When we seek to understand the meaning of our individual life stories, we do not actually begin with birth or infancy, even though a written autobiography might start there. Rather, we view or re-view our early childhood in the light of later experiences that are impressed deeply in memory. Analogously, Israel's life-story did not begin with the time of Abraham or even the Creation, although the Old Testament in its present form starts there. Rather, Israel's history had its true beginning in a crucial historical experience that created a self-conscious historical community - an event so decisive that earlier happenings and subsequent experiences were seen in its light. This decisive event - the great watershed of Israel's history - was the Exodus from Egypt. Even today the Jewish people understand their vocation and destiny in the light of this revealing event. Jews recall and make contemporary the Exodus as they celebrate the Passover.

Bernhard W. Anderson, Understanding the Old Testament



The Exodus

Liberating God, you parted the sea to deliver your people.

The waters you have parted in our own lives have been more subtle, the deliverance from oppression often concealed, your sustenance along our journey less obvious.

Yet we know that you continue to deliver your people. In Jesus Christ we have been set free!

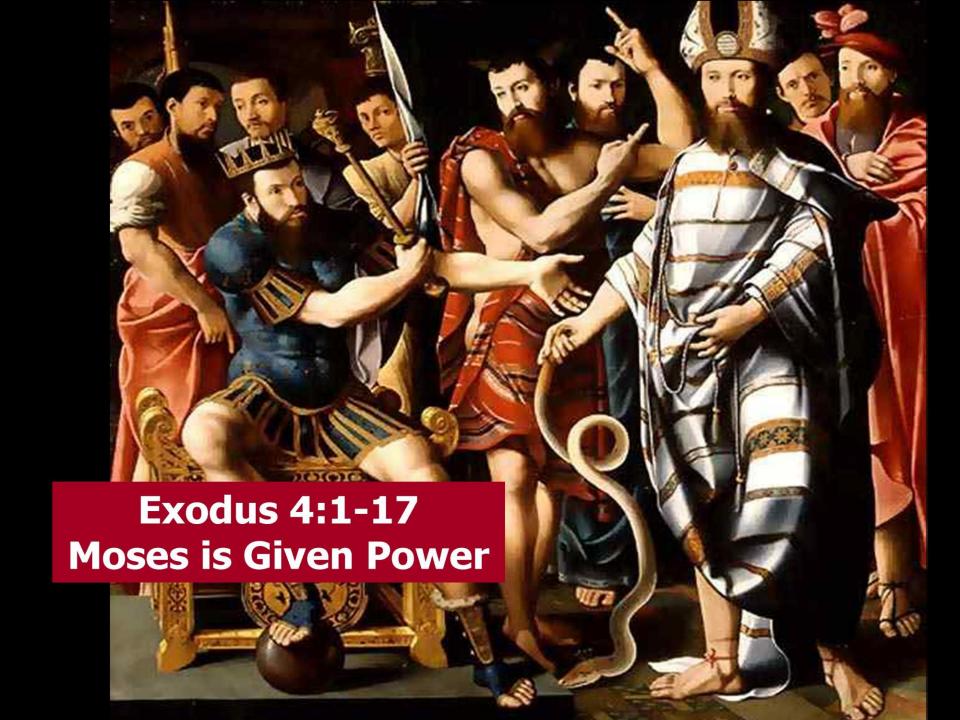
Increase our understanding, accept our thankfulness and expand our joy.

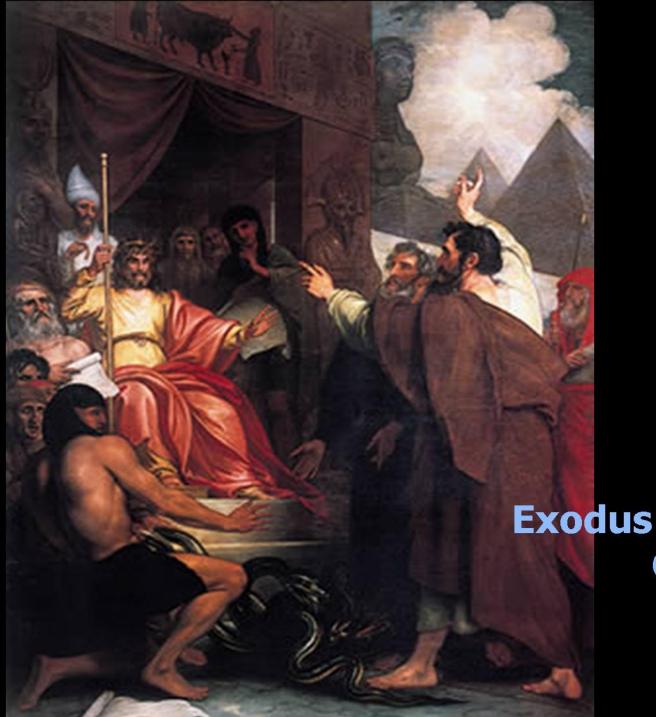
In our Savior's name. Amen.





Exodus 3:1-20
God Calls Moses

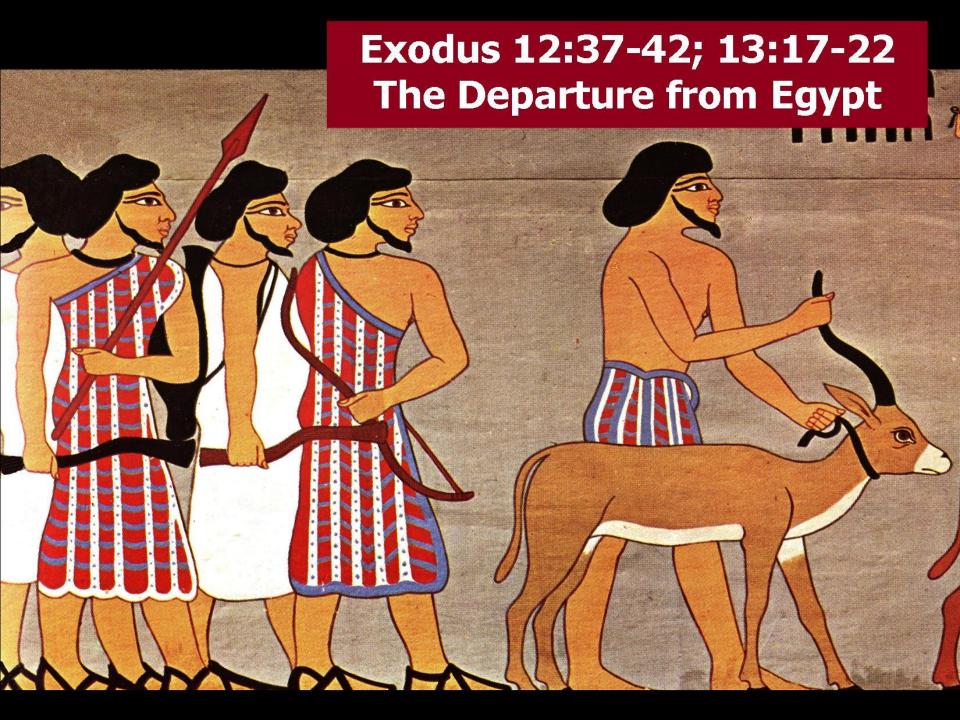


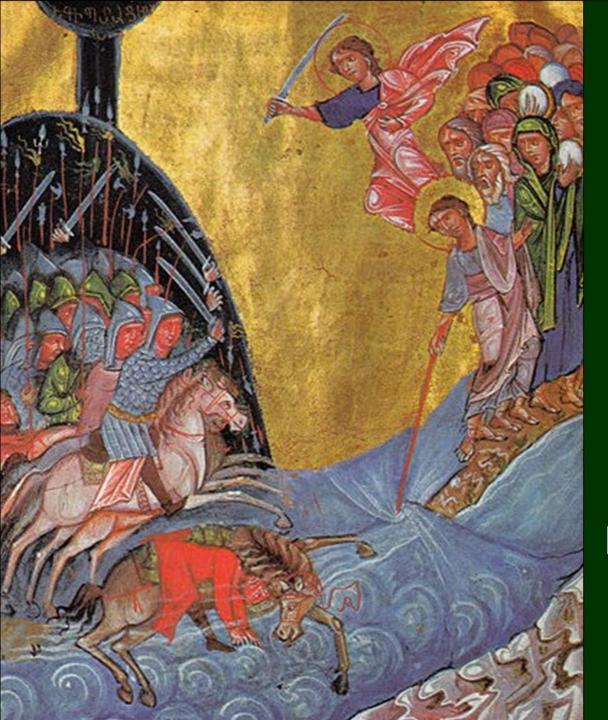


Exodus 5:22-6:13 God's Plan

**Exodus 12:1-36** The Passover טוב בותי אל־ירנה ה לי עד־בוו חסח על עמלת בו







Exodus 14:1-31
Crossing
the Red Sea





- What did you discover about God as you prepared for the session?
- What new insights did you gain as you listened to others tell the story?
- Why do you think
   the Exodus is one of the
   most important events
   in the Old Testament?



When we seek to understand the meaning of our individual life stories, we do not actually begin with birth or infancy, even though a written autobiography might start there. Rather, we view or re-view our early childhood in the light of later experiences that are impressed deeply in memory. Analogously, Israel's life-story did not begin with the time of Abraham or even the Creation, although the Old Testament in its present form starts there. Rather, Israel's history had its true beginning in a crucial historical experience that created a self-conscious historical community - an event so decisive that earlier happenings and subsequent experiences were seen in its light. This decisive event - the great watershed of Israel's history - was the Exodus from Egypt. Even today the Jewish people understand their vocation and destiny in the light of this revealing event. Jews recall and make contemporary the Exodus as they celebrate the Passover.

Bernhard W. Anderson, Understanding the Old Testament



© 2010 1-800-KERYGMA www.kerygma.com