

EXODUS

REDEMPTION : THE STORY



WEDNESDAY NIGHT TEACHING
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WEEK 3 | EXODUS 11:1–15:21



NORTHPARK
Community Church

NORTHPARKCHURCH.ORG/EXODUS

READINGS FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Please read the following section prior to the Wednesday night Bible study. This will prepare you for the study and group discussion.

You may read any version. Most of the studies will utilize the NLT and NIV.

THE BOOK OF EXODUS READINGS

Week 1	September 8	Exodus 1-4
Week 2	September 15	Exodus 5-10
Week 3	September 22	Exodus 11:1-15:21
Week 4	September 29	Exodus 15:22- 18:27
Week 5	October 6	Exodus 19-24
Week 6	October 13	Exodus 25-27; 30-31
Week 7	October 20	Exodus 28-29
Week 8	October 27	Exodus 32-40

Exposition of Exodus 11:1-13:16

Session 3A - One More Plague

King Yahweh (Ps. 95:3) → to confront King Pharaoh → another king → death → “king of terrors” (Job 18:14)

The last enemy → death (1 Cor. 15:26) →

In one night → all the firstborn sons and all the firstborn livestock in Egypt would die (Ex. 11:6; 12:30)

Death → wouldn't visit the Hebrews and their livestock →

Passover → Israel's first national feast

I. **PASSOVER AND THE EGYPTIANS (Ex. 11:1–10)**

Egypt → first six plagues →

Land and possessions → devastated by the next two plagues

Ninth plague → three days darkness → set the stage for the most dreadful plague →

Ps. 78:49

A. **Moses heard God's word (Ex. 11:1–3)**

Moses summoned to the palace → (Ex. 10:24–29)

Moses' speech (Ex. 11:4–8) → (Ex. 10:29; 11:8)

God told Moses → one more plague to Egypt → terrible

Pharaoh → would drive them out → (Ex. 6:1; see Ex. 12:31–32, 39)

Moses → to the Hebrews → collect their unpaid wages

God → promised Abraham (Gen. 15:14) → repeated promise to Moses (Ex. 3:21–22)

God → Moses respect among the Egyptians → favor with the Egyptians → (Ex. 12:36–37)

B. Moses warned Pharaoh (Ex. 11:4–10)

Moses' final address to Pharaoh →

Pharaoh → no fear of God →

Firstborn sons special → in Egypt → sacred

→ God → calls Israel His firstborn son (Ex. 4:22; Jer. 31:9; Hos. 11:1).

How Pharaoh treated God's firstborn → determine how God treated Egypt's firstborn (Ex. 4:22–23)

Pharaoh → tried to kill the Hebrew male babies →

Compensation → a fundamental law of life (Matt. 7:1–2) →

Pharaoh → drowned the Hebrew babies, → God drowned Pharaoh's army (Ex. 14:26–31; 15:4–5)

Jacob → lied to his father Isaac (Gen. 27:15–17) → Jacob's sons lied to him (Gen. 37:31–35)

David → committed adultery (2 Sam. 11) → David's daughter → raped → two of his sons were murdered (2 Sam. 13; 18)

Haman → built a gallows on which to hang Mordecai → but it was Haman who was hanged there instead (Est. 7:7–10).

Gal. 6:7 → Ps. 89:14 → *Gen. 18:2*

We must experience a second birth → a spiritual birth → before God can accept us (John 1:12–13; 3:1–18)

Our first birth → we inherit Adam's sinful nature and are lost (Ps. 51:5–6) → second birth through faith in Christ → we receive God's divine nature and are accepted in Christ (2 Peter 1:1–4; Gal. 4:6; Rom. 8:9)

Pharaoh and the Egyptian people →

Yahweh → humiliated the Egyptian gods and goddesses →

Eccl. 8:11

God's mercy →

Pharaoh's officials → (Ex. 3; 8) → Prov. 16:18

II. PASSOVER AND THE ISRAELITES (Ex. 12:1–28, 43–51)

Passover →

The words → redeem or redemption → New Testament → freedom from slavery

Hebrew believers → Passover → Israel's deliverance

Passover → beginning of religious year → Passover → focus on the lamb

Gen. 22:7 → John 1:29

The Passover lamb → Jesus Christ → (Acts 8:32–35; Isa. 53:7–8) → (1 Cor. 5:7) → (1 Peter 1:18–20) → (Rev. 5:5–6; 13:8)

A. The lamb was chosen and examined (Ex. 12:1–6a) →

Jesus → met all the requirements to be our Lamb → Matt. 3:17

Jesus → knew no sin (2 Cor. 5:21) → did no sin (1 Peter 2:22) → in Him there was no sin (1 John 3:5) → the perfect Lamb of God

On the 14th of the month → the lamb was slain (Ex. 12:6b–7, 12–13, 21–24) →

Not life of the lamb that saved people from judgment → death of the lamb → Heb. 9:22; Lev. 17:11

Jesus → death on the cross → paid the price of our redemption (Matt. 20:28; 26:28; John 3:14–17; 10:11; Eph. 1:7; 1 Tim. 2:5–6; Heb. 9:28; Rev. 5:9)

Jesus → our substitute → (Isa. 53:4–6; 1 Peter 2:24)

Ex. 12:13 → John 3:16; 1 John 2:2

We must appropriate sacrifice for ourselves → (Gal. 2:20) → (Luke 1:46–47) → Must be personal (John 20:28)

(Ex. 12:22) → (Ex. 24:1–8) → (Lev. 14:4, 6, 49, 51–52)

B. The lamb roasted and eaten (Ex. 12:8–11, 46) →

The meal → the roasted lamb, unleavened bread, and bitter herbs →

The lamb → kept whole → roasted in the fire → not boiled in water

Bones not broken → (Ex. 12:46; John 19:31–37; Ps. 34:20)

We trust Christ →

1. ***With the lamb*** → ***ate bitter herbs and unleavened bread***
(Ex. 12:14–20, 39; 13:3–7)

(Ex. 16:3; 17:1–3; Num. 11:1–9; 14:1–5)

Bread → unleavened → (Ex. 12:39)

Yeast → an image of sin → (1 Cor. 4:18– 5:2)

Jesus and Paul → yeast → hypocrisy → sinful living (Matt. 16:6–12; Mark 8:15; Gal. 5:1–9) → (Luke 12:1) → (1 Cor. 5:6–8)

Manna → (Ex. 16:14–22)

C. They ate as families & as a congregation (Ex. 12:25–28; 13:8-10)

Hebrews in Goshen → (Ex. 13:3, 6)

Paul → (Eph. 2:21; 3:15; 4:16 NKJV)

Israel was one nation → because of the blood of the lamb → and the church is one fellowship because of Jesus Christ.

Passover supper → an ordinance to be obeyed (Ex. 12:14, 17, 24, 43) → a “memorial” → celebrated to keep alive in Israel → story of the exodus (Ex. 12:14; 13:8–10)

In later years → orthodox Hebrews took Exodus 13:8–9 and 16 literally → along with Deuteronomy 6:8–9 and 11:18.

Moses → Passover → “like a sign” (see Ex. 13:9) → (Matt. 23:5)

Eating the feast → was forbidden to those outside the covenant (Ex. 12:43–51) → (Deut. 7:1–11)

III. PASSOVER AND THE LORD (Ex. 12:29–42, 51)

“The LORD’s Passover” (Ex. 12:11, 27; Lev. 23:5; Num. 28:16)

The observance → “unto the LORD” (Ex. 12:48; Num. 9:10, 14) → (Ex. 12:27)

The focus of attention → the Lord →

A. God revealed His power (Ex. 12:29–30)

At midnight → the Lord struck the firstborn → (Ex. 11:6; 12:30)

Death → no respecter of persons →

The lesson →

B. God kept His promises (Ex. 12:31–36)

God to Moses → Moses to Pharaoh (Ex. 11:1–8) →

Promises to Abraham (Gen. 15:13–14) → 1 Kings 8:56

C. God delivered His people (Ex. 12:37–42, 51)

The Israelites out of Egypt → (Num. 33:3–4)

600,000 Hebrew men → total number of Hebrews 2 million →

Like an army (Ex. 12:17, 51) → quickly → orderly

(Ps. 105:37–38)

→ “a rabble of non-Israelites” → “the mixed multitude” (NKJV) →

Exodus 12:38 → a “swarm” or “multitude” → Numbers 11:4 → “rabble”

Others → (Ex. 9:20) →

Jesus warned → Matt. 7:21

Great multitudes followed Jesus → not impressed → (See Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23; Luke 14:25–35; and John 6:60–71)

God’s promises → His timing → never wrong (Ex. 12:40–41)

The exodus → 480 years before the 4th year of Solomon’s reign 966 BC → (1 Kings 6:1)
→ 1446 BC

Genesis 15:13; Acts 7:6 →

The prophets point to the exodus → (Jer. 2:1–8; Hos. 11:1; Jer. 16:14; 23:7-8) → Isaiah →
(Isa. 11:15; 43:14–21; 51:9–11; Is. 11:16; 19:23; 35:8; 62:10)

IV. PASSOVER AND THE FIRSTBORN (Ex. 13:1–16)

The significance of the firstborn in Israel →

Passover → Hebrews reminded of God's grace and power → (Ex. 12:12-13)

They were sanctified →

This ordinance of redemption → (Lev. 12; Num. 18:14–19)

The firstborn of a lamb →

Parents would bring their firstborn sons to the Lord → and offer the appropriate sacrifice (Lev. 12:6–8).

Mary and Joseph came to redeem the Redeemer → (Luke 2:21-24) →

V. PASSOVER AND MOSES (HEB. 11:27–29)

Hebrews 11 → Moses → faith in the living God →

Passover and the exodus → memorials to the power of faith

Hebrews 11:27 → Exodus 10:28–29 →

Moses believed God's promises →

Faith → we rely on God and obey His Word →

By faith → Moses kept the Passover →

It was faith → in God's word → brought Moses back to Egypt →

It was faith → took him out of Egypt →

It was faith → crossed the Red Sea →

No matter what our circumstances may be → we can trust God to bring us out and take us through.

Jesus established the Lord's Supper → the fulfillment of the Passover → the Lamb of God → who died for the sins of the world → (1 Thess. 4:13–18)

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Session 3A

1. What did the Jews need to do with the Passover lamb in order to be saved?

How does this Passover action symbolize our own salvation?

Exposition of Exodus 13:17-15:21

Session 3B - Redeemed and Rejoicing

Israel's exodus → three important responsibilities: →

I. FOLLOWING THE LORD (Ex. 13:17–22)

Israel's exodus → new beginning → the Promised Land → inheritance

Deut. 4:37–38

Redemption in Christ → out of bondage → into blessing

God liberates us →

- Know ourselves better →
- Discover our strengths and weaknesses →
- Grow in understanding God's will and trusting His promises →

A. God plans the route for His people (Ex. 13:17–18)

Ps. 23:3 → Ps. 25:4–5

Israel's destination → Mount Sinai → God chose the way →

Prov. 3:5–6

→ God knows what He's doing → *Acts 16:6–10; 2 Cor. 2:12–13*

B. God encourages His people's faith (Ex. 13:19)

→ Joseph's brothers promised → to take his coffin to the Promised Land → (*Gen. 50:24–25; Heb. 11:22*)

Joseph knew → God would keep His promise → (*Gen. 15:13–16*)

→ He belonged in Canaan with his people (*Gen. 49:29–33*)

Joseph → was bearing witness to the faithfulness of God → (*Josh. 24:32*)

Israel → a monument of stones → to commemorate what God had done (*Josh. 4*) → on Mount Ebal and Mount Gerizim → to remind them of God's law

A heap of stones → Achan's treachery (Josh. 7:25–26) →

→ "witness stone" → a reminder of Israel's rededication after the conquest of the land (Josh. 24:24–28)

Samuel → a stone to commemorate Israel's victory over the Philistines → "Ebenezer → the stone of help" (1 Sam. 7:12)

C. God goes before His people to lead the way (Ex. 13:20–22)

A pillar (column) of cloud by day → became a pillar of fire by night

Pillar → identified with the angel of the Lord (Ex. 14:19; 23:20–23; Neh. 9:12)

God spoke from the pillar → (Num. 12:5–6; Deut. 31:15–16; Ps. 99:7) → the pillar of cloud also shielded the people as they journeyed by day (Ps. 105:39)

Cloud moved → camp moved → cloud waited → camp waited (Ex. 40:34–38)

The Word of God → a light (Ps. 119:105) → a fire (Jer. 23:29; Ex. 14:20)

The Word (Eph. 1:15–23) → God's truth (Matt. 11:25; 1 Cor. 2:11–16)

The Spirit of God → Spirit of Truth → guides us (John 16:12–13)

II. TRUSTING THE LORD (Ex. 14:1–31)

Ps. 103:7; Ps. 25:14

The leadership of Moses → key to Israel's success

A. Egypt's pursuit (Ex. 14:1–9)

Pharaoh and his officers → affect Egypt's economy →

→ God would triumph over Pharaoh → and the gods and goddesses of Egypt

B. Israel's panic (Ex. 14:10–12)

Israelites eyes on the fiery pillar → they were walking by faith →

Eyes off the Lord → looked back → Egyptians getting nearer → became frightened and began to complain →
2 Cor. 5:7

forget God's promises → imagine the worst possible scenario

The Hebrews → sure they and their children would die in the wilderness →

The frightened people reminded Moses → leave them alone (Ex. 5:20–23) →

Israel → now in a terrible predicament → Moses to blame →

Unbelief → way of erasing from our memories → of God's great power →

C. God's power (Ex. 14:13–31)

Moses → man of faith → gave several commands → "Fear not" (14:13)

Sometimes → fear energizes us → try to avoid danger →
→ fear paralyzes us → don't know what to do →

→ Moses second command → (Ex. 14:13)

By faith → the Hebrews marched out of Egypt →

By faith → they would stand still → watch God destroy the Egyptians
(Ex. 14:14)

Unbelief → complains → faith → obeys → Ps. 46:10

Ex. 14:14

God defeated the Egyptians → without Israel's assistance

Next order from God to Moses → "Go forward" → "Get moving" (Ex. 14:15)

Israel facing the sea → no problem to God →

Moses lifted up his rod → waters parted →

Moses' signal → the waters would flow back →

Hebrews remembered → God closed the waters

They certainly didn't deserve it →

God was keeping His promise (Ex. 3:7–8)

In future → Hebrews measured everything by the demonstration of God's great power at the exodus → (Ex. 14:18)

The pillar → a wall of protection →

The pillar → light to Israel → darkness to the enemy →

Moses stretched out his hand → powerful wind drove the sea waters back →

Psalm 77:16–20 → a severe rainstorm accompanied the high winds →

Waters returned → Egyptian soldiers drowned → a night to remember →

Faith in God's promises → peace in our hearts → Mark 4:40

Faith and fear → can't live together in the same heart → one will destroy the other.

True faith → depends on what God says → not on what we see or how we feel.

→ Faith → not believing in spite of evidence →

→ Faith → obeying in spite of consequence →

Future psalmists → extol the Lord for His mighty works at the Red Sea (Ps. 66; 78; 80—81; 105—106; 136)

The prophets → use the exodus to encourage the Hebrew exiles after Babylonian captivity (Isa. 43:1–7; 52:11–12; 55:12–13; Jer. 16:14–15; 23:7–8)

→ Motivate backslidden nation to return to the Lord (Jer. 2:2-3; Ezek. 20; Hos. 2:14-23; Amos 3; Mic. 6:3-4)

D. Moses' position (Ex. 14:31; 1 Cor. 10:1–2)

Paul → Israel's march through the sea → a "baptism" → Israel "immersed" →

Ex. 14:31

Through this "baptism" → Israel identified with Moses →

The miracle of the exodus → part of Israel's confession of faith (Deut. 26:1-11)

III. PRAISING THE LORD (Ex. 15:1–21)

→ the people of Israel → burst into song and praised the Lord

Maturity → for God's people to have a "song in the night" (Job 35:10; Ps. 42:8; Matt. 26:30; Acts 16:25) →

This hymn of praise has four stanzas →

A. God's victory is announced (Ex. 15:1–5)

The Lord → mentioned ten times → true worship involves faithful witness to who God is → what He has done

God's glorious victory →

The Egyptian army → (Ex. 15:1, 4) → (Ex. 15:5) → (Ex. 15:10) → (Ex. 15:7)

→ "*The LORD is a man of war*" → (Ex. 15:3) → .

Moses promised → "*The LORD shall fight for you*" (Ex. 14:14; Deut. 1:30) →

One of God's names → "Yahweh-Sabaoth" → "Lord of hosts, Lord of armies" → 285 times in Old Testament

Isa. 42:13

Jesus Christ → the Lamb who died for our sins → the Lion who judges sin (Rev. 5:5–6) → one day He will conquer His enemies (Rev. 19:11)

→ "God is love" (1 John 4:8, 16) → "God is light" (1 John 1:5)

On three special occasions → the Hebrews sing → Ex. 15:2

→ God delivered Israel from Egypt →

→ The Hebrew remnant laid the foundation of the second temple (Ps. 118:14) →

→ The Hebrews re-gathered / return to their land to enjoy the blessings of the kingdom (Isa. 12:2)

B. God's weapons are described (Ex. 15:6–10)

“The Lord is a man of war” → doesn't fight with conventional weapons

- His right hand → is glorious in power →
- His majesty → throws His opponents down →
- His anger → consumes them like fire eats up stubble →
- The breath from His nostrils → the wind that blew back the waters

C. God's character is extolled (Ex. 15:11–16a)

→ The Lord proved Himself greater than the gods and goddesses of Egypt

Ex. 15:11; Mic. 7:18

nobody → no other being in the universe is → *“majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders”* → Ex. 15:11

This section goes on to praise God →

- For His power (Ex. 15:12) →
- His mercy to deliver →
- His wisdom to guide (Ex. 15:13) →
- The awesomeness of His person → brings fear to the hearts of His enemies (Ex. 15:14)
- Ex. 15:14–16a

People of Jericho → paralyzed with fear → (Josh. 2:8-13, 24; Num. 22:3; Ps. 114)

D. God's promises are fulfilled (Ex. 15:16b–18)

God purchased Israel → they are His people

God brought them out of Egypt → that He might bring them into Canaan (Ps. 44:2; 80:8, 15; Isa. 5)

God would put His sanctuary among His people → dwell with them in glory

“The LORD shall reign forever and ever” (Ex. 15:18) →

Ex 15:19 → impression Pharaoh accompanied his army →

Pharaoh → on the scene (Ex. 14:6) → wasn't leading the army

→ Moses → led the men in the singing of this anthem of praise (Ex. 15:1) → → Miriam formed a special choir of Hebrew women → (1 Sam. 18:6)

Miriam → "the prophetess" → (Num. 12:1-2)

The end of the story → the nation's singing → soon turned into complaining

"They soon forgot his works; they waited not for his counsel: but lusted exceedingly in the wilderness, and tempted God in the desert" (Ex. 15:13-14).

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION THIS WEEK

Questions to consider on your own, during the week:

Session 3A

Exodus 11:1-13:16

1. What are some reasons people sometimes give for questioning God's goodness?
2. What or whom does the Passover lamb picture?
How does the Bible show us this?
3. What did the Jews need to do with the Passover lamb in order to be saved?
How does this Passover action symbolize our own salvation?
4. What is the spiritual significance of each aspect of the Passover meal: roasted lamb, unleavened bread, and bitter herbs?
5. What is the yeast an image of?
What other Scripture passages use yeast as an example?
6. Which of the symbols in the Passover are most meaningful to you?
Why those?
7. How are the Passover meal and the Lord's Supper similar?
8. What might distinguish a true child of God from one of the "mixed multitude"?
9. Wiersbe says, "Faith simply means that we rely on God and obey His Word, regardless of feelings, circumstances, or consequences."
How did Moses exercise this kind of faith in the Lord? How can you?

Session 3B
Exodus 13:17-15:21

1. How would things be different in our society if people pursued true freedom instead of the false kind?
2. What were Israel's three important responsibilities after they were set free? Which of these is a challenge for you, and why?
3. The Israelites were saved from bondage in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land. What are you saved from, and what are you saved to?
4. How did God visibly guide the Israelites to the Red Sea? How does God guide believers today?
5. When did the Israelites become frightened and begin to complain? What did they forget?
6. What works of the Lord have you heard of or seen that will help you to believe and trust in God in times of trial?
7. Why, in view of the Israelites' complaining and lack of faith, did God perform the miracles of the exodus?
8. "True faith depends on what God says, not on what we see or how we feel." What makes this challenging for us?

