

# The Messianic Hope

## The Nation My Pen – The Exodus

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### 1 The Exodus

The next event we want to pursue in some depth is the Exodus. By that we mean the whole account of how God raised up Moses in a fairly large Hebrew population in slavery in Egypt, how He worked the sign-plagues in Egypt, how He brought them out of Egypt, through the Red Sea and brought them to Sinai where He gave them the Law, the Sacrificial system and entered into a covenant with them.

1. Time of the Exodus (I Kings 6:1)

2. Purposes of the Exodus

(a) Proclaim God's name

**Exodus 9:16** But I have raised you up for this very purpose, that I might show you my power and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.

(b) That God may be known

(c) Remembrance of the covenant

**Exodus 2:24** God heard their groaning and he remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac and with Jacob.

**Exodus 6:4,5** I also established my covenant with them to give them the land of Canaan, where they lived as aliens. Moreover, I have heard the groaning of the Israelites, whom the Egyptians are enslaving, and I have remembered my covenant.

**Exodus 6:8** And I will bring you to the land I swore with uplifted hand to give to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob. I will give it to you as a possession. I am the LORD.

**Exodus 13:5** When the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Hivites and Jebusites –the land he swore to your forefathers to give you, a land flowing with milk and honey –you are to observe this ceremony in this month:

**Exodus 13:11** After the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites and gives it to you, as he promised on oath to you and your forefathers,

**Exodus 32:1** Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac and Israel, to whom you swore by your own self: “I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and I will give your descendants all this land I promised them, and it will be their inheritance forever.”

3. Importance of the Exodus in OT history

(a) The event takes thirteen chapters to narrate (Ex. 1-13) (longer than many NT books).

(b) Moses, the central figure besides God, is a major character in the Bible (his name occurs in 716 verses in the OT, 84 in the NT).

(c) The ark of the covenant, in which the Ten Commandments were kept is the central piece of “religious furniture” in the OT. Israel was to make no images of their God. “Ark of the covenant” occurs in 31 verses in the OT

- (d) The LORD makes Himself known as “the LORD who brought you out of Egypt”
- Exod. 16:6; 20:2; 29:46;  
 Lev.11:4; 19:36; 22:33; 25:38; 26:13;  
 Num. 15:41  
 Deut. 5:6; 6:12; 8:14; 13:5; 13:10  
 Judg. 2:12, 1Sam. 12:6; 2 Kgs. 17:7,36  
 2 Chr. 7:22, Ps.. 81:10, Jer. 2:6; 6:14; 23:7
- (e) The Exodus is celebrated by one of the three major feast days called *the Passover* (see Deuteronomy 16:16), also called the *Feast of Unleavened Bread*. The *Feast of Tabernacles* also commemorates an aspect of the Exodus. The term Passover occurs in 45 verses in the OT.
- (f) In this event the following happens to Israel
- i. they are redeemed

**Exodus 15:13** In your unfailing love you will lead the people you have redeemed. In your strength you will guide them to your holy dwelling.

**Deut. 7:8** But it was because the LORD loved you and kept the oath he swore to your forefathers that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

**Deut. 9:26** I prayed to the LORD and said, “O Sovereign LORD, do not destroy your people, your own inheritance that you redeemed by your great power and brought out of Egypt with a mighty hand.”

**Deut. 13:5** That prophet or dreamer must be put to death, because he preached rebellion against the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt and redeemed you from the land of slavery; he has tried to turn you from the way the LORD your God commanded you to follow. You must purge the evil from among you.

**Deut. 15:15** Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and the LORD your God redeemed you. That is why I give you this command today.

**Deut. 21:8** Accept this atonement for your people Israel, whom you have redeemed, O LORD, and do not hold your people guilty of the blood of an innocent man. And the bloodshed will be atoned for.

**Deut. 24:18** Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and the LORD your God redeemed you from there. That is why I command you to do this.

**2 Sam. 7:23** And who is like your people Israel – the one nation on earth that God went out to redeem as a people for himself, and to make a name for himself, and to perform great and awesome wonders by driving out nations and their gods from before your people, whom you redeemed from Egypt?

**1Chr. 17:21** And who is like your people Israel – the one nation on earth whose God went out to redeem a people for himself, and to make a name for yourself, and to perform great and awesome wonders by driving out nations from before your people, whom you redeemed from Egypt?

**Neh. 1:10** They are your servants and your people, whom you redeemed by your great strength and your mighty hand.

**Ps. 74:2** Remember the people you purchased of old, the tribe of your inheritance, whom you redeemed – Mount Zion, where you dwelt.

**Ps. 77:15** With your mighty arm you redeemed your people, the descendants of Jacob and Joseph. Selah

**Ps. 78:42** They did not remember his power – the day he redeemed them from the oppressor,

**Ps. 106:10** He saved them from the hand of the foe; from the hand of the enemy he redeemed them.

**Ps. 107:2** Let the redeemed of the LORD say this – those he redeemed from the hand of the foe,

ii. They become God’s people, even His firstborn son.

**Exodus 4:22** Then say to Pharaoh, “This is what the LORD says: Israel is my firstborn son, . . .”

iii. They become a nation, a nation of priests, to relate to the rest of the nations on the earth.

**Exodus 19:6** you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.

iv. God becomes known

**Exodus 6:3** I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob as God Almighty, but by my name the LORD I did not make myself known to them.

**Exodus 6:7** I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God, who brought you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians.

**Exodus 7:5** And the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD when I stretch out my hand against Egypt and bring the Israelites out of it.

**Exodus 7:17** This is what the LORD says: By this you will know that I am the LORD: With the staff that is in my hand I will strike the water of the Nile, and it will be changed into blood.

**Exodus 8:10** “Tomorrow,” Pharaoh said. Moses replied, “It will be as you say, so that you may know there is no one like the LORD our God.”

**Exodus 8:22** “But on that day I will deal differently with the land of Goshen, where my people live; no swarms of flies will be there, so that you will know that I, the LORD, am in this land.”

**Exodus 10:2** that you may tell your children and grandchildren how I dealt harshly with the Egyptians and how I performed my signs among them, and that you may know that I am the LORD.

**Exodus 14:4** And I will harden Pharaoh’s heart, and he will pursue them. But I will gain glory for myself through Pharaoh and all his army, and the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD. So the Israelites did this.

**Exodus 14:18** The Egyptians will know that I am the LORD when I gain glory through Pharaoh, his chariots and his horsemen.”

**Exodus 16:6** So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you will know that it was the LORD who brought you out of Egypt, . . .”

4. The plagues are a judgment against the gods of Egypt:

**Exodus 12:12** “On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn – both men and animals – and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD.”

The Egyptians were very polytheistic: We don’t know exactly how many they worshiped but lists done by people who count them give about 80. – John J. Davis, *Moses and the Gods of Egypt*, p. 86

**Plague 1 - Nile turns to blood** The Egyptians worshiped the Nile

**Exodus 7:19** Tell Aaron, “Take your staff and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt – over the streams and canals, over the ponds and all the reservoirs” – and they will turn to blood. Blood will be everywhere in Egypt,

(v. 22) *But the Egyptian magicians did the same things by their secret arts.*

Import of the Nile

- its the life blood of the country (obvious from map);
- Hymns were composed to the Nile

Hail to thee, Oh Nile, that issues from the earth and comes to keep Egypt alive!  
(Davis, Moses and the Gods of Egypt. p. 91)

- Several of the Egyptian gods are associated with the Nile: *Khnum* guardian of the sources of the Nile, *Hapi* spirit of the Nile, but especially important *Osirus*, god of the underworld. Many Egyptians believed the Nile was the bloodstream of Osirus (Davis p. 94) See Time Magazine May 29, 1995, Secrets of the Lost Tomb p. 49 Statue of Osirus.

**Plague 2 – the frogs** - god/goddess *Heqt* worshiped

**Exodus 8:1** Then the LORD said to Moses, “Go to Pharaoh and say to him, ‘This is what the LORD says: Let my people go, so that they may worship me. If you refuse to let them go, I will plague your whole country with frogs.’ ”

(v. 7) *But the magicians did the same things by their secret arts; they also made frogs come up on the land of Egypt.*

Heqt (Davis p. 100)

theophany of the goddess Heqt was a frog, Heqt was the wife of Khnum. How creatures got worshiped rather than the Creator: the Nile floods over, ponds left behind, breeding grounds of frogs, but the flooding both watered and fertilized the farm land. Farmers would associate the sound of the frogs with a good agricultural year.

**Plague 3 – gnats** [Massor. Text vs 12] chenemes (Egyptian) gnats or mosquitos

**Exodus 8:16** Then the LORD said to Moses, “Tell Aaron, ‘Stretch out your staff and strike the dust of the ground,’ and throughout the land of Egypt the dust will become gnats.”

(v 18) *But when the magicians tried to produce gnats by their secret arts, they could not.*

**Plague 4 – swarms of flies**

**Exodus 8:21** If you do not let my people go, I will send swarms of flies on you and your officials, on your people and into your houses. The houses of the Egyptians will be full of flies, and even the ground where they are.

Egyptians did worship a particular fly though we aren’t sure about the one described here (p. 106 Davis).

**Plague 5 – on the livestock**

**Exodus 9: 1** “Let my people go, so that they may worship me.” If you refuse to let them go and continue to hold them back, the hand of the LORD will bring a terrible plague on your livestock in the field – on your horses and donkeys and camels and on your cattle and sheep and goats. . . .

Apis Bull, (p. 114 Davis)

Cow worship as *Hathor*, goddess of love, beauty and joy.

**Plague 6 – boils**

**Exodus 9:9** and festering boils will break out on men and animals throughout the land.

**Plague 7 – Hailstorm**

**Exodus 9:18** Therefore, at this time tomorrow I will send the worst hailstorm that has ever fallen on Egypt, from the day it was founded till now

**Plague 8 – Locusts**

**Exodus 10:4** If you refuse to let them go, I will bring locusts into your country tomorrow.

### Plague 9 – Darkness

**Exodus 10:21** Stretch out your hand toward the sky so that darkness will spread over Egypt –darkness that can be felt.

Sun god - *Re* (Davis p. 125)

Hymn to the sun god from Anet pp. 367-368 “Hail to thee, beautiful Re of every day . . . Thou who has constructed thyself, thou didst fashion thy body, a shaper who was himself not shaped; unique in his nature, passing eternity. . .”

### Plague 10 – Death of the firstborn

**Exodus 11:5** Every firstborn son in Egypt will die, from the firstborn son of Pharaoh, who sits on the throne, to the firstborn son of the slave girl, who is at her hand mill, and all the firstborn of the cattle as well.

Egyptians Pharaohs as begotten god from gods:

Unlike other rulers of the ancient Near East, the Egyptian Pharaoh did not merely rule for the gods, but he was in a literal sense one of the gods. His birth was a divine act. He was counted specifically as the child of certain deities and thus possessed the properties of deities. As far as his physical existence was concerned, Pharaoh had been begotten by Amon-Re upon the queen mother. As regards his divine potency, he was Horus, the son of Hathor. – (Davis, p. 89 from Henri Frankfort, *Kingship and the Gods* (Chicago: The Univ. of Chicago Press, 1948) p. 299

#### 5. The event not responded to, results in hardening of the heart

**Exodus 4:21** The LORD said to Moses, “When you return to Egypt, see that you perform before Pharaoh all the wonders I have given you the power to do. But I will harden his heart so that he will not let the people go.”

**Exodus 7:3** But I will harden Pharaoh’s heart, and though I multiply my miraculous signs and wonders in Egypt,

**Exodus 8:15** But when Pharaoh saw that there was relief, he hardened his heart and would not listen to Moses and Aaron, just as the LORD had said.

**Exodus 8:32** But this time also Pharaoh hardened his heart and would not let the people go.

**Exodus 9:12** But the LORD hardened Pharaoh’s heart and he would not listen to Moses and Aaron, just as the LORD had said to Moses.

**Exodus 9:34** When Pharaoh saw that the rain and hail and thunder had stopped, he sinned again: He and his officials hardened their hearts.

**Exodus 10:1** Then the LORD said to Moses, “Go to Pharaoh, for I have hardened his heart and the hearts of his officials so that I may perform these miraculous signs of mine among them.”

**Exodus 10:20** But the LORD hardened Pharaoh’s heart, and he would not let the Israelites go.

**Exodus 10:27** But the LORD hardened Pharaoh’s heart, and he was not willing to let them go.

**Exodus 11:10** Moses and Aaron performed all these wonders before Pharaoh, but the LORD hardened Pharaoh’s heart, and he would not let the Israelites go out of his country.

**Exodus 14:4** “And I will harden Pharaoh’s heart, and he will pursue them. But I will gain glory for myself through Pharaoh and all his army, and the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD.” So the Israelites did this.

**Exodus 14:8** The LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, so that he pursued the Israelites, who were marching out boldly.

**Exodus 14:17** I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them. And I will gain glory through Pharaoh and all his army, through his chariots and his horsemen.

## 2 The New Testament Picture

1. Jesus is the New Israel, like Jacob he is born in the promised land (Mt. 2-4) flees to Egypt to escape death, comes forth from Egypt into the wilderness where he is tempted/tested 40 days and nights – even the scripture Jesus cites in conquering the temptation go back to this period. The Exodus is part of Jesus
2. (Luke 9:31) in the account of the transfiguration has Moses and Elijah and Jesus speaking about the ”Exodus” that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem.
3. Jesus is presented as the Passover lamb
  - (a) Jesus presented Himself as the Passover Lamb

**Luke 22:1-10** 1 Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread, called the Passover, was approaching, 2 and the chief priests and the teachers of the law were looking for some way to get rid of Jesus, for they were afraid of the people. 3 Then Satan entered Judas, called Iscariot, one of the Twelve. 4 And Judas went to the chief priests and the officers of the temple guard and discussed with them how he might betray Jesus. 5 They were delighted and agreed to give him money. 6 He consented, and watched for an opportunity to hand Jesus over to them when no crowd was present. 7 Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. 8 Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover.” 9 “Where do you want us to prepare for it?” they asked. 10 He replied, “As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house that he enters, 11 and say to the owner of the house, ‘The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ 12 He will show you a large upper room, all furnished. Make preparations there.” 13 They left and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover. 14 When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. 15 And he said to them, “I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. 16 For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God.” 17 After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, “Take this and divide it among you. 18 For I tell you I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.” 19 And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.” 20 In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.”

- (b) Apparently, so did John the Baptist: “Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.”
- (c) Paul does the same “Jesus our Passover Lamb has been slain, therefore” (1 Cor. 5).

4. We go from slavery to freedom

**John 8:34** Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin.”

**Rom. 6:6** For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin –

**Rom. 6:17** But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted.

**Rom. 6:20** When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness.

**1 Cor. 7:22** For he who was a slave when he was called by the Lord is the Lord’s freedman; similarly, he who was a free man when he was called is Christ’s slave.

**Gal. 4:8** Formerly, when you did not know God, you were slaves to those who by nature are not gods.

5. We go from being not a people to being the people of God, even God’s “sons”

**Rom. 8:15** For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.”

**Gal. 4:7** So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.

6. We become a nation of priests 1 Peter.

**1 Pet. 2:9-10** But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

7. The true Israel

**Gal. 6:16** Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule, even to the Israel of God.

8. John notes the special time of Jesus’ death.

**John 19:14** Now it was the day of Preparation, and the next day was to be a special Sabbath. Because the Jews did not want the bodies left on the crosses during the Sabbath, they asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken down.

**John 19:42** Because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

9. The gods of this world are judged

**Col. 2:15** And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.