



EXODUS

THE GOSPEL BEFORE
THE GOSPEL



'God said to Moses,
"I AM WHO I AM.
This is what you are to say
to the Israelites:
'I AM has sent me to you.'"

- Exodus 3:14 -

EXODUS: THE GOSPEL BEFORE THE GOSPEL

In the Hebrew calendar the year is currently 5703. This is because the Hebrew calendar dates back to the Exodus. This shows us the significance of the escape from Egypt in the psyche of a people whose ancestors were freed slaves. The Exodus is big news and it's good news.

The reason we decided to title this Exodus series, 'The Gospel before the Gospel', is that in many ways the events described in the book of Exodus foreshadow the Gospel of Jesus. Romans 6:20 reminds us that we were once slaves of sin under the power of a merciless enemy. As God raised up Moses in the wilderness to prophesy against Pharaoh, so God raised up John in the wilderness to prophesy against Herod. As the blood of the lamb covering the doorframes of the people in Egypt protected them from death, so the blood of the Jesus, the Lamb of God, now covers us and gives us new life.

These are just three examples of rich parallels between the good news in Exodus and the good news found in Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and ascension.

The Gospel is good news for all people. Knowing and understanding the book of Exodus helps us understand the gravity of what God has done through Jesus. Diving into the drama and wonder of this amazing story helps us appreciate how deep, high, and wide the Father's love is for us. Understanding that one day we will enter our own Promised Land (the new heaven and earth) to be with Jesus our Saviour for all eternity is too wondrous for us to comprehend this side of glory.

I hope and pray this study through Exodus will bring you closer to God and leave you in awe of the good news Christians have to share!

Every blessing,
Rev'd David Browne
Dalby Anglican



THE BASKET - ESCAPE FROM THE WATER

WEEK 1

Warming up: Has there ever been a time where you have experienced care and providence in an unlikely situation?

Read: Exodus 2:1-10

1. What stands out to you in this passage, and why?
2. Read Matthew 2:16-18. What similarities do you notice at the time of the births of Moses and Jesus?
3. In v.2 we read “he was a fine child” - what do you think this means?
4. Describe the actions taken by Moses' parents to protect him.
5. What does the act of Moses' mother placing him in a basket and putting him in the Nile River reveal about her faith and trust in God's providence?
6. What can we learn from their courage and trust in God during a time of great peril?
7. The Hebrew word translated 'basket' in v.3 is actually the same word used for the 'ark' in Genesis 6-9. How do these two passages help us to understand the symbolism of being “brought safely through water” in 1 Peter 3:20-21?
8. Read Hebrews 11:23-28. What do you learn about the faith of Moses and his parents from these verses? How do they point forward to the life and work of Jesus according to Hebrews 12:1-3?

Rubber hits the road: How can this passage encourage us to trust in God's plan and purpose for our lives? And in what ways can we encourage each other to see God's providence at work in our lives today?



THE BURNING BUSH - ESCAPE FROM THE ORDINARY

WEEK 2

Warming up: Have you ever been reluctant to do to something you felt God was asking you to do?

Read: Exodus 3:1-15

1. Thinking back to chapter 2, why was Moses tending sheep and not living in Egypt?
2. Moses led his flock to Horeb which is also known as Sinai. Where else is this mountain mentioned in the Bible? Why is it famous? (You may need to use a Bible dictionary or Internet to help you)
3. Read vv.2-4 slowly. Who are the three people present in these verses? Why do you think the fire “did not burn up”? What was the fire?
4. Why was the ground around the bush holy ground? What does this mean?
5. What does God say he has seen? Why is he sending Moses back to Egypt?
6. What sign will God give Moses to prove that he has sent him? Why do you think this sign will be shown after all the events have happened?
7. What is significant about the way that God introduces himself to Moses?
8. What do you think God is saying when he tells Moses that his name is “I AM WHO I AM” (or “I WILL BE WHAT I WILL BE”)?
9. What else stands out to you in the passage?

Rubber hits the road: This week, take some quiet time and allow God to re-introduce himself to you. Give him time and space to speak so that he can tell you what he sees and into what areas he is asking you to influence.



THE BASKET - ESCAPE FROM THE WATER

WEEK 3

Warming up: If you had to pick between keeping a frog, a snake, or a pig as a pet in your house, which would you choose and why?

Read: Exodus 8:1-15

1. After meeting the LORD in the burning bush, Moses is sent to tell Pharaoh to let the Hebrew slaves go. Pharaoh refuses and ten plagues hit Egypt (See Exodus 7:14-11:10). What happens with this plague of frogs?
2. What is the consequence of Pharaoh's hard-heartedness? How is the plague stopped? What happens after the frogs are gone?
3. What do you think it would have been like to live through the plague?
4. In v.9, why does Moses leave Pharaoh to decide when the plague stops?
5. One of the Egyptian gods took the form of a frog (Heqet). What was the Lord showing the Egyptians about himself in the plague?
6. What is God showing the Hebrew people about himself?
7. Why do you think Pharaoh hardened his heart in v.15? What does this show us about hard-heartedness?
8. The plague of frogs were a form of judgement poured out on Pharaoh and the Egyptians for the hard-heartedness. How does Jesus take the judgement we deserve and soften our hearts?

Rubber hits the road: How can we soften our hearts toward God? How can we keep one another accountable and avoid hard-heartedness?



THE PASSOVER - ESCAPE FROM DEATH

WEEK 4

Warming up: What rules or customs does your family have at mealtime?

Read: Exodus 12:1-14

1. What stands out to you in this passage, and why?
2. What commands did God give to the Israelites in preparation for what is about to happen?
3. What might be the purpose for these actions? How does Hebrews 11:28 shed additional light on this passage?
4. According to Exodus 12:5, what kind of lamb was required and what is significant about this?
5. How is spreading the blood on the doorposts an act of faith and obedience? What will God do for those who trust him, his commands, and his means of escape?
6. God surely could have accomplished the Exodus without the death of all the firstborn of Egypt. So why do you think he chose to do it in this way?
7. How does Israel's rescue through the Passover meal in Exodus 12:1-13 point to something more and serve as an example of our own rescue in Jesus?
8. How are we redeemed and made acceptable before God according to 1 Peter 1:18-19, Romans 5:9, Ephesians 1:7, and Hebrews 13:12?

Rubber hits the road: Spend some time this week reflecting on Hebrews 9:14 and write down what it means for you to be washed with the blood of Christ so you can serve God as a disciple of Jesus. If you feel able to do so, share this with a trusted friend or your Bible study group next week.



THE RED SEA - ESCAPE FROM EGYPT

WEEK 5

Warming up: Have you ever escaped after being trapped somewhere? How did you escape?

Read: Exodus 14:19-31

1. What three words would you use to describe this passage and why?
2. How did the Israelites come to be on the shores of the Red Sea?
3. How would you have felt walking out onto the ocean floor with walls of water on either side?
4. What do the actions of the Hebrew people show us about their faith?
5. Why was the Egyptian army chasing the Hebrew people? What were they there to do?
6. The Egyptian army was one of the most powerful armies the world had ever seen at the time. How does God protect his people from them?
7. The deaths of all the Egyptian soldiers should shock us. What does this part of the story tell us about God and the way he rescues his people?
8. At the cross our greatest enemies - Satan, sin, and death - are totally defeated and we are rescued. What parallels are there between this story and the story of the cross?
9. V.31 speaks of how the people responded to God after he rescued them. How should this inform our attitude to God today?

Rubber hits the road: How can we remind ourselves of the way that Jesus has rescued us this week? How can we remind each other of this great truth?



THE COMMANDMENTS - INTO FREEDOM

WEEK 6

Warming up: Do you know the Ten Commandments off by heart? How much of an impact have the Ten Commandments had on your life?

Read: Exodus 20:1-20

1. What does v.2 tell us about God and us? Why should we have no other gods?
2. Why is idolatry a problem? What are our modern-day idols?
3. How do you feel when people put you down or try to give you a bad name? What's wrong with misusing the Lord's name?
4. Why is it important to rest one day per week? When is your day off?
5. What does honouring your father and mother look like in your life?
6. In Matthew 5:21-22, Jesus interprets the sixth commandment. Can we break this commandment even if we haven't ended the life of another?
7. Why is being faithful to your spouse so difficult in the 21st century? What impact do thriving and faith-filled marriages have on the world today?
8. How would you define 'stealing'? Have you ever had something stolen from you? Have you even been tempted to steal something?
9. Where do lies affect your life the most? How can we be people of truth?
10. Is coveting wrong? Why/why not? How can we encourage contentment?

Rubber hits the road: Which commandments do you struggle with the most? How can you work towards keeping them this week?

'Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the LORD drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided, and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.'

- Exodus 14:21-22 -



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