

The Book of Exodus: Part I (Exodus 1-18)

The Theophany atop Mt. Sinai (Exodus 1-4)

1. The 12 Tribes of Israel are enslaved in Egypt (Exod 1:1)
 - a. The more they are persecuted, the more they multiply (Exod 1:8-12)
 - b. God's promises to Abraham are threatened (Gen 12:1-3; 22:18)
2. God "remembers" his covenant with Abraham (Exod 2:23-24)
3. The Theophany atop Mt. Sinai and the Call of Moses (Exod 3:1-15)
 - a. Location: Mt. Sinai ("Horeb, the mountain of God"; Exod 3:1; cf. 3:12)
 - b. The God of the Covenant: "The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob" (Exod 3:6)
 - c. Purposes of Exodus:
 1. To *worship* (Hb *abad*; Gk *latreuo*) God atop Mt. Sinai (Exod 3:12)
 2. To enter into promised *land* of "milk and honey" (Exod 3:17)
 - d. The Name of the LORD (Exod 3:14):
 1. "I AM WHO I AM" (Hb *ehyeh asher ehyeh* ; Gk *ego eimi ho on*)
 2. "I AM" (Hb *ehyeh*; Gk *ego eimi*)
 3. "He Who IS" (Hb *Yahweh* or *Jehovah*)
 - e. God Reveals His Name (see CCC 203-209)
 1. God is not a distant anonymous force (Deism; CCC 203)
 2. God is not creation (Pantheism) or forces of nature (paganism)
 3. God is the *transcendent* source of all that exists (Theism; CCC 213)
4. The Reluctance of Moses (Exodus 4)
 - a. Moses' speech impediment and God's anger (Exod 4:10-17)

The Exodus Plagues (Exodus 5-11)

1. God's Message to Pharaoh: "Israel is my *first-born son*" (Exod 4:22)
 - a. If Israel is First-born son, then Gentiles are also God's *children*
 - b. First-born sons are "consecrated" to God as priests
(Exod 13:1-2, 11-16; 22:29-30; 34:19-20)
 - c. Implication: Israel is priest to the Gentile nations, eldest son and model
2. Why does God unleash the plagues against Egypt? (Exodus 5-11)
 - a. 1st Plague: Nile turned to Blood / *Hapi*, River God (Exod 7:14-24)
 - b. 2nd Plague: Frogs / *Heket*, frog Goddess (Exod 8:1-15)
 - c. 3rd Plague: Gnats (Exod 8:16-19)
 1. "This is the finger of God" (Exod 8:19; cf. Luke 11:20)
 - d. 4th Plague: Flies (Exod 8:20-32)
 1. Pharaoh Relents: Moses insists on going into desert because sacrifices would be "abominable" to Egyptians (Exod 8:26)
 - e. 5th Plague: Cattle / *Apis*, Bull God and *Aries*, sheep god (Exod 9:1-7)
 - f. 6th Plague: Boils (Exod 9:8-13)
 - g. 7th Plague: Hail (kills cattle) (Exod 9:13-35)
 - h. 8th Plague: Locusts (Exod 10:1-20)
 - i. 9th Plague: Darkness / Re, Sun God (Exod 10:21-29)
 - j. Purpose: "On all *the gods of Egypt* I will execute judgment" (Exod 12:12)

The Final Plague: The Passover/Death of the First-born Son (Exodus 12-13)

1. Priests: fathers and “elders” of all families of Israel (Exod 12:1, 21), perhaps assisted by their “sons” (Exod 12:24).
2. Sacrifice: Unblemished, male lamb (Exod 12:5)
3. Several Steps:
 - a. Kill the Lamb: not a bone to be broken (Exod 12:6, 46)
 - b. Dip a Hyssop Branch in the Blood of the Lamb (Exod 21:21)
 - c. Sprinkle the blood on the doorposts (Exod 12:7, 22)
 - d. Eat the “flesh” of the Lamb (Exod 12:7-10)
 - e. Covenant “Sign”: The Blood of the Lamb (Exod 21:13)
 - f. The Day shall be a “memorial/remembering” forever (Exod 12:14)
4. Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread (Exod 12:14-20)
 - a. “Passover” (Hb *Pesach*): observed as an ordinance for ever (Exod 12:24)
 - b. “A Night of Watching” kept by Israel (Exod 12:40-42)
5. “What the Lord did for *me* when *I* came out of Egypt” (Exod 13:1-16)

From the Red Sea to Mt. Sinai (Exodus 14-18)

1. The Pillar of Cloud by Day and Fire by Night (Exod 14:17-22)
2. The Crossing of the Red Sea (Exodus 14-15)
3. The Song of Moses (Exod 15:1-18)
4. The Manna and Quail from Heaven (Exodus 16)
 - a. The Morning: “Bread from heaven” (Exod 16:4)
 - b. The Evening: “Flesh” from heaven (Exod 16:8)
 - c. Manna in a Golden Urn: Placed in the Tabernacle (Exod 16:31-36).
5. The Water from the Rock at Horeb (Exodus 17)

**The Book of Exodus: Part II
(Exodus 19-40)**

The Sinai Covenant: “A Kingdom of Priests” (Exodus 19-20)

1. Israel’s Vocation: “A Kingdom of Priests and a Holy Nation” (Exod 19:5-6)
2. The Covenant Priests:
 - a. Initially: the “Elders” of Israel appear to be high priests (Exod 19:7; 15, 22)
3. They are to “consecrate” themselves (Exod 19:14-15)
 - a. Washing with water
 - b. Abstaining from Sexual Intercourse with Women
(cf. Lev 15:16-18; Deut 23:10-11)
 - c. The “priests” fail to consecrate themselves (Exod 19:22)
 - d. As a result, only Moses and Aaron are allowed to come up to the LORD

The Covenant Law: The 10 Commandments (Exodus 20)

1. Different Numbering of Commandments
 - a. Jewish/Protestant Numbering (Splits 1st Comm. into 2)
 - b. Catholic Numbering (Splits “Coveting” into 2)
2. First 3 Commandments: Love of God (Idolatry, Sabbath, Blasphemy)
3. Last 7 Commandments: Love of Neighbor
 - a. Honor (“Glorify”) your Parents
 - b. You shall not kill (“slay”)
 - c. You shall not commit adultery
 - d. Bearing False Witness (Grave Lies)
 - e. Coveting Persons or Property
4. The Ten Commandments: Capital Punishment and Mortal Sin
 - a. Death Penalty for Sabbath-Breaking (Exod 31:12-16; cf. CCC 2181)
 - b. Mortal Sin and the 10 Commandments (cf. CCC 1857-59)

The Covenant Sacrifice and Meal (Exodus 24)

1. Priestly Mediators:
 - a. Moses
 - b. Aaron (High Priest)
 - c. The 3: Aaron, Nadab, Abihu
 - d. The 12 Priestly “young men” of 12 Tribes
 - e. The 70 “Elders” of Israel
2. The Altar and the Twelve pillars for the 12 Tribes of Israel
 - c. The “Blood of the Covenant” (Exod 24:8)
 - d. Communion Meal: “they beheld God” and “ate and drank” (Exod 24:9)

The Covenant Priesthood and Liturgy (Exodus 24-31)

1. The “Pattern” of the Tabernacle (Exodus 24-27)
 - a. The Ark of the Covenant
 - b. The Bread of the Presence
 - c. The Golden Lampstand
2. The Aaronic High-Priesthood (Exodus 28-29)
 - a. Priestly Vestments (“for glory and for beauty”)
 - b. The Ephod and the Breastplate of the 12 Tribes of Israel
 - c. The Priestly Robe and the Golden Bells
 - d. The Mitre (“Turban”) (“Holy to the LORD”)
3. More Aspects of the Tabernacle (Exodus 30)
 - a. The Altar of Incense
 - b. The Holy Oil
 - c. The Incense

The Golden Calf and the Institution of the Levitical Priesthood (Exodus 32)

1. Original Priesthood: Fathers and first-born sons (Natural/Adamic Priesthood)
2. The Golden Calf: Israel enters into a covenant with Apis, bull god
 - a. Aaron builds an altar
 - b. “They” offered sacrifices (Who? The elders and first-born sons of Israel)
 - c. The people eat and drink
 - d. They “rose up to play”
2. God is going to kill them: Moses begs God to remember the covenant (Gen 22)
3. The Levites “Ordain” Themselves Priests: 3000 (or 23,000) Slain (Exod 32:25-29)
 - a. Who do they kill? Probably Fathers and First-borns Sons
 - b. Levites Replace First-born Sons of 12 Tribes as Priests (Num 3:11-13; 8:5-18)
4. The Tabernacle Now Separated from the Twelve Tribes (Exod 33:7-22)
5. The Covenant Renewed (Exodus 34)
 - a. Two new Tables of Stone
 - b. Moses Ascends Mt. Sinai Alone
 - c. Renewed Sinai “Covenant” (Exod 34:10)
 - d. The Yearly Festivals: Passover, Sabbath, Pentecost, Tabernacles
 - e. 40 Days and 40 Nights: Moses descends with Face Glowing

The Making of the Tabernacle: Microcosm of Creation (Exodus 35-40)

1. Made According to the “Pattern” Shown Moses on the Mountain (Exod 25:40)
2. The Tabernacle: Parallels with Genesis 1-2
 - a. “Thus all the work of the tabernacle was finished” (Exod 39:32; Gen 2:1)
 - b. “And Moses saw all the work, and behold...” (Exod 39:43; Gen 1:31)
 - c. “And Moses Blessed them” (Exod 39:43; Gen 2:3)
 - d. Tabernacle Built: “On the First Day of the First Month” (Exod 40:1)
 - e. “So Moses finished the work” (Exod 40:33; Gen 2:2)