

Exodus,

an introduction and the history behind it

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Introduction and Overview

- “The period covered by [Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers] is, in many respects, the most important in Old Testament history, not only so far as regards Israel, but the Church at all times.” Old Testament Bible History, Alfred Edersheim
- **True because:**
- A An example/pattern of:
- How God works in history
- God’s plan for his people
- Deliverance by grace
- How to live as God’s people worship and in the world
- Today an overview of what happened and then archeology and history that supports it

Exodus

- Opens after 430 years of silence since Joseph’s death
- 1446 BC for the exodus
- <http://www.bible.ca/archeology/bible-archeology-exodus-date-1440bc.htm>
- Opens with story of Moses
- Tried deliverance his way
- 40 years in Midian
- One day a bush was burning. . .

Deliverance of a Nation

- Confronts Pharaoh, work gets harder
- Plagues lasts 10 months
- Against gods and pride of Egypt
- People leave the land
- Applications and Considerations
- God does not forget his people or his promises
- Sometimes things get harder before deliverance
- His timing is not what we often want
- Remember you are eternal people
- He can be trusted
- He is working in many areas and ways to bring His plans to fruition
- ***God works in overall history, but also we are accountable for our individual lives

- **From the World’s Last Night**

by C.S. Lewis

- Frantic administration of panaceas to the world is
- certainly, discouraged by the reflection that "this present" might be "the world's last night"; sober work for the future, within the limits of ordinary morality and prudence, is not.
- For what comes is Judgment: happy are those whom it finds labouring in their vocations,
- whether they were merely going out to feed the pigs or laying good plans to deliver humanity a hundred years hence from some great evil. The curtain has indeed now fallen. Those pigs will never in fact be fed, the great campaign against White Slavery or Governmental Tyranny will never in fact proceed to victory.
- No matter; you were at your post when the Inspection came.

Important to remember

- ***Not everyone a Moses—many people simply lived between the time of Joseph and Moses
- History may not notice
- But the Lord does
- Were they kind to families or a neighbor?
- How did they react to trials—Amram and Jocabed acted in faith

A great story, a challenging story perhaps

.....but did it really happen?

Archeological Evidence

- Hieroglyphics on it state the people pictured were prisoners of war from Nubia and Syro-Palestine. This relief comes from the tomb of Rekhmire; Vzier in the courts of Thutmoses III and Amenhotep II (15th century bc by secular dating).
- Historical Considerations
- Extraordinary problems with Egyptian dating, and their recording of it
- Lots of images, no consistent dating system
- But the order of Pharaohs and what they did well documented
- Recorded famous people only

- No name, no history, cease to exist (the Pharaoh not named in Exodus)
- Based on much research....
- Earlier date verified, but then, much timeline research to sync with history

Joseph the starting point

- When Joseph lived the starting point
- *Supporters of a 12th Dynasty date for the Joseph Story begin their arguments with a strict literal acceptance of the Biblical chronology of the Exodus and Sojourn. 1 Kings 6:1 is seen as dating the Exodus to ca. 1446 BC, and Exodus 12:40 is seen as placing the entrance of Jacob and his family into an Egypt where Joseph holds high office under the reign of Sesostris III, ca. 1876 BC.*
- From www.christiananswers.net

Senusret III

- Pharaoh of Joseph's story
- A time of great power, prosperity for Egypt
- Good relations with surrounding nations

Hyksos

- Famine drove this Semitic people to Egypt
- Had superior weapons, compound bow and chariots
- Fairly peaceful take-over
- But "knew not Joseph"
- Capitol city near Goshen
- Ruled a little over 100 years
- Thrown out
- Egyptian rulers regained power
- Possibly oppressing Hebrews more as of the same ethnic heritage
- Further oppression

Thutmose I

- Great military conquests, extensive building program
- Karnack started by him
- Children by Royal wife, died except for Hatshepsut
- Married her to Thutmose II, son of secondary wife, no children survived
- Thutmose II had a child with a lesser wife who would succeed him as Pharaoh (Thutmose III)
- Thutmose II very weak, and Hatshepsut proclaimed herself Pharaoh

- ***Hatshepsut was the princess who found Moses and ruled Egypt***

Moses

- Raised by Hatshepsut, given the finest education, but:
- By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. ²⁵ He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. Heb. 11:24,25
- Meanwhile Thutmose III growing up.....
- Moses tries to do God's will his way, kills a man and has to flee Egypt

Thutmose III

- Would have grown up while Moses in Midian
- Pharaoh of the Exodus
- Very Powerful, arrogant
- Many battles, but none after 1446

Amenhotep II

- Thutmose III son
- Not as powerful as his father
- Interesting story of taking thousands of slaves as plunder in later battles

Conclusions

- The Bible tells true stories
- History can give us confidence
- Plus adding depth and detail
- But we must remember our trust is not in the history, but in our God.
- Finishing of one-story line...
- God revealed himself to Moses as the Great I AM

Jesus Finished the Sentence in book of John

1. I am the bread of life,
John: 6:35, 48, 51
2. I am the light of the world,
John 8:12; 9:5
3. I am the door of the sheep,
John 10:7, 9
4. I am the good shepherd,
John 10:11, 14
5. I am the resurrection and the life, John 11:25
6. I am the way, the truth, and the life, John 14:6
7. I am the vine,
John 15:1