

“The Exodus”

NARRATIVE SYNOPSIS & KEY TEXTS

Exodus 11:1

Now the LORD had said to Moses, “I will bring one more plague on Pharaoh and on Egypt. After that, he will let you go from here, and when he does, he will drive you out completely.”

Exodus 12:13

“The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are, and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.”

Exodus 12:31-32

During the night Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and said, “Up! Leave my people, you and the Israelites! Go, worship the LORD as you have requested. Take your flocks and herds, as you have said, and go. And also bless me.”

Exodus 13:14-15

“In days to come, when your son asks you, ‘What does this mean?’ say to him, ‘With a mighty hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. When Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the LORD killed the firstborn of both people and animals in Egypt.

This is why I sacrifice to the LORD the first male offspring of every womb and redeem each of my firstborn sons.’

God’s redemptive action throughout time & history

Parallels between the Passover and Christ’s Death	
Passover	Christ’s Death
The first-born of Egypt died.	God’s firstborn (his son) dies.
God provides redemption through death.	God provides redemption through death.
Those under the protection of Pharaoh died. Those under the protection of God designated by the blood of the lamb lived.	Those under the redemptive protection of Christ live!
Formative event: The Passover released God’s people out of slavery into their new identity as His people/nation.	Formative event: Christ’s death & resurrection released us out of our slavery to sin/death and into our new identity as His people (without ethnic boundaries).
The Hebrew people received God’s grace when they acknowledged God’s lordship by placing the blood on their doorposts.	We receive God’s grace when we acknowledge Christ as Lord.
The sprinkling of blood on the doorposts was a one-time event.	Christ is called the sacrificial lamb, the final sacrifice.
The Hebrew people were released from slavery into freedom...freedom to serve the Lord.	We are released from slavery into freedom...freedom to serve the Lord.
The result was worship: commemorating the event in future generations	Our response is worship: commemorating the event “in remembrance of me.”

What do we learn about God in the Exodus?

Q: Why did God care about the Hebrew slaves?

Shows God's character

A: God was fulfilling his promise to Abraham (and all people)

B: God heard their cry

God _____

Q. What is it that God is doing?

Demonstrates how God acts

A: God is setting oppressed people free (providing justice)

B: God is setting the groundwork for just action within society

God _____

Q: How is it that God can go to such extremes?

Understanding God's motivation

A: God interacts with real people in real ways.

B: God's motives cannot be judged by human understanding

**God _____
(and _____ are _____)**

GOD IS THE SAME YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND TOMORROW

God _____

God _____

For you

For others

You _____ God

"The Bible is an act of faithful imagination. It is not a package of certitudes. It is an act of imagination that invites *our* faithful imagination that makes it possible to live faithfully...it is rooted in memory, but that presses always toward new possibility that is still in front of us."
– Walter Brueggemann