

FROM THE EXODUS TO THE CONQUEST OF THE PROMISED LAND

(±1250 – 1220 BC)

(Exodus to Joshua)

Genesis ends with Joseph and his family in Egypt. Exodus picks up the story 430 years later with Moses. As time went by, the Egyptians forgot how Joseph had saved them from starvation. During these 430 years, the Israelites multiplied in great numbers, even though the pharaoh forced them do slave labor in the hope of keeping their numbers in check. The following are highlights from this time:

Moses leads his people from Egypt—the 10 plagues

The Passover (Jewish Easter)—celebrating the exodus from Egypt

The people wander in the desert

- God makes a covenant with the people at Mount Sinai
- A constitution is formed for God's new people
 - Moral laws—the Ten Commandments (Exod. 20)
 - Ceremonial laws (e.g., Exod. 23:14-17)
 - Civil laws (e.g., Lev. 19:9-10)
- The sad episode of the golden calf
- God's presence with the people
 - The people are led by fire and cloud columns
 - The Tabernacle is built
 - God sends provision of manna and quails

Offerings—worshippers are unworthy to approach God on their own. Leviticus describes this in detail because the Levites are concerned with offerings.

Invasion of Canaan, the Promised Land

- Mission of the 12 spies

- Poisonous snakes afflict the people when they rebel
- The bronze snake on poles cures the people
- Moses bids farewell (Deuteronomy)
- Joshua leads the people across the Jordan
- The fall of Jericho
- The land is divided up
- The people still disobey (Deut 7:2-4; Josh. 17:13)
- *God starts to fulfill His promises made to Abraham.*