

Exodus

THE BOOK of Exodus records how the Israelites were saved out of Egypt, led through the Sinai desert for forty years and brought to the borders of Canaan.

A Way Out

The word ‘exodus’ means ‘a going out’. The first part of the book contains the record of how God made a way out for His people Israel. He chose Moses to be their leader.

Then, after ten mighty plagues against Egypt and its gods, and other miracles such as the drying up of the Red Sea to let them cross, He took them out of the slavery of Egypt, to go to the Promised Land. The rest of the book of Exodus records their journeyings in the Sinai desert.



Some interesting links with other parts of the Bible

Exodus 19:6 – see 1 Peter 2:9

Exodus 28:29 – see Hebrews 2:17

Exodus 34:33–35 – see 2 Corinthians 3:7–14



The Ten Plagues

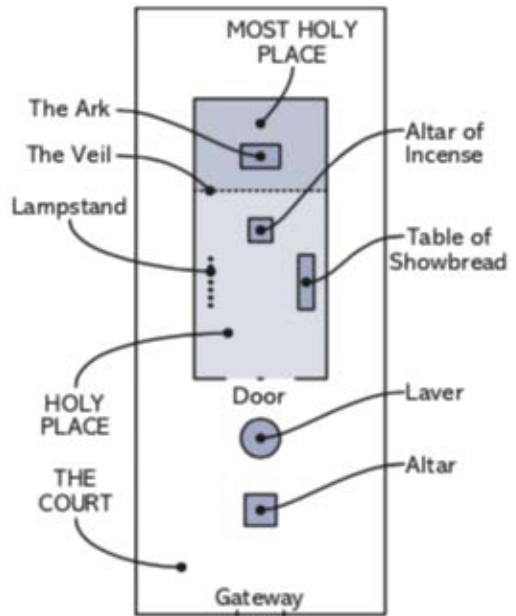
God sent the ten plagues on Egypt to make Pharaoh let the Israelites go. He was also showing that He is God, and the Egyptian gods were just powerless superstitions. We can see some examples where the plagues were directed against specific Egyptian gods:

- ◆ Nile turned to blood: Hapi, Khnum, Osiris (gods of the Nile)
- ◆ Plague on cattle: Hathor (cow goddess), Mnevis and Apis (sacred bulls)
- ◆ Darkness: Ra, Aten, Atmu (sun gods).

Great Events

Among the great miraculous events recorded in Exodus are:

- ◆ God reveals His divine Name, 'Yahweh', at the burning bush – chapter 3.
- ◆ The ten plagues – chapters 7–12.
- ◆ The Passover – chapters 12, 13.
- ◆ Crossing the Red Sea – chapters 13–15.
- ◆ Bread from heaven – chapter 16.
- ◆ Water from the rock – chapter 17.
- ◆ God affirms His special relationship with Israel at Mount Sinai – chapter 19.
- ◆ The giving of the Law (including the Ten Commandments) – chapters 20–31.
- ◆ Incident of the Golden Calf – chapter 32.
- ◆ Making and erecting the Tabernacle, where God's glory came to dwell (see plan opposite) – chapters 25–40.



The Tabernacle (Exodus 32-40)

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