & Others		
1. God's right to exclusive allegiance	God's Rights	
2. God's right to define His image		
3. God's right to honor & respect		
4. God's right to command worship and		
Others' right to rest & kind treatment	Others' Rights	
5. Others' right to be respected		
6. Others' right to life		
7. Others' right to a pure & protected marriage		
8. Others' right to property		
9. Others' right to an honest reputation		
10. Others' right to security		

¹⁸ This is no surprise when you stop and realize that Jesus summarized the entire law with the love for God and others (Matthew 22:36-40) and Paul

You could say the 10 commandments are like the "Bill of Rights" for God's special people. But contrary to our American Bill of Rights, the 10 commandments are not about protecting our *own* rights. The 10 commandments are about the rights of God and the rights of others.¹⁸ The first four commandments teach God's people how to respect God's rights, and the last 6 commandments call God's people to respect the various rights of others.

In this way, obedience to God's law reflects God's character, and creates a nation who lives holy and attractive before the world as God's own chosen people.

Finally, and I don't want you to miss this, **Exodus** shows us how God's special people are,



Set apart for God's own residence.

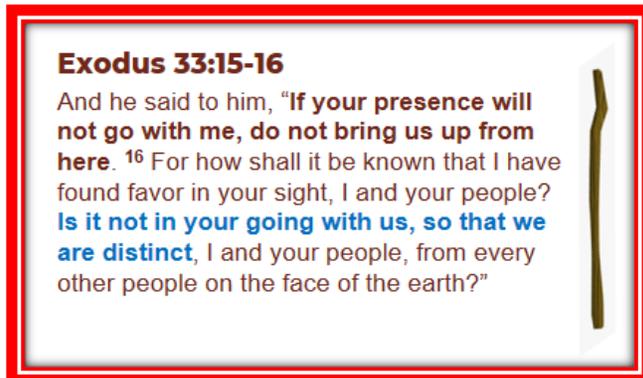
Chapters 25-40 put special focus on God's desire to tabernacle among His people. He gives chapter after

writes that love is the very fulfillment of the law (Romans 13:10; Galatians 5:14).

chapter of specific instructions for the design and operation of His earthly dwelling place right in the middle of His own people.

And yet the very design of God's tabernacle illustrates the problem of God's holy presence among a sinful people. For while God's dwelling place is located right in the middle of the Israelite camp – to graphically picture how God Himself is among them – the tabernacle is cloaked in careful restrictions and sacrifices...all reminding God's people that God is holy.

Then **chapter 33** beautifully expresses what sets God's chosen people apart from all other people in the world.



In **chapter 33, verse 15**, Moses pleads for God to go with him, saying,

If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people?

¹⁹ Romans 8:9-11, 14-16; Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30; 1 Peter 1:2

Now pay careful attention,

Is it not in your going with us, that we are distinct, I and your people, from every other people on the face of the earth?

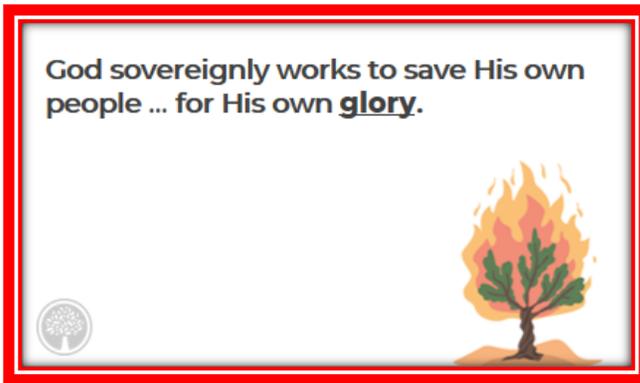
Did you catch that? What fundamentally sets God's people apart from all other people is that God Himself is with us!

O Church. God sovereignly works to save His own people... setting them apart in salvation, setting them apart in sanctification, and setting them apart in the sanctuary of His presence.

So learn this lesson from **Exodus** loved ones. The heart of holiness is never an external religious ritual or attendance at some religious event. *The heart of holiness is dwelling together with God Himself – experiencing His own presence to cheer and to guide.* What fundamentally makes us God's people is that God Himself has redeemed us, revealed His character to us, and now resides personally within us.¹⁹

Do you know the Holy Creator God personally as your Savior and Lord? Have you repented of your sins, and entrusted your soul to His sovereign mercy and grace?

If so, then please acknowledge that,

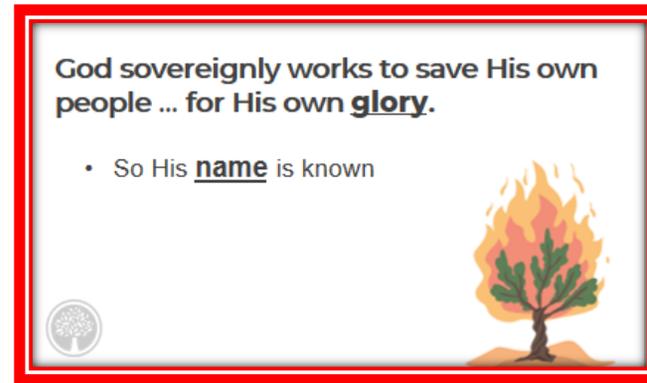


God sovereignly works to save His own people...for His own glory. **Exodus** is so clear on this point that it is quite offensive to our pride. But make no mistake:

God is not ultimately man's servant. Humans are not the ultimate purpose of God's creation. **Exodus** does not reveal a God who is doing everything possible for humanity's sake. Contrary to popular opinion, **Exodus** is not a book primarily about liberation theology, or human liberty. No, God is about something far more profound than just merely freeing His special people from oppression.

Exodus portrays a God who is sovereignly working to save His own people for the ultimate purpose of His own glory! This whole book is about God establishing His own fame, and accomplishing the reputation He desires and deserves,

²⁰ Exodus 3:13-15; 5:2, 23; 6:2-4; 7:5, 17-18; 8:10, 22; 9:14-17, 29-30;



So that His name is known.

The next time you read through **Exodus**, I'd encourage you to highlight every time the Scripture refers to the "name" of God. I counted at least 23 different references to God's Name myself.²⁰

For now, just look at the fascinating exchange in,



Chapter 3 when God first calls Moses to lead Israel out of Egypt. In **verse 13**, Moses asks God,

10:1-2; 11:7, 9; 12:12; 14:4, 17-18; 15:3; 20:7, 24; 23:21; 33:19; 34:5, 14.

If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, The God of your fathers has sent me to you, and they ask me, "What is His Name?" what shall I say to them?

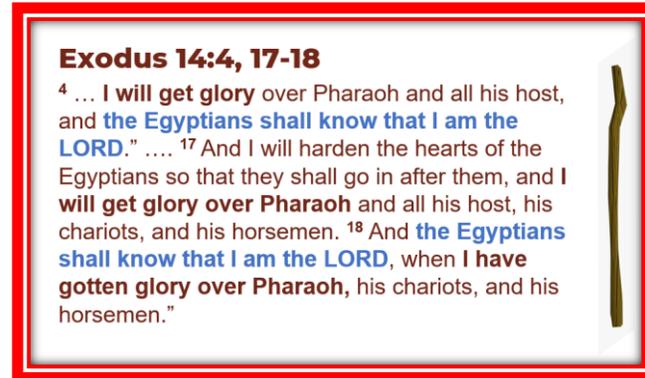
Isn't this interesting? Moses understands that a name communicates authority. So he's basically asking God, "What amount of authority do you claim for yourself as the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob?"

And God responds in **verse 14** saying, my name is "*I AM WHO I AM*" or "*Yahweh*." Meaning I'm the God who eternally exists. I've always been, and I always will be. Therefore I will always keep My promises. I'm the essence of reality, the possessor of all authority!

My Name is *Yahweh*, this is my name forever, and I'm about to act so that I will be remembered this way throughout all generations!

So repeatedly throughout this book, God explicitly teaches that He is sovereignly acting so that His name would be known.

²¹ "Yahweh" is the special name for God that is so holy religious Jews won't even speak it. For this reason, ancient Massorettes artificially added the vowel stems from "Adonai" to the Hebrew constants for Yahweh and created the made-up word "Jehovah" by which they prefer to refer to God.



Chapter 14, verse 4: *I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, and the Egyptians shall know that I am Yahweh.*

(Remember anytime you see LORD spelled in ALL CAPS in our English translations, it's translating the name, Yahweh.²¹)

Later in **chapters 33 and 34** when God reveals His glory personally to Moses, He makes all of goodness pass before Moses and then proclaims to Moses His name, Yahweh.²² God is not embarrassed at all by His own zeal for His own glory, for in **chapter 34, verse 14** God teaches that Yahweh's name is "Jealous," for He will not allow His people to worship any other god.

God is sovereignly working to save His own people, all so that Israel would recognize Yahweh as God,²³ and Egypt would recognize Yahweh as God,²⁴ and then finally so all

C.f. <https://www.gotquestions.org/Jehovah.html>

²² Exodus 33:19; 34:5

²³ Exodus 6:7; 10:1-2; 14:31

²⁴ Exodus 7:3-5; 8:10; 9:14, 15-16, 29; 14:4, 17; c.f. Romans 9:17

the nations would recognize Yahweh as God.²⁵ God does what He does among His own special people all,

God sovereignly works to save His own people ... for His own **glory**.

- So His **name** is known
- So His **wonders** are shown



So His **wonders** are shown

In **chapter 11, verse 9**, God tells Moses that the reason He's hardened Pharaoh's heart, the reason that Pharaoh will not listen to Moses and Aaron, is all so,

Exodus 11:9
Then the LORD said to Moses, "Pharaoh will not listen to you, **that my wonders may be multiplied** in the land of Egypt."



That my wonders may be multiplied...

²⁵ Exodus 15:14-16

God sovereignly works to save His own people in a way that multiplies His own praise, expands His own fame, and serves His own glory.

Main point

God sovereignly works to save His own people for His own glory.



That's the point of **Exodus**: God sovereignly works to save His own people for His own glory.

So obviously there's a whole lot of glory in these 40 chapters that we didn't have time to cover today... but let's be careful to make sure we're responding in the obedience of faith to what we have uncovered.

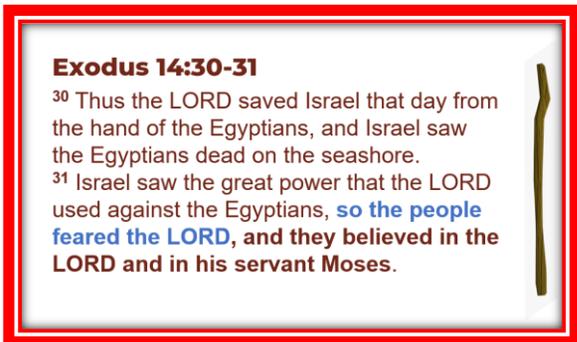
Because I believe that once we grasp the biblical message of **Exodus**, it should cause us to,



Fear the Lord, Believe His Words, & Rejoice in God's Presence!

After all, there's no other god like Yahweh! **Exodus** shouts the glory of God in a way that no one can argue! He's all powerful. He's all knowing. He's perfectly holy, and sovereign above all creation and people. He dwells in unapproachable light, and yet He has promised to redeem a people and dwell with them forever in happy and joyful fellowship.

Just look at **Exodus chapter 14, verse 31**,



Israel saw the great power that YAHWEH used against the Egyptians, so the people feared YAHWEH, and they believed in YAHWEH and in his servant Moses.

O church, do you have a healthy fear of our LORD? Do you live with a conscious awareness of God's power and God's presence in your life? If so, you will hate sin and arrogance and any spirit of disobedience against Yahweh.²⁶

Once you comprehend that God is not passive, he's not egalitarian, and he's not fundamentally your servant... you will fear Yahweh with great rejoicing.

For after God delivered Israel through the Red Sea and defeated Pharaoh and the Egyptians, **Exodus chapter 15** bursts out in a song of praise and thanksgiving!

So church... do you acknowledge that God's sovereign grace is at work in your life... working out your ultimate deliverance in God's good and perfect time... all in a way that will make Him most famous among all peoples for all eternity?

²⁶ Proverbs 8:13



Fear Yahweh. Love and serve Him. Believe His Words which are given to sanctify you, and rejoice in His presence.

After all, the exodus points us to Christ, our perfect Passover Lamb,²⁷ who has been sacrificed so that we could be purchased from sin's slavery and made a special people for God's glory Himself.



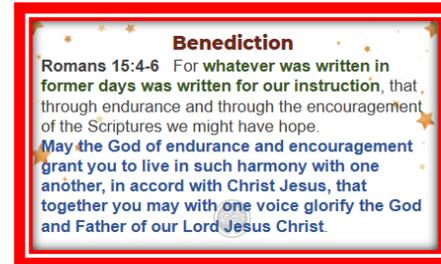
May God cause our hearts to delight more and more in the beauty of God's glory which alone can satisfy the human soul.

Let's pray.

<<I Will Glory in My Redeemer>>

**** NEW Adult Electives Begin Today ****

²⁷ 1 Corinthians 5:7; c.f. John 1:29



Let's pray out our benediction now from **Romans 15, verses 4-6.**

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. 5 May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, 6 that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Please show this slide immediately after the conclusion of the Benediction in both 1st and 2nd services for 2 minutes; then after 2 minutes, you can transition to other slides, etc. Thank you!



Recommended Resources on Exodus:

- Numbers 12:3
- Hosea 11:1
- Matthew 2:14-15
- Acts 3:22-26
- Romans 9:15-26
- 1 Corinthians 5:7-8; 10:1-5
- Hebrews 11:22-29

- <https://www.crossway.org/articles/how-the-exodus-shapes-the-whole-bible/>
- <https://www.mrbckc.org/sermons/sermon/2019-11-03/exodus:-gods-signature-of-salvation>
- <https://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/exodus-understanding-one-of-the-bibles-major-themes>
- <https://www.desiringgod.org/messages/the-humbled-win-the-world>

- Moses and the Gods of Egypt, Davis
- A Long Line of Godly Men, Lawson
- A House for My Name, Leithart
- Echoes of Exodus, Roberts & Wilson
- More than a Story, Michael (Children's Book)

Growing Deeper: Life Group Questions

1. Read Exodus 3, especially vv. 13-15. What is God's name? How does God's name reflect His ultimate authority and sovereign rule over all creation? What happens when Jesus claims this same name for Himself in John 18:5-6, 8?
2. Read Exodus 12:3, 5-6, 7-8, 13, 46, John 1:29 and 1 Corinthians 5:7. How is Jesus our Passover Lamb?
3. Read Exodus 7:3-4, 10:1-2, 14:17-18, 33:19 and Romans 9:15-18. What emotions are raised in you when you process these Scriptures? Is there ever a time when you would not want God to glorify Himself? Discuss together your personal response to the doctrine of God's sovereignty.
4. Read Exodus 15:24, 16:2, and 17:3. Compare the seriousness of the sin of grumbling to the sin of idolatry in Exodus 32. How do lesser sins prepare the way for greater sins in our life? How are you personally seeking to daily fight sin in the power of God's grace?
5. Read Exodus 33:15-16. What makes God's people distinct from all other people on earth? How significant is God's presence to you in the midst of your daily life? How do you seek to remain conscious of God's power and presence with you each day?