

EXODUS

REDEMPTION : THE STORY



WEDNESDAY NIGHT TEACHING
Jim Rossi & Rebekah Townsend

WEEK 6 | EXODUS 25-27; 30-31



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

24:9-25:40; 27:20-21; 30:11-16; 31:1-11; 35:4-36:38; 37:1-24; 38:21-31

Session 6A – The Place Where God Dwells – Part 1

Faithful promises Exodus 6:6-8 → Lord delivered His people (Ex. 1-18) → “adopted” them to Himself (Ex. 19-24; Rom. 9:4)

Fulfill rest of that promise → to dwell with His people (Ex. 25-40)

To do this → two things →

→ A place for His glory to dwell →

→ Servants to minister to Him →

Build the tabernacle → set apart the tribe of Levi →

Build the tabernacle → ordain the priesthood → 2 major themes Ex. 25-40 →

Genesis → Lord walked with His people →

→ Adam and Eve (Gen. 3:8) → Enoch (Gen. 5:22–24) → Noah (Gen. 6:9) → the patriarchs (Gen. 17:1; 24:40; 48:15) →

→ Now → He would dwell with them (Ex. 25:8, 45-46; 29:44-46)

Lord dwelling in the camp → great privilege for Israel (Rom. 9:4-5) →

Privilege → great responsibility → a holy place for holy God to dwell →

Exodus 25-40 → construction of tabernacle → inauguration of priesthood →

I. GOD SUMMONS US TO WORSHIP HIM (Ex. 24:9-18)

Worshipping God → highest privilege / greatest responsibility → God highest Being in the universe →

God → created us in His image → love Him / fellowship with Him →

God seeking people → worship Him “in spirit and in truth” (John 4:23-24)

A. Climbing higher

base of the mountain → Israel waited →

Moses, Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, 70 elders → (Ex. 24:9-11) → Moses and Joshua (Ex. 24:13-14)

Moses → (Ex. 24:15-17)

The people → satisfied to hear Moses (Ex. 20:18-19) →

Israel → worship at a distance → today → enter into His presence → (Heb. 10:19–25) (James 4:8) (Heb. 12:18-24)

B. Communing with God (Ex. 24:9-11)

(John 1:18)

God's glory → (Ezek. 1:26) → invisible God hidden →

C. Tarrying with God (Ex. 24:12-18)

The tables of the law →

The glory cloud → Hebrew word "abode" → shekinah → the abiding presence of God →

"Dwell" → Exodus 25:8; Ex. 29:45-46

The blazing fire → "our God is a consuming fire" (Heb. 12:29)

Moses on the mount → 40 days and forty nights (Matt. 4:1-2) → plans for tabernacle and priesthood →

II. GOD DESIGNS THE PLAN (Ex. 25:9, 40; 26:30)

God has a plan → tabernacle or temple (1 Chron. 28:11-12, 18-19) → church (Phil. 2:12-13) → individual Christian (Eph. 2:10) →

God warned Moses → make everything according to the pattern (Ex. 25:40; Heb. 8:5)

Earthly tabernacle → copy of heavenly tabernacle → (Heb. 8:1-5; 9:1)

Revelation → altar (Rev. 6:9-11) → altar of incense (Rev. 8:3-5) → throne (Rev. 4:2) → elders/priests (Rev. 4:4-5) → lamps (Rev. 4:5) → a “sea” (Rev. 4:6) → cherubim (Rev. 4:6-7) →

Basic principle → follow the heavenly pattern → (Rom. 12:2)

III. GOD PROVIDES THE MATERIALS (Ex. 25:1-9; 30:11-16; 35:4-29)

1 Chron. 29:14

God created the materials (Isa. 66:1-2) → God worked in their hearts → (2 Cor. 8:1-5, 12)

Too much → stop (Ex. 36:6-7)

Materials → precious metals (gold, silver, and bronze) → fabrics (yarn, fine linen, and goat’s hair) → wood → skins → olive oil → spices → precious stones → one ton of gold → three tons of silver →

“Spoils” of Egyptians (Ex. 12:35-36) → plunders from Amalek (Ex. 17:8-16)

Ex. 30:11-16 → Moses collected shekel from each man → Ex. 38:21-31 → 100 talents + 1,775 shekels → 301,775 shekels →

603,550 men →

IV. GOD EQUIPS THE WORKERS (Ex. 31:1-11; 35:30-36:7)

Building → the tabernacle - OT → the church - NT → our lives → Holy Spirit must equip us →

Bezalel / Oholiab → skill / wisdom → craftsmen → constructed tabernacle and furniture →

Bezalel / Oholiab → leaders → volunteer craftsmen (Ex. 35:10) →

We have different abilities → different gifts → glory of God (1 Cor. 12:1-13; Eph. 4:1-16; Rom. 12)

Phil. 2:13

The Hebrews built → a tent → we’re building “*a habitation of God in the Spirit*” (Eph. 2:22) → glorify God →

V. GOD MUST BE PUT FIRST IN EVERYTHING (Ex. 25:10-22; 37:1-9)

The Ark of the Covenant →

Wooden chest → 45 inches long → 27 inches wide → 27 inches high →

In the Holy of Holies → God's "shekinah" presence →

The golden mercy seat → God's throne (Ps. 80:1; 99:1; 2 Kings 19:15)

The Ark → many names → (Num. 10:33)

It was called →

- "The Ark of the Covenant"
- "The ark of God" (1 Sam. 3:3) →
- "The ark of the Lord" (Josh. 3:15) →
- "The ark of the LORD God" (1 Kings 2:26) →
- "The ark of the testimony" (Ex. 25:22) →
- "The holy ark" (2 Chron. 35:3) →
- "The ark of [God's] strength" (Ps. 132:8)

The Ark → power and authority of God →

Old Testament illustration of Matthew 6:33 →

The Ark → teaches about Jesus Christ →

→ Made of wood → humanity →

→ Completely overlaid with gold → deity →

Hebrews 9:4 → inside the ark → tables of the law (Ex. 25:16) → pot of manna (Ex. 16:32-34) → Aaron's rod (Num. 16-17)

These objects tell us →

- The law of God was in Christ's heart →
- He perfectly obeyed and fulfilled it (Ps. 40:6-8; Heb. 10:5-9) →
- He is the Bread of Life (John 6:32) →
- He lives by the power of an endless life → (Heb. 7:16)

The golden mercy seat → cherub at each end → wings overshadowed the ark

Day of Atonement → high priest enter the Holy of Holies → sprinkled the blood of the sacrifices on the mercy seat (Lev. 16) →

Atonement for Israel's sins → for another year (Lev. 16:29-34) →

Fulfillment of this type → Jesus Christ died once for all for the sins of the world → took away sin (Heb. 9:11-10:14) →

Image of safety → “under His wings” → (Ps. 57:1; 63:7; Matt. 23:37; Luke 13:34) → (Ruth 2:12; Ps. 17:8; 36:7–8; 61:4; 91:1, 4)

Moses entered Holy of Holies, → God spoke to him → revealed His will (Ex. 25:21–22; 29:42; 30:6, 36; Num. 7:89; Ps. 91:1) →

God’s people → God’s presence → the blood of Jesus Christ (Heb. 10:19-25) → “mercy seat” (Rom. 3:25; 1 John 2:2) →

The Ark of the Lord → the pillar of cloud → led the way (Num. 10:33-36)

VI. GOD IS PRESENT TO NOURISH HIS PEOPLE (Ex. 25:23-29; 37:10-16)

The Holy Place → right → table of “presence bread” → left → golden lampstand → ahead → golden altar of incense →

The table 3 feet long → 1.5’ wide and 27” inches high → acacia wood → covered with gold → reminder → Savior’s humanity and deity →

Jesus is the Bread of Life → (John 6:26)

Twelve loaves of bread → baked each week → Leviticus 24:5-9

Sabbath → old loaves removed → eaten by priests → new loaves in their place →

Bread → accompanied by incense → (Ex. 25:29) →

Incense → the bread → “meal offering” (Lev. 2:1-11) →

The loaves → “showbread” (Ex. 25:30 NKJV) → “Presence bread” (NIV) → literally “bread of faces”

Loaves → twelve tribes → God present in their camp →

The tribes → represented by the jewels → breastplate → shoulders of the high priest (Ex. 28:6-21) →

Israel gave the world the Word of God → bread (Matt. 4:4) → Jesus → (John 6)

Paul → church → a loaf of unleavened bread (1 Cor. 5:1-8; see 10:16-17) → the Bread of Life →

Twelve loaves → no leaven (Lev. 2:1-11) → keep from all impurity →

Any priest defiled → ate the bread → in danger of death (Lev. 22:3-9)

VII. GOD ENLIGHTENS OUR WORSHIP AND SERVICE (Ex. 25:31-40; 27:20-21; 37:17-24; LEV. 24:1-3)

The candlestick → *seventy-five pounds of gold* (\$2M today) →

Six branches and central shaft → seven lamps, → (Ex. 27:20-21; Lev. 24:1-4)

God wants intelligent worship → (John 4:19-24; Acts 17:22-31; Rom. 1:18-25) → we need the light of the Word of God (Ps. 119:105, 130; Prov. 6:23) →

Aaron and his sons → trim the lamps (Ex. 30:7-8) →

The Word of God and prayer must go together (Acts 6:4) →

Prayer → enlightened by the Word (John 15:7) → The Word → (Ps. 119:18; Eph. 1:15-23)

Study of the Word → prayer → energized by the Holy Spirit → oil (lampstand, Zech. 4:1-7) and fire (the altar, Acts 2:3-4) →

Candlestick → people of Israel → “a light to the Gentiles” (Isa. 42:6; 49:6)

Israel’s relationship to God →

Jesus Christ → a “light to the Gentiles” (Luke 1:79; John 8:12) → (Acts 13:47-48; Phil. 2:14-16; Matt. 5:14-16) →

Revelation 1:9-20 → Lord stands in the midst of seven lampstands →

Tabernacle → *one lampstand* → gold (75 lbs.) → one nation of Israel →

The seven lamps on the lampstand → fed by oil (Ex. 27:20-21)

People brought flour → oil → (Ex. 35:10, 14)

Zechariah 4:1-4 → oil symbolizes Holy Spirit → (John 16:14) → (Acts 1:8)

The priests in the sanctuary → the Lord (Ex. 28:1, 3-4, 41; 29:1) → (27:21; 40:25; Lev. 24:4)

Session 6B - Worship in Exodus

- I. **Worship → central theme throughout the book of Exodus and the entire Bible**

Psalm 100:2

“Worship the Lord with gladness; come into God’s presence with singing”

Matt 2:11

“They entered the house and saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. They opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.”

Romans 12:1

“as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship”

Rev. 4:10

***“The twenty-four elders fall down and worship the one sitting on the throne (the one who lives forever and ever). And they lay their crowns before the throne and say,
‘You are worthy, O Lord our God,
to receive glory and honor and power.
For you created all things, and they exist because you created what you pleased.”***

Rev. 7:10

***“And they were shouting with a great roar,
‘Salvation comes from our God
who sits on the throne and from the Lamb!”
And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living being. And they fell before the throne with their faces to the ground and worshiped God.”***

II. Worship is CENTRAL to the vocation of believers, of God's people.

A. Definitions:

1. "woerthscipe" → ascribing worth to someone
2. "leitougia" → liturgy, work of the people
 - Worship vs liturgy:
 - a. Worship → human response to that which is worshipped
 - b. Liturgy → a *common* act of worship
3. Gottesdienst → "God service"
4. El Culto, le culte → cult
5. Ebed →
 - a. "servant"
Ex. 4:10; 5:15–16, 21; 7:10, 20, 28–29; 8:5, 7, 17, 20, 25, 27; 9:14, 20–21, 30, 34; 10:1, 6–7; 11:3, 8; 12:30, 44; 13:3, 14; 14:5, 31; 20:2, 10, 17; 21:2, 5, 7, 20, 26–27, 32; 32:13.
 - b. "to serve"
Ex. 1:13–14; 3:12; 4:23; 5:18; 6:5; 7:16, 26; 8:16; 9:1, 13; 10:3, 7–8, 11, 24, 26; 12:31; 13:5; 14:5, 12; 20:5, 9; 21:2, 6; 23:24–25, 33; 34:21
 - c. "service"
Exod 1:14; 2:23; 5:9, 11; 6:6, 9; 12:25–26; 13:5; 27:19; 30:16; 35:21, 24; 36:1, 3, 5; 38:21; 39:32, 40, 42.

→ to worship

- | | | |
|------------|----------------|-----------------|
| • Ex. 3:12 | • Ex. 7:16,26; | • Ex. 20:2-3 |
| • Ex. 4:23 | 8:16; 9:1,13; | • Ex. 24: 1, 10 |
| | 10:3 | |

B. Yahweh is instructing His people to prepare a place for Him to dwell.

1. Culmination of God's work that began in creation
2. God's hope for humankind's true worship/service are "recreated"
3. Ex. 32-34: building of the tabernacle is central to their identity and societal formation

C. God's will for you is expressive, world-forming, world-resounding worship.

"At the hidden center of man's being is the dwelling place of the Triune God. It is such a private, intimate place that no one can intrude but Christ, and even He will enter only through an invitation of faith. Once the spirit enters the core of the believer's heart and establishes residence there, they become a true child of God."

A.W. Tozer

III. Main Emphases in Worship

1. Ritual
 - Ordered, patterned, shared behavior
2. Revelation
 - "Where do we sense God's presence in our worship?"
 - "How is God acting among us?"
 - "How does God want to act among us?"
3. Response

"Worship in all its grades and kinds, is the response of the creature to the Eternal...there is a sense in which we may think of the whole life of the universe, seen and unseen, conscious and unconscious, as an act of worship glorifying its Origin, Sustainer, and End."

4. Relationship

- Tarrying with God
- “How does worship build our relationship with God, one another, and the world?”
- True worship informs how we relate to ourselves, each other, and God.

5. Rehearsal

- Prepares us to engage with the world
- Prepares us for heaven

6. Requirements

No, O people, the Lord has told you what is good,
and this is what he requires of you:
to do what is right, to love mercy,
and to walk humbly with your God.

Micah 6:8

The witness of worship and service, in gathering and deed, is how God’s people respond to and engage with God’s missional agenda to make His glory abound in all the earth.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION THIS WEEK

Questions to consider on your own, during the week:

1. How does God describe His distance from the Israelites?
How does He describe His distance from believers in the Christian era?
2. How does the spiritual lesson “God provides the material” encourage you today?
3. How are Christians, like Bezalel and Oholiab, equipped and enabled for service?
4. What does the ark of the covenant represent and what does it teach?
5. What are we to learn from the mercy seat that was the lid of the ark?
6. What can we learn from the golden lampstand?
7. What do you learn about God’s holiness from these commands about the tabernacle? Why is this important for us to know?
8. 10. What are the dangers of overemphasizing either God’s transcendence (how far beyond us He is) or His immanence (how near to us He is)?
9. What understandings and practices of worship do you think your church would benefit from giving more attention?
10. What understandings of worship would you want to explore that aren’t mentioned in this session?

