

Possible Study Plan

- 1 Is the Bible Trustworthy?
- 2 Did God Really Create the World?
- 3 If God is good, why does suffering exist?
- 4 Why is evil so widespread and powerful?
- 5 Why is Israel so important?
- 6 Who is God?
- 7 What is the purpose of the Ten Commandments?
- 8 Are Biblical heroes all good guys?
- 9 How do the Old and New Testaments fit together?
- 10 Why did Jesus perform miracles?
- 11 What did Jesus really say?
- 12 Is death the end (or the beginning)?

Who is God?

A very important name

Things to Remember

- Sin = breaking God's law → death
- Righteousness does **not** come from **perfect behavior** – it comes from **faithful belief** in the **true God**
- An important **picture** from the story of Abraham:
 - The **only son** of a father climbed the mountain with **the wood of sacrifice on his back**
 - God provided **the lamb** as a **substitute** sacrifice
 - “On the mountain of the Lord, it ***will*** be provided”

Also from last lesson...

- **Genesis 47:25** > God humbled Joseph, then used him to save Egypt and Israel
- **Genesis 47:5-6** > Israel welcomed as guests in Egypt
- God revealed **His plan** for the future of Israel:
 - **Genesis 15:13-14** – Israel would be slaves in a foreign land 400 years, but God will come to rescue them
- **Isaiah 25:1** > **God is in control** of world history (His story)

Israel in the land of Egypt

- **Exodus 1:6-7** > Joseph's generation passed away, but the Israelite people multiplied
- **Exodus 1:8-10** > Egypt became afraid of Israel
- **Exodus 1:11-14** > To control Israel, Egypt made them slaves and mistreated them
- **Exodus 1:15-17, 22** > To reduce growth rate of Israel, Pharaoh commanded that all Israelite babies be killed or thrown into the river

Moses

- **Exodus 2:1,2** > An Israelite baby is born
- **Exodus 2:3-6** > The baby was **put into the river**, but found by the daughter of Pharaoh
- **Exodus 2:10** > The boy is **adopted** by Pharaoh's daughter and named **Moses**
- **Exodus 2:11,12** > **Powerful Moses** tried to use his own strength to defend and rescue his people
- **Exodus 2:13-15** > Moses quickly **left Egypt** to avoid trouble, going to the land of Midian.
- **Exodus 2:23-25** > God heard the cries of Israel

God speaks to Moses

- **Exodus 3** > Moses in the desert (40 years later)
 - **Verse 1:** No longer a powerful prince, Moses was just an 80 year old shepherd, alone in the wilderness
 - **Verses 2-4:** God appeared to Moses in a burning bush
 - **Verses 5-6:** Moses was now humble enough to be useful (**1 Peter 5:6**)
 - **Verses 9-10:** God tells Moses that he will bring the Israelites out of Egypt

Who am I ? Who are You ?

- **Exodus 3** > Moses and God in the desert
 - **Verses 11:** Moses is meek and afraid
 - **Verses 12:** God promises that He will go with Him
 - **Verses 13:** Egypt had many gods with many names: Khnum, Hapi, Osiris, Heqt, Seb, Uatchit, Ptah, Mnevis, Serapia, Re, Sekhemet, Imhotep, Nut, Isis, ...
 - **Verses 14:** The name of the true God ... **“I AM”** ... eternally self-existent. The essential center of all things.

Moses meets with Pharaoh

- **Exodus 5:1** > Moses: “Let My people go”
- **Exodus 5:2** > Pharaoh: “I do not know the Lord”
- **Exodus 6:6-8** > God reminded the people that He was still their almighty and loving God
- **Exodus 7:4,5** > God will bring Israel out of Egypt
 - God will bring **judgment** on **Egypt** so that the whole world will know that He is the true Lord of all.
 - But even in the middle of **judgment**, God will show **mercy**

The judgment of God against Egypt

1. **Exodus 7:20-21** > The river turned to **blood**

Verse 22: the magician's trick turns Pharaoh's heart away

2. **Exodus 8:6-8** > Millions of **frogs**

Verses 8,15: Pharaoh hardened his heart

3. **Exodus 8:16,19** > **Gnats** on men and animals

Verse 19: Pharaoh hardened his heart

4. **Exodus 8:21-24** > **Flies** in Egypt but not in Goshen

Verses 30-32: Pharaoh hardened his heart

5. **Exodus 9:6,7** > Egyptian **cattle** die

Verse 7: Pharaoh hardened his heart

The judgment of God against Egypt

6. **Exodus 9:10** > **Boils** and sores on men and beasts

Verse 12: Pharaoh has hardened his heart so often, now God hardens it for him

Verse 15: God has actually shown mercy by not destroying them quickly and completely

Verses 19,20: God gives a merciful warning to the people

7. **Exodus 9:25,26** > Supernatural **hail** storm

Verses 34: Pharaoh hardened his heart

Exodus 10:7 Pharaoh is warned by his own counselors

8. **Exodus 10:15** > **Locusts**

9. **Exodus 10:21-24** > **Darkness**

Exodus 12:12 – Judgments against false gods of Egypt

	PLAGUE	GODS OF EGYPT	INTERESTING NOTES
1	WATER TURNED TO BLOOD Exodus 7:14-25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Khnum - Guardian of river's source. • Hapi - Spirit of the Nile. • Osiris - Nile was his bloodstream. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duplicated by the Egyptians. • Occurs in Goshen where Israelites lived. • Dead fish — putrid smell
2	FROGS Exodus 8:1-15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hapi } Frog goddess to Egypt. • Heqt } Both related to fertility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duplicated by the Egyptians • Occurs in Goshen where Israelites lived.
3	LICE Exodus 8:16-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seb The earth god of Egypt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not duplicated by the Egyptians • Occurs in Goshen where Israelites lived. • Attributed to the "finger of God."
4	FLIES Exodus 8:20-32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uatchit - The fly god of Egypt. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God now makes a separation between the Egyptians and the Israelites. • No more plagues will come upon the Israelites.
5	DISEASE ON CATTLE Exodus 9:1-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ptah } Egyptian gods associated • Mnevis } bulls and cows. • Hathor } • Amon } 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affects property. • Death of livestock.
6	BOILS Exodus 9:8-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sekhmet - Egyptian goddess of Epidemics • Serapis } Egyptian gods of healing. • Imhotep } 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affects physical bodies. • Pharaoh's magicians cannot even appear in court.
7	HAIL Exodus 9:13-35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nut - Egyptian sky goddess. • Isis & Seth - Egyptian agriculture deities. • Shu - Egyptian god of the atmosphere. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical uniqueness for such a storm in Egypt. • Pharaoh confesses his sin but later changes his mind.
8	LOCUSTS Exodus 10:1-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serapia - Egyptian deity protector from Locusts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pharaoh offers a compromise. • The compromise is rejected. • Pharaoh again confesses his sin.
9	DARKNESS Exodus 10:21-29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re } Egyptian sun gods. • Amon-re } • Aten } • Atum } • Horus } • Thoth - Egyptian moon god. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dark in Egypt at midday. • Apparently light was still provided for the Israelites in Goshen.
10	DEATH OF FIRSTBORN Exodus 12:29-36	<p>This plague was a judgment on all of Egypt's gods, including Pharaoh himself. In Exodus 1, Pharaoh had killed the sons of Israel. Now the Lord kills the firstborn sons of the Egyptians (Exodus 11-12). Pharaoh will now let Israel go. He will later lose his army to death in the Red Sea (Exodus 14:4-31).</p>	

The Final Judgment

Two purposes of this final judgment:

1. Save the people of Israel from slavery
2. A picture of God's plan to save the world from sin

Exodus 12 > The Passover

- **Verses 5-7:** Kill a lamb; paint blood on the doorposts
- **Verses 12-13:** Every house with blood – a safe place
- **Verse 14:** Remember this “pass over” miracle annually
- **Verses 29-30:** Death in every house without blood
- Remember the Egyptian's killing of Israel's children

The Exodus (Exit from Egypt)

- **Exodus 12** > The Journey begins
 - **Verses 31-33:** The people are set free
 - **Verses 37:** Israel grew from 70 to ~2,000,000 people
 - **Verses 38:** Some Egyptians also followed God (mercy)
- **Things to remember from these true stories:**
 - Before Moses could lead the people out of Egypt, God **humbled** him (**Isaiah 55:8**). God uses weak people for His great purposes (**1 Corinthians 1:26**).
 - Each time Pharaoh **hardened** his heart, he became less aware of God's work around him (Sin blinds people to the truth).
 - **The Passover** – Only one way to be saved from death: the **blood of a lamb**, painted across the **wooden doorposts**

One final thought...

- **Exodus 3:14** > God's Name : "I AM"
 - God is the only eternal being
 - God is the Creator of everything that exists
 - Compared to God, the universe is a tiny dot
 - He is much more important than anything else
 - Since this is true, how should we respond to Him?

To whom then will you compare me,
that I should be like him? says the Holy One.
Lift up your eyes on high and see:
who created these?
He who brings out their host by number,
calling them all by name,
by the greatness of his might,
and because he is strong in power
not one is missing.

Isaiah 40:25-26