

**THROUGH THE BIBLE**  
**September 20, 2017**

*Assignment*

Lesson 2 in the Workbook / Genesis



- 1) Genesis 1-2 is the creation of the world and humankind.  
Genesis 3 explains the beginning of sin.  
Genesis 4 describes the first family.  
Genesis 10-11 is the formation of the nations of the world.  
It is also the start of various languages.
- 2) In Genesis the definition of faith is belief in God.  
In Hebrews 11 it is the assurance of things hoped for / the conviction of things not seen.

Abel	Offering was given from the heart
Enoch	He pleased God so he did not experience death
Noah	Listened to the warnings from God and built an ark
Abraham	Obeyed God and moved to an unknown destination
	Was put to the test and was willing to offer Isaac as a sacrifice to God
Isaac	Blessed Jacob and Esau for their future
Jacob	Blessed each of the sons of Joseph
Joseph	Explained the significance of the Exodus
- 3) Our belief in God as creator makes God sovereign over all things.  
It demonstrates the power God has over his creation for all time.
- 4) Humankind doubted the Word of God. We were disobedient to God. We desired power.
- 5) Our innocence was lost. Our relationship with God changed and it brought a spiritual death.  
A limit was placed on our time on earth. We were banished from the garden to toil and work for the rest of our lives.
- 6) Abram was to leave his country and kindred to an unknown destination. God for his part made Abram into a great nation, God blessed him, his name became great, and he became a blessing to others.  
  
God would bless those who blessed him.  
God would curse those who cursed him.  
Through Abraham all the families of the earth would be blessed.

- 7) Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun (sons of Leah)  
Joseph and Benjamin (sons of Rachel)  
Dan and Naphtali (sons of Bilhah – the maid of Rachel)  
Gad and Asher (sons of Zilpah – the maid of Leah)
- 8) Jesus Christ
- 9) God is the sovereign creator who made humankind and gave us free will. God is both holy and just and when we sinned against God he made death the penalty for our sins. Although we are condemned to die God established a path for our redemption that began with Abram. It is in Genesis that God's plan begins to unfold.

For Personal Reflection –

- Reflect on how our sins have affected the lives of others.
- How do we relate to the three parts of the original sin – doubt, disobedience, desire?
- In what ways do we experience our punishment for sin?
- How has sin personally affected our relationship with God?

Insights on Exodus

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## EXODUS



There are four major theological themes found in Exodus:

- Liberation – from oppression to freedom
- Law – the announcement of God's will for all aspects of our personal and public life
- Covenant – a binding relationship between God and his people
- Presence – a structure to ensure the continued presence of God in the midst of Israel

The book spans approximately eighty years (two generations).

It begins more than 400 years after Joseph, his brothers, and the Pharaoh he once served all died.

In the early Jewish community it was common to tell the story of the Exodus and then retell the story of creation. In the Exodus story God rescues his people from bondage.

At the end of Genesis Jacob and his family settled in Egypt.

350 years + later we find the Israelites forced into slavery.

Israel grew into a nation of over 600,000 men (plus woman and children).

Egypt was threatened by the sheer number of Israelites settled in their land.

The people of God call on the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.  
God heard their groaning and remembered his covenant.  
God looked on the people and noticed them (was concerned for them).  
In response God called Moses to be his messenger.  
Moses is the means by which God will deliver the people.  
Most of his life is spent in preparation for this task.

In Exodus God reveals to the Israelites his identity and his relationship to them.

The name of God is *I am* (an active presence in the life of his people).  
The God known to the people in Genesis is made fully known by name in Exodus.  
*Yahweh* is the third person of the Hebrew verb – *to be*.  
The name was too holy to be spoken aloud.

In Exodus 5-14 God reveals his **power**.

In Exodus 7-12 God displays his power to all of Egypt by sending a series of plagues.

The purpose of the plagues is threefold:

to keep the promise God made to Abraham

to show the Egyptians that he is God

to demonstrate the power of God which is more powerful than the Egyptian gods

Since the Israelites lived in a foreign land for over 400 years and were exposed to the Egyptian gods, God wanted everyone to know that he was the one true God and no other *gods* could match his power. God again showed his power when God parted the Red Sea.

In Exodus 15-17 God reveals his ability to **provide** for his people.

God provides guidance by a pillar of fire and a cloud that leads them through the wilderness.

God provides manna, quail, and water from a rock.

At the end of Exodus 17 God reveals his **protection**.

Joshua leads the Israelites into battle.

Aaron and Hur hold up Moses' hands until the battle is won (by the authority of God).

In Exodus 19-20 God reveals his **moral laws**.

God tells the Israelites that they have a role to play in the covenant relationship.

*Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed the whole earth is mine, but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. (Exodus 19:5-6)*

In Exodus 20 God gives the people the *Ten Commandments*.

We all count differently!

In our tradition the first three commandments address our relationship with God.

The other seven commandments address our relationship with each other.

Matthew 22 – the entire law is to love God with our whole heart and our neighbors as ourselves.

In Exodus 21-23 there are more teachings on how to apply the commandments to our daily lives.

In Exodus 24:7 the Israelites agree to obey the *Book of the Covenant*.

The covenant is sealed by the blood of sacrifice.

The people understand that the blessings are contingent upon their obedience to God.

40 days later they break the covenant by worshiping a golden calf.

In Exodus 25-40 God reveals his **presence** in the Tabernacle.

In Exodus 12 and 25-30 God reveals his **plan**.

The Passover became an annual ritual as a reminder of the continued obedience required by God.

In the Passover the Israelites were delivered from the angel of death.

Through Christ we are delivered from eternal damnation.

In Exodus 25-30 the specifications of the Tabernacle are also symbols for Christian life.

It had one entrance (Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life).

The brazen altar was where the sacrifices for sin took place (our need for confession).

The basin was where the priest washed his hands (pastors have the same option / baptism).

The Holy Place housed the bread of the presence (consecration of the communion elements).

The altar of incense was for intercessory prayers (use of incense in worship).

The Most Holy Place contained the Ark of the Covenant and was divided by a thick veil.

Christians do not need barriers because we have full access to God through Christ.

Page 23 – Map of the Exodus

Exodus begins in the region called Goshen.

The people then traveled out of Egypt and moved toward the southern end of the Sinai Peninsula.

They camped at Mount Sinai where Moses received the Ten Commandments.

Page 24 – The Tabernacle

The Hebrew word is *mishkan* which means a tent or dwelling place.

The Tabernacle was the earthly dwelling place of God.

It was a temporary sanctuary used by the Israelites while wandering in the wilderness.

*Assignment*

Lesson 3 in the Workbook

Read Leviticus (or the portions outlined in the workbook)

Prayer

