



# EXODUS

FROM BONDAGE TO FREEDOM

## BIBLE TEXT | EXODUS 6:14-30

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**14** These are the heads of their fathers' houses: the sons of Reuben, the firstborn of Israel: Hanoch, Pallu, Hezron, and Carmi; these are the clans of Reuben. **15** The sons of Simeon: Jemuel, Jamin, Ohad, Jachin, Zohar, and Shaul, the son of a Canaanite woman; these are the clans of Simeon. **16** These are the names of the sons of Levi according to their generations: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari, the years of the life of Levi being 137 years. **17** The sons of Gershon: Libni and Shimei, by their clans. **18** The sons of Kohath: Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel, the years of the life of Kohath being 133 years. **19** The sons of Merari: Mahli and Mushi. These are the clans of the Levites according to their generations. **20** Amram took as his wife Jochebed his father's sister, and she bore him Aaron and Moses, the years of the life of Amram being 137 years. **21** The sons of Izhar: Korah, Nepheg, and Zichri. **22** The sons of Uzziel: Mishael, Elzaphan, and Sithri. **23** Aaron took as his wife Elisheba, the daughter of Amminadab and the sister of Nahshon, and she bore him Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar. **24** The sons of Korah: Assir, Elkanah, and Abiasaph; these are the clans of the Korahites. **25** Eleazar, Aaron's son, took as his wife one of the daughters of Putiel, and she bore him Phinehas. These are the heads of the fathers' houses of the Levites by their clans. **26** These are the Aaron and Moses to whom the Lord said: "Bring out the people of Israel from the land of Egypt by their hosts." **27** It was they who spoke to Pharaoh king of Egypt about bringing out the people of Israel from Egypt, this Moses and this Aaron. **28** On the day when the Lord spoke to Moses in the land of Egypt, **29** the Lord said to Moses, "I am the Lord; tell Pharaoh king of Egypt all that I say to you." **30** But Moses said to the Lord, "Behold, I am of uncircumcised lips. How will Pharaoh listen to me?"

## DEVOTIONAL FOR EXODUS 6:14-30

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My mother's favorite thing to do is to spend time on a website dedicated to genealogy. She can sit for hours studying possible matches to our family tree and seeing what country, region, or city they were from. She notices the marriages, remarriages, and births with incredible interest. At this point, she has been able to trace parts of my family line back 9 generations with birthplaces in Germany, Switzerland and Sweden!



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In Exodus 6:14-30 we find a nice long list of individuals, most of whom we cannot pronounce! Our tendency may be to pass over a monotonous list of strangers, but I hope to help you see that a genealogical record should not be avoided or ignored.

As I reflect on this very large family, I realize that the Word of God is "...breathed out by God and profitable for teaching..." (2 Timothy 3:16a). The genealogical records found in the Word have a purpose for us.

1. God cares about historical accuracy. Many may believe that the Bible is not historically valid, but this misconception would invalidate all of the gospel message. The Word of God is true and sound. The genealogical records found throughout Scripture validate the history record of the Bible and prove that our faith is not in vain (1 Corinthians 15:14). As you read the Word, take note that God inspired the writers to identify locations, dates, and individuals with great detail. Modern-day archaeologists are finding incredible artifacts to back up the Biblical narrative.
2. God is involved with real people. Each individual found in this list and many other genealogical records were humans who walked down dusty paths, suffered insect bites, lost loved ones, and fought hard battles. They sat at the feet of their parents to hear the stories of how God had created the world, about a rainbow of promise to all who would fear Him, and how Abraham was promised a family tree that outnumbered the stars! God knew each one and loved them.
3. God uses flawed individuals. As I look through this list, I am reminded that Reuben was a coward (Genesis 37:29-35), Judah neglected his family (Genesis 38), and Levi and Simeon put the whole family in danger because of their anger (Genesis 34:30). Moses lacked confidence (Exodus 6:30), and Aaron was easily misguided (Exodus 32:2-5). Each person in this genealogical record was a sinner, but God used them to write the story of our lives today.
4. The family is important to God. Do you remember when Abraham and Sarah were promised that their descendants would be more numerous than the stars in the sky (Genesis 15:5-6)? Abraham believed the Lord. We can see the results of his belief in the genealogical record found in Exodus 6. God allowed Joseph to bring his entire family to safety in Egypt, and 400 years later, He used Moses to draw the Israel tribe out of captivity. Exodus 6:13-25 is a great record of individuals and families who demonstrate God's loving care!

You may not know the names of your ancestors, where they are from, or what kind of lives they led. However, as a child of God, we are a part of an incredible family line that is traced directly to royalty, Jesus Christ. John 1:12-13 reminds us that, "But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God." This is a family that isn't perfect. It is full of flawed, imperfect people who are loved and cherished by the Father.



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## Questions:

1. Take a look at the genealogy record of Jesus Christ in Matthew 1:1-17. Do you see any examples of imperfect individuals that God used?
2. What does your immediate family tree look like? Are you building strong connections to the next generation so that they too follow Christ?
3. Are you struggling with finding your place in the family of faith? Are you like Moses in Exodus 6:30 when he doubts his ability, purity, and skill to be able to answer the call of God on his life?