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)
5. The Water from the Rock at Horeb (Exod 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)