

Exodus

“God Delivers His People from Bondage”

**Summer Session 2017
Embry Hills church of Christ**

Teachers:

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Book of Exodus
Embry Hills church of Christ
Lesson One – Introduction and Call of Moses (Chapters 1-4)

Introduction

- The Book of Exodus is the history of ~360-400 years in Egypt from the death of Joseph to the building of the tabernacle at the beginning of the second year after departing Egypt. The book serves as a bridge from Genesis to the books of the law at the end of the Pentateuch.
- The book can generally be divided into two major sections, namely chapters 1-18, which is the story of the exodus from Egypt and chapters 19-40, which center on the giving of the law.
- The five books of the Pentateuch, including Exodus, are generally agreed to have been written by Moses and there are not any other reasonably suggested alternative authors.
- Throughout the scriptures the idea of Egyptian captivity and God’s deliverance of His people is analogous to God’s delivery of His people today from sin through the power of Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross.
- In each one of the lessons we will cover a section of text and we will also include application questions at the end of each lesson to help us all to learn lessons from God’s people of old to apply to our everyday lives in service to Him.

Chapter 1

- 1) What do we learn from the first seven verses of the chapter? What important transition do we see in vs. 8? How do the rulers of Egypt plan to keep the Israelites from rising up against them?

- 2) How does the king of Egypt plan to keep the number of Israelites in check and who does he enlist to do his bidding? How does this plan work out for the king? How does God reward the ones who feared Him more than the king?

Chapter 2

- 1) What were the names of Moses parents (Ex.6:20)? How do Moses’ parents react to the king’s order regarding the male children of the Israelites? Where was Moses found and who “discovered” him there?

- 2) Who makes a suggestion for the care of Moses at least in the short term? How did the name Moses originate and what was its meaning?

- 3) What important transitions do we see in Moses’ life in verses 10-15(See also Acts 7:20-29)? Describe the way Moses determined to “deliver” God’s people in these verses. How did these things change to the course of His life?

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Embry Hills church of Christ
Lesson One – Introduction and Call of Moses (Chapters 1-4)

Chapter Two (continued)

- 4) Describe the events that took place in the verses 14-25. How do these events set the stage for all the things that would happen through the balance of the book? What happens to alter the power structure in Egypt?

Chapter Three

- 1) What miraculous manifestation of God's presence did Moses observe in early verses of the chapter? How does God describe Himself in these verses? What is God's grand plan for His people?
- 2) What is Moses first objection to God's plan to deliver His people from Egypt? What is his second question/objection to God's plan and how does God plan to deal with this issue? What will be Moses first request of the King according to verse 18?

Chapter Four

- 1) What is the first "excuse" Moses gives for not fulfilling God's plan for deliverance? How is this overcome? What is his second excuse and how is it overcome?
- 2) What does Moses suggest as an alternative to God's plan and how does God react? How will Moses deliver the words he is supposed to speak to the king of Egypt?
- 3) What actions show a lack of faith on Moses part in verses 24-26? Why do you think he might have failed to follow God's instructions in this matter?

Application Questions:

- 1) What are some of the excuses we give when we do not want to follow God's will? How can we learn from God's answers to Moses to give us the strength and courage to do what is right? Please think of some specific examples you can share with the class.
- 2) Moses tried to "run ahead" of God's plan to save His people. Please list some examples from your experience of trying to do things the way some people think is "better" instead of trusting God's way. What can we do to build our faith and trust in God so that we avoid these errors in our lives?

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Lesson Two – Moses and Aaron Go Before Pharaoh (Chapters 5-6)

Chapter 5

- 1) What question does the King ask Moses and Aaron in the first few verses of the chapter? What do you think his perspective was when he asked this question?

- 2) What was the request Moses and Aaron repeated in the next few verses? What does Pharaoh think was the reason for their request?

- 3) What does Pharaoh command as the “solution” for the Israelites “problem”? Was there some “wisdom” in his line of reason? Why/Why not?

- 4) What additional burden was placed on the Israelites? Was there any consideration of this additional burden in the amount of production that was expected? What was Pharaoh’s goal with this new harsh treatment?

- 5) How do the Israelites react to new set of work rules? Who do they blame for the harsh treatment they are enduring? What do Moses and Aaron do about the new controversy? What can be learned from their approach (either good or bad)?

- 6) Do you think Moses and Aaron had a crisis of faith in this situation? How can we experience the same issues?

Chapter 6

- 1) What does God say to reassure Moses and Aaron about how things would work out for His people? What does His response require from Moses and Aaron? Do you think this was the answer they were seeking? (why/why not?)

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Embry Hills church of Christ
Lesson Two – Moses and Aaron Go Before Pharaoh (Chapters 5-6)

Chapter 6 (continued)

- 2) Does God appear to be angry or upset with the question from Moses and Aaron? What events/evidences could Moses call upon to help him overcome this crisis of faith?

- 3) What promises of God were reiterated to Moses and Aaron at this time? What phrase is repeated in the first few verses (book-ends at verses 2 and 8)? What is the force of this declaration by God?

- 4) The people once again rise up in anger against Moses. What was the cause of their anger according to vs. 9?

- 5) What is the purpose of the genealogy shown in verse 14-27? What can we learn from the information revealed here?

- 6) What command was repeated to Moses and Aaron in the last few verses of the chapter? What excuse does Moses bring up again? What does this say about his faith?

Application Questions:

- 1) Pharaoh asks the question, “who is the Lord, that I should obey His voice”? Our theme for the year is sharing the hope within us...how would you begin to answer the question from an atheist, agnostic, Moslem, Hindu, Buddhist? Please prepare some thoughts to share with the class.

- 2) Have you ever had a crisis of faith? How did you deal with the situation? What lessons good or bad can we learn from Moses, Aaron, Habakkuk, Jeremiah, Peter, Paul to help us come out of these valleys as soon and as strong as possible? Please prepare some thoughts to share with the class.

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Lesson Three – God’s Power Demonstrated by Plagues on Egypt
(Chapters 7-9)

- 1) What instructions does God give to Moses and Aaron at the beginning of the chapter? What request are they to repeat to Pharaoh? What does God know about the answer to the question? What will the Egyptians know at the end of all the demonstration of God’s power against Egypt?

- 2) What sign would confirm the word of Moses? What do Pharaoh’s magicians do in response to the miracle performed by Aaron (through God’s power)? How does God show He is more powerful than Pharaoh and his magicians? What is Pharaoh’s reaction (we will see this again) to this demonstration?

- 3) What is the first miraculous plague that God brings upon Egypt? What does God say that all Egypt will know Him from this first plague? What was the Egyptian’s view/thoughts about the Nile River?

- 4) What did Pharaoh’s magicians do in reaction to this sign of power from God? How does this affect Pharaoh’s heart and attitude toward the God of Israel? What did the Egyptians have to do to get water to drink?

Chapter 8

- 5) What is the next plague brought on Egypt by God’s power? Why would this plague be more of a problem for the Egyptians than the first one? How pervasive would the problem be for the Egyptians? What do Pharaoh’s magicians do in reaction to this plague?

- 6) What does Pharaoh ask of Moses and what does he say he will do in return? When does Pharaoh set as the time for Moses to do what he asks? Why? Once Moses does what he asked, how does Pharaoh react?

- 7) What is the next plague brought on the land of Egypt? How would this plague be worse than the previous one? What do the magicians try to do once again? Are they successful? What lesson do they learn from their experience? How does Pharaoh react once again?

Book of Exodus
Embry Hills church of Christ
Lesson Three – God’s Power Demonstrated by Plagues on Egypt
(Chapters 7-9)

- 8) What is the next plague brought on the land of Egypt? How would this plague be worse than the previous one? What new element is introduced to show God’s favor on His people and His judgment on Egypt? What alternative suggestion does Pharaoh make to God’s request given through Moses? How does Moses react to this “reasonable” compromise?

Chapter 9

- 9) What is the next plague brought on the land of Egypt? How would this plague be worse than the previous one? What new element is continued to show God’s favor on His people and His judgment on Egypt? How pervasive was this plague? How did this once again show God’s power? Did this new plague change Pharaoh’s attitude?
- 10) What plague comes next? How would this one be worse than the ones that preceded it?
- 11) What is the final plague seen in the chapter? Who was able to escape the force of this plague? Who was not impacted by this plague? What new attitude is displayed by Pharaoh in reaction to this plague? Was it sincere? What does Moses conclude about the disposition of Pharaoh and his fellow officials?

Application Questions:

- 1) What are some of the “reasonable” compromises offered to us by our adversary Satan? How do we defend ourselves against being swayed by these attempts to undermine our devotion to God? Please prepare some examples to share with the class.
- 2) What can we learn from the continuous refusal of Pharaoh to listen to the plain commands given by God and His demonstrations of power? What does this tell us about the impact of God’s word on an unwilling heart? How could this impact our attempts to teach/convert some individuals whose heart is unreceptive to the word of God?

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Lesson Four – God’s Power Demonstrated by Plagues on Egypt
(Chapter 7-10)

- 1) What is the new impact on the Pharaoh (and Egypt in general) from the plague of hail and the plague on the cattle and other livestock? What shift is seen from the earlier plagues?

- 2) Please take a look through the marginal notes in your Bible or a concordance and find other places where the plagues on Egypt are noted. We will take some time in class to discuss these other passages so please prepare your thoughts to share with the rest of the class.

Chapter 10

- 3) What plague is now inflicted on the people of Egypt at the beginning of chapter 10?

- 4) How did this plague compound the impact of the fifth and seventh plague on the king of Egypt and the country as a whole? How is this plague another demonstration of God’s power of the elements of nature and the power of Egypt?

- 5) How destructive is this plague on the land and the pride of Egypt? How pervasive is the destruction from this new punishment from God?

- 6) What is the reaction from Pharaoh’s servants after this plague? What do they say to try to convince him to give in to Moses and Aaron’s request? What compromise does Pharaoh offer to Moses and Aaron? Do Moses and Aaron fall into this trap? Why was their decision wise in this case?

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Lesson Four – God’s Power Demonstrated by Plagues on Egypt
(Chapter 7-10)

- 7) What is the next plague brought against the Pharaoh and Egypt? What words are used to describe the intensity of this plague in verse 21? What distinction is seen between the Egyptians and the people of God? How does this distinction show God’s sovereignty and power?

- 8) What new compromise does Pharaoh offer to Moses and Aaron following this plague? Why was this “reasonable compromise” once again refused? How does Pharaoh react to this latest refusal to be “reasonable” by Moses and Aaron? How does Pharaoh threaten Moses and Aaron?

Review of the Roots and Assumptions of Idolatry (In Class Discussion)

We will spend some time in class discussing the roots and assumptions used to bring about and support the worship of idols in Egypt and many other cultures.

- 1) Continuity
- 2) Magic
- 3) Ritual Prostitution
- 4) Sorcery
- 5) Fertility Rites
- 6) Manipulation of the gods by humans and humans by the gods
- 7) Proliferation of false gods
- 8) Refusing the idea of a transcendent God (who stand above all false gods)

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Lesson Five – The LORD’s Passover
(Chapter 11-12)

Chapter 11

- 1) What is the final plague wrought on God’s enemy? What definitive statement does God give to Moses concerning the result of this plague?

- 2) What were the children of Israel instructed to ask of his neighbor? Why would their request be granted? What status has Moses gained by this time and was this regard limited only to the house of Israel?

- 3) What prediction did Moses make about the reaction of the people of Egypt once the last plague was rendered? What did God say would be Pharaoh’s reaction?

Chapter 12

- 4) God begins to establish a nation for the Israelites by instituting a unique calendar; what is the significance of the first month of this new year? Why do you think God chose to have the people reflect on this observance during the first month of every year? Do you see any connection to the command Christians are to observe every first day of the week?

- 5) Describe the specific instructions for the type of animal each household would be required to offer. How long would the animal be kept before it was offered? According to 12:6, who will kill the animal(s) and at what time?

- 6) Describe what would be done with the slain animal?

7) According to 12:11, how were the people to eat the feast? What significance do you see in this commandment?

8) List the elements of the annual Passover memorial described in 12:14-20 and 12:43-51. Then try to draw any connections to the offering of the Christ and ordinances observed within His nation.

ORDINANCES OF THE PASSOVER	CONNECTIONS TO CHRIST & HIS NATION

5. Describe the scene when the pillar of cloud moved between the Israelites & the Egyptian army.

6. Describe how God defeats the Egyptian army before the eyes of the doubting Israelites. What affect does this victory have on the people?

Chapter 15

The Songs of Moses & Miriam (vv.1-21)

7. List adjectives and images of God painted within the songs of Moses & Miriam:

Bitter Waters of Marah (vv. 22-27)

8. Describe the immediate test God challenges the people with after His amazing display of power over the Egyptian army. How do the people react? What is statute (promise/contract) does God place on His people? How does He provide for their need?

Chapter 16

God Provides Sustenance for His People

9. What challenge of faith do the people realize in the Wilderness of Sin?
 - a. What is their reaction?
 - b. What is God's reaction?

 - c. What special day is sanctified and what is required of the people?

 - d. How long did God provide this sustenance for His people?

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Lesson Seven – The Book of the Covenant
(Chapter 17-18)

- 1) Where was the next location recorded along the journey to the promised land and where was it geographically? What happened at this location, and what was the people's reaction?

- 2) How did Moses characterize the people's reaction and whom what were his concerns at this time? How serious did Moses think this situation could be?

- 3) Why did Moses take some of the elders of the people with him when he performed the miracle to solve the people's problem (though temporarily)? What is the lesson for us from this situation?

- 4) What did Moses call this place and what are the meanings of these two words? (You can consult a Bible dictionary if needed) Why do you think Moses referred to this location is this way?

- 5) What problem arises next for the Israelites? Why do you think this was a natural consequence of the people moving through the wilderness to the promised land? Does this issue come up again/when?

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Lesson Eight – The Book of the Covenant
(Chapter 19-20)

- 1) Where do the people find themselves at the beginning of chapter 19? What does God remind them about in the first few verses of the chapter? Why do you think this is important at this point?

- 2) What does God promise the Israelites at this point? Is this promise based on God's faithfulness or the people's? How would HE speak to the people?

- 3) What are some of the preparations made by the people in verses 9 through 15? What do these things have to do with receiving the law from God?

- 4) What are some of the things that were seen on and around the mountain? What do you think was the impact on the people of seeing/hearing/feeling these things?

- 5) Who was allowed to go up to the mountain at this time? Why did only these men go up to meet with God on the mountain?

- 6) What preface does God give before revealing the Ten Commandments? What is importance of this declaration?

Please complete this chart with the Ten Commandments for In-Class Discussion

Commandment	Purpose

7) What are the two major divisions of the commandments? Why do you think the commandments are ordered in this way? What is the lesson for us?

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Lesson Nine – The Book of the Covenant
(Chapter 21-24)

Chapter 21

- 1) What were some of the key laws regarding slavery revealed in the early verses of the chapter? Why were these regulations important in the new order that God was establishing for His people?

- 2) The punishment for murder was indicated in verses 12-14. What was the punishment for this crime and how does the punishment relate to the Ten Commandments and reverence for God?

- 3) What were some other capital offenses noted in verses 15-17? Why was the punishment for these types of crimes so strict? What would be the effect on society if these offenses were not punished?

- 4) What were some of the types of bodily injuries/property noted in verses 18-32 of the chapter? What were some of the different punishments that were prescribed in these cases? Why were the levels of punishment or lack thereof noted in these verses?

Chapter 22

- 5) What were the regulations related to one who steals from another in the first few verses of the chapter? What were the regulations regarding property loss or misuse in verse 5-15 of the chapter?

- 6) In verses 16-31, we see a listing of various laws of for the people to observe. Make a list of the subject matter for these laws and the reasons why these laws were important to keep order in their society.

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Lesson Nine – The Book of the Covenant
(Chapter 21-24)

Chapter 23

- 7) There are various civil matters discussed in the first nine verses of the chapter. What are some of these civil matters and what can we learn about God's nature from these commands?

- 8) We learn more about Sabbath observance from verses 10-13. What are the people told to do regarding their observance of the Sabbath for themselves and their land/animals?

- 9) What are the three feasts noted in verses 14-17? What was the purpose for observing these three feasts and why were they important for God's people of that day?

- 10) Some of the rewards of serving God are noted in verses 20-31 and verses 32-33 include a warning. Make a listing of the rewards that the Lord would give His people if they obeyed Him for discussion in class. Also, why were these warnings so important?

Chapter 24

- 11) Who was involved in the acceptance of the terms of the new law? What was the importance of the application of blood during the ratification of the covenant with the people?

- 12) Who was involved in a closer communion with God following the ratification of the covenant by all the people? What happened during these events and what were these individuals allowed to see?

- 13) In the last few verses of the chapter Moses was called back up the mountain for more communication with God? Who went with Him on this trip up the mountain? Who was left "in charge" while Moses was gone?

Application Questions:

What can we learn about the nature of God from this additional unveiling of the Old Law? What other covenants of God were sealed with blood? When?

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Lesson Ten – The Tabernacle
(Chapter 25-27)

Chapter 25

- 1) The offering for the tabernacle is discussed in the first nine verses of the chapter. What was the method of gathering the contribution and what were the items to be collected? How would the Israelites have access to these items?

- 2) Describe the materials used to construct the Ark of the Covenant noted in verses 10-16. What were the dimensions of the ark and how was it to be decorated on the inside and the outside? What provisions were made for the transport of the ark? What article is placed in the ark at this point?

- 3) The mercy seat is described in verses 17-22. What were the dimensions of the mercy seat and what heavenly characters were to be represented on the mercy seat? What does the mercy seat represent for God's people? What does God say about it in verse 22?

- 4) The table of showbread is described in verses 23-30. What were the dimensions of the table how is it decorated? What provisions were made for its transportation? What other accessories were to be made in association with the table and what was their purpose?

- 5) The lampstand for the tabernacle is described in verses 31-40. What the details we are given about the ornate design of the lampstand? How many lamps were to be included in the lampstand? What accessories were made along with the lampstand and what were the made from?

Chapter 26

- 6) The curtains for the inner tent are described in verses 1-6. How many curtains were to be made and what colors were to be used to make the curtains? What were the dimensions of the curtains? How were all the curtains to be joined together?

Book of Exodus
Embry Hills church of Christ
Lesson Ten – The Tabernacle
(Chapter 25-27)

- 7) The outer covering for the tabernacle is described in verses 7-14. What were the materials that were used as the outer covering to cover the inner curtains of the temple? How many of these coverings were made and what were the measurements? What were the additional materials to be used to cover the tabernacle?

- 8) The boards to be used to construct the temple are described in verses 15-30. What were the dimensions of the boards used to form the tabernacle? How many boards, in total were to be made and which sides of the tabernacle were to be formed by the boards? What was used to over-lay the boards?

- 9) The veil of the temple is described in verses 31-37. What materials were used to make this veil? What was the purpose of the veil? How was the veil supported within the temple?

Chapter 27

- 10) The altar is described in verses 1-8. What are the materials used to make the altar and why are these materials different from the ones in the tabernacle? How is it to be transported from place to place?

- 11) The outer court of the tabernacle is described in verses 9-19. What are the dimensions of the hanging surrounding the outer court? What types of material are used to construct the outer court of the tabernacle?

- 12) What materials are described in verses 20-21? How were these materials used in the tabernacle? What hint are we given regarding Aaron and his sons at the end of the chapter?

Application Questions:

What important admonition is given by God regarding the instructions for the tabernacle several times? What can we learn from this admonition to be the people for God's own possession today?

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Lesson Eleven – The Establishment of the Priesthood/Tabernacle Instructions
(Chapter 28-31)

1) What were the names of the four sons of Aaron? What is different about the service they will perform when compared to the other Levites?

2) Briefly describe the articles of clothing (28:1-43) required for the sons of Aaron and their function:

Ephod—

Breastplate—

Urim and Thummin—

Robe of the Ephod—

Mitre—

3) There was a series of sacrifices that were done to consecrate Aaron and his sons. Make a list of the six rituals that were performed and give a brief description of each in the table below:

4) What important promise does God make in verse 45 of chapter 28?

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Lesson Eleven – The Establishment of the Priesthood/Tabernacle Instructions
(Chapter 28-31)

- 5) We learn some further instructions about the tabernacle in chapter 30 and 31. Make a list of the articles of furniture or worship items and briefly describe each in the table below:

- 6) Who was appointed to be the ones in charge of constructing the tabernacle? What tribe were these men from and what special provisions were given to them for their assigned responsibilities?
- 7) What critical law is once again emphasized in verses 12-17 of chapter 31? Why do you think this law is re-emphasized in this place?
- 8) What was the punishment for violation of this law? Why do you think this penalty was so strong and do you think this is “fair”? Why or why not?
- 9) What does Moses receive from God after He had spoken with him on Mount Sinai? What is the symbolic meaning of these objects to the people of Israel?

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Lesson Twelve – The Apostasy and Covenant Renewal
(Chapter 32-34)

- 1) What happens among the people as Moses is on the mountain receiving the Law? Why do you think the people reacted this way? Who had the failure of leadership in this situation?

- 2) What does God tell Moses he plans to do because of the sin among the people? Was God being true to His promise if He did this? What does Moses do to intercede on behalf of the people? What can we learn from his actions?

- 3) What does Aaron do when Moses confronts him with his sin and leadership failure? Does his response seem to be reasonable or not? Did King Saul fall into this same trap as well?

- 4) How does Moses deal with the sin among the people? Who joins him in carrying out the punishment of the people and how many were killed during the purge of sin? What can we learn from this action by Moses?

- 5) Moses once again make intercession for the people. What does he offer to “pay” for the sins of the people? Could this payment be effective for this purpose? Why or why not? What promise was given to Moses in verses 33 to 35?

- 6) What does God say he would do because of the obstinate and rebellious attitude (continuing in sin) of the people? What should we learn from their poor example? What reaction does this statement from God bring about among the people?

- 7) Moses prepares a tent outside the camp where he can commune with God. What was the demonstration that God was speaking with Moses in this tent? What did the people do when they saw this happening?

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Lesson Twelve – The Apostasy and Covenant Renewal
(Chapter 32-34)

- 8) Moses once again intercedes with God on behalf of the people. What comfort does Moses request from God as they enter the promised land? How does God respond to Moses' request? What does this tell us about God's relationship with him?

- 9) What does Moses request to see in verse 18 of chapter 33? If this possible for Moses to do?

- 10) What is Moses commanded to do in the first few verses of chapter 34? Why was this action needed?

- 11) Describe what God says and what Moses sees in verses 5-8 of the chapter? What are some of the important description terms God reveals in these verses? What can we learn from this revelation of God to Moses?

- 12) We have a renewal of the God's covenant described in verses 9-26. What were the commands specifically mentioned these verses? What was the main purpose of these commandments? How long did Moses on the mountain in this instance? What was unusual about what he did while he was there? What does this remind you of in the life of our Lord?

- 13) What is different about Moses' appearance after has spent time communing with God on the mountain? How do the people react? What does Moses do to alleviate their issues with his appearance? How does the apostle Paul teach use this as a metaphor in his writings (II Corinthians 3)?

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Lesson Thirteen – Building the Tabernacle
(Chapter 35-40)

- 1) Moses once again reiterates the command to keep the Sabbath holy to the Lord. Why do you think he once again emphasizes this command?

- 2) Moses tells the people to set aside a contribution of the materials that would be needed to build and equip the tabernacle in vss. 4-29. Make a listing of the materials noted in these verses and how each of them would be used for in-class discussion.

- 3) Who were the two men given charge for the temple construction? What special “tools” were they given to accomplish this great work? Is there a NT example of this type of special “tool given to accomplish a great work?

- 4) Please take time to read outside of class the progress made on each part of the tabernacle in chapter 36 to 38:20. We will not have time to go through these details during the class period.

- 5) What is the purpose of recording the summation of the materials contributed for the tabernacle in Ch. 38 vss. 21-31? What should this example tell us about our willingness to contribute to the work of the Lord today?

- 6) Why did Moses go through the tabernacle and inspect all the work in such great detail? What did he find during his inspections? Why was this result so important?

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Lesson Thirteen – Building the Tabernacle
(Chapter 35-40)

- 7) At the beginning of chapter 40, we are told the order of the erecting the tabernacle. What day we they commended to set up the tabernacle? What was the order in which the pieces of furniture were to be brought into the tabernacle?

- 8) Once the tabernacle is completed, how does God show His approval of all the work that had been done? What other purpose did this cloud serve as the people made their way to the promised land?

Exodus Review Questions:

- 1) Make a list of the Ten Commandments and the purpose(s) of each one.

- 2) Make a list of ten plagues on Egypt and how each one showed God's superiority over the false gods the Egyptians had created for themselves.

- 3) Make a listing of 4-6 significant characters in the book and what they contributed to the overall story.

- 4) Most importantly, what lessons can we learn about God and His characteristics from the study of Exodus?