

PRECEPT
UPON
PRECEPT®

Exodus

LET MY PEOPLE GO

PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT®

EXODUS

LET MY PEOPLE GO

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HELPFUL STUDY TOOLS

ARTHUR, KAY; ARTHUR, DAVID; DE LACY, PETE

How to Study Your Bible

Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 1994/2010

The New Inductive Study Bible—New American Standard Bible

Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 2000

Hebrew Word Study Tools

RECOMMENDED COMMENTARIES

COLE, R. ALAN

Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries: Exodus

London: Inter-Varsity Press, 1973

GAEBELEIN, FRANK E.

The Expositor's Bible Commentary: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers

Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 1990.

WALVOORD, JOHN F., ZUCK, ROY B., EDS.

The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures

Wheaton, Illinois: Victor Books, 1983-c1985

RECOMMENDED SOFTWARE

Logos Bible Software

Powerful search engines and up to 4,000 electronic Bible study resources (commentaries, lexicons, Bible dictionaries etc.) make it fast and easy to do simple and complex searches of multiple sources, then pull materials together for orderly presentation—excellent for word and topical studies based on English or original Hebrew and Greek. Available at www.logos.com

LESSON ONE

Chapters One through Four

THIS LESSON The following located in the Appendix:
INCORPORATES Observation Worksheets of Exodus 1–4
“Exodus at a Glance” chart
Cross-references

How sure are the promises of God made so long ago?

DAY ONE

As you open the Word of God, remember that this is God’s book given to you that you might know Him, understand His ways, love Him with all your heart, mind, body, soul, and spirit, and show this by keeping His commandments. Therefore, it is always wise to begin each study in prayer, asking God to speak to you by His Spirit, through His Word.

Remember, Beloved of God, that the enemy of your soul does not want you to be in the Word. Thus, he will do what he can to deter and distract you, but he cannot stop you from persevering.

Also remember that the good can be the enemy of the best. Busyness with the work of God can keep you from the Word of God. Yet, it is clear from Scripture that the Word of God is the foundation for all that we believe and do. Therefore, to neglect it is parallel to trying to live and work without food, which leads to sickness and death. You cannot neglect the study of God’s Word and be spiritually healthy. Look at the church today, and you will see how true this is.

Finally, remember that getting one day’s work done is better than getting nothing done. So do whatever you can. Don’t let the fact that you may not always be able to complete each week’s study keep you from doing what you can. This is spiritual food; get as much as you can.

1. To really appreciate the book of Exodus and to understand the significance of the events that occur in this phase of Israel’s history, we need to start our study with several passages in Genesis.

Let's look at the promise God gave to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—the promise of a land as an everlasting possession. As you look up each reference, you might want to mark the word *land*. * Also note what you learn from the text regarding the *land*. If the text answers any of the 5 Ws and H (who, what, when, where, why, and how), record it next to the verse.

Using the Key Word Bookmark on the back cover of your Precept book, record each key word and how you intend to mark it on your Observation Worksheets or in your Bible. This will be a helpful reminder, and you can add new key words as you continue to study Exodus. The word *covenant** should always be on your key word list because everything God does is based on covenant.

*Throughout this workbook, an asterisk denotes a word with a suggested marking on the reverse side of the Key Word Bookmark.

- a. Genesis 12:1-7—According to Acts 7:2-5 and Genesis 15:7, the Lord's call came to Abraham when he was living with his family in Ur of the Chaldeans.

- b. Genesis 13:14-18

- c. Genesis 15:13-18

d. Genesis 26:1-6

e. Genesis 28:10-15

f. Genesis 37:23-28

g. Genesis 41:41

h. Genesis 46:2-4

2. Read Genesis 50. If you have not done so before, you might want to mark any reference to *Egypt* and any reference to the *land** promised by oath to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Also remember that God changed Jacob's name to Israel in Genesis 32:24-28, so both names refer to the same man and are used interchangeably.

3. There is a map on at the end of this lesson that will show you the boundaries of the land promised to the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob as an everlasting possession. If God promised Abraham and his descendants this land as an everlasting possession, will it happen?
4. Now in light of what you saw in Genesis, read Exodus 1. The book of Exodus is printed out in the Appendix. We call these Observation Worksheets.
 - a. As you read this chapter, double underline references to location because this answers the question “where” and, thus, gives you the geographical context of the beginning of Exodus.
 - b. Also mark references that would give you an indication of when something occurs. We suggest you mark time with a green circle. If it’s a time phrase, you might put the circle on one word and then put a green squiggly line under the remainder of the phrase.
 - c. Observe who the main persons are in this chapter. List them and the facts you observed about them on the page “The Main Characters of Exodus 1” at the end of this lesson. Record the facts that will help you understand these people. These facts will tell you either who, what, when, where, why, or how. You’ll want to record what you learn about the sons of Israel, the king of Egypt who is referred to as Pharaoh, and the midwives.

DAY TWO

Our focus today will be Exodus 2 and the birth and early years of Moses, a man whose name you will find repeated time and time again throughout the Word of God. You are going to learn so much from this awesome book, Beloved, and we count it such a privilege to study it with you. What a privilege God has given us in partnering with you in one of the most noble endeavors of a person’s life—that of learning the Word of God. Here is pure, unadulterated truth—truth that will equip you for every good work of life! As you discover more and more about God and His ways, you will find life so much easier to understand and cope with because you will have the insight and wisdom of God to guide you.

1. Read your Observation Worksheet of Exodus 2.
 - a. Mark every reference to *Moses* in a distinctive color or way. We will not ask you to mark Moses throughout Exodus; however, since this is our introduction to Moses and it is important to get all the facts straight, this is our suggestion for this chapter.
 - b. By the way, don’t forget to mark references to geographical location and time. These are important observations.

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DAY
THREE

Didn't you enjoy yesterday's lesson, just stopping long enough to really get a better understanding of Moses' birth and the early years of his life! And weren't you thrilled at the way our Sovereign God brings about His purposes! What confidence this ought to bring to your life, and that confidence will only grow, Beloved, with the study of this foundational book.

1. Today, you need to read Acts 7:15-30. However, if you have time, it would be good to see what preceded these verses as Stephen, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, recounted to the Jews the summarization of the history of Israel before they stoned him to death.

Once again mark every reference to *Moses*. If you receive additional insights into Moses and his life, record them with the information you listed on the previous page in Day Two.

2. Now read Hebrews 11:22-29 and do as you just did with the passage in Acts. This passage in Hebrews will take us beyond the time of Exodus 2, but it will certainly show us how Moses lived.
3. Beloved, it is always good to reflect on what you have read and discuss it with God. Is there anything you've learned that you might apply to your life by way of example, any insights into God that would especially help you, knowing that God never changes?

Even if you have only two to three minutes for this, it is still worth it to sit quietly and think about the things you have learned. Then, jot down a sentence or two. So much will be learned about God throughout the study of Exodus. Located in the Appendix we have included a "Journal on God" for you to record your thoughts. Just take time to be still and remember that He is God.

4. Finally, in observing these New Testament passages on Moses, did you gain any new insights into his life or anything that illuminated the sequence of events? List them below because this shows how Scripture interprets or enlightens Scripture. Also, you may want to note these references in the margin of your Bible next to the related verses in Exodus.

Do you realize how much you have learned, Beloved of God, just in these past three days? And you have seen it for yourself! Persevere...you are going to learn so much about God that will transform your life, that will give you a depth of understanding as to why God refers to you as “Beloved” so often in His Word.

DAY FOUR

1. Read Exodus 3:1–4:17. Mark each reference to time and locations as you have done in the past. When you mark locations, don’t forget to mark the mountain of God as a geographical location because it is very significant throughout Exodus. Mark *mountain of God* and its synonyms in a distinctive way throughout the book.

Also as you move into chapter 4, mark the word *staff*.

- a. Who are the main characters in this passage?

- b. What is the main subject of Exodus 3:1–4:17?

- c. When does Exodus 3:1–4:17 occur?
 - d. Where does it occur?
 - e. Why does it occur? What provoked all this?
 - f. Did you notice any key words that jumped out at you in this first reading? If so, list them below and devise a way to mark them. After listing them, you might want to mark them accordingly.
2. Having read Exodus 3:1–4:17, we are going to turn our attention for the remainder of the week to Exodus 3. We're sure you noticed that the conversation between Moses and God doesn't end at Exodus 3:22. This will, however, be our parameter of study from this point on so you won't be overwhelmed with homework.
 3. Read Exodus 3 again. It would be good to read it aloud. It helps you retain more of what you read when you read it aloud, over and over. Mark the following key words: *affliction** (*suffering, oppression*), *cry** (*cried*). Also look at Exodus 1:11-12 and Exodus 2:23 and mark the same words as they appear in these verses. While you are in Exodus 2:23, devise a way to mark the word *bondage* and mark it accordingly.
 4. Now reflect on the situation of the Israel. Try to imagine what it would be like to live under those conditions...the slavery of it all, the whip of the cruel taskmaster. Maybe you are there—enslaved, but not by a taskmaster whose whip is easily seen with the naked eye.

You might want to bring today's study to a close by reading John 8:31-36. Maybe like the Jews (sons of Israel) mentioned in verse 31, you believe there is a God. Maybe you acknowledge His Son, Jesus Christ, but are you truly His disciple, His learner and follower? Are you enslaved, in bondage, afflicted by

persistent, unrelenting sin? Or have you been set free? Think about what John 8:31-36 is teaching, and parallel it with the picture of the Egyptians. Do you need to call out to God because of your bondage, your torment? If so, do so, Beloved. God has you in this course for a purpose.

DAY
FIVE

1. Start your time of study by reading Exodus 3 again. This time mark in a distinctive color the questions asked by Moses in this chapter. **Mark only the questions, nothing else.** Coloring them will help you see them quickly, and this is important.
2. Now note the questions Moses asks God in Exodus 3:11, 13. Record the questions below, and then write God's response to each of them. When you record God's response, list the main points of His answer. Don't rewrite the text below; rather, make sure you sort out each thing that God says will take place.

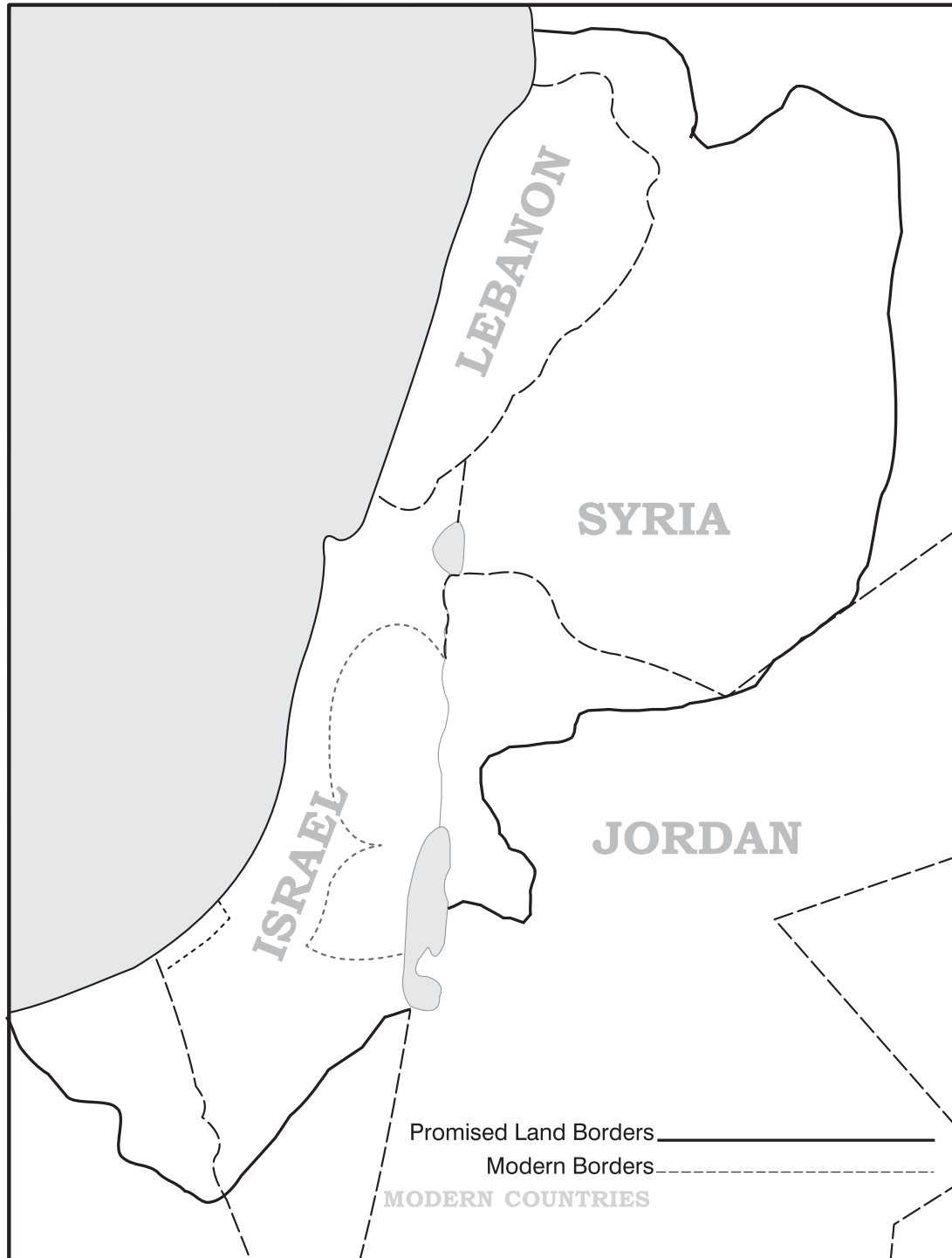
Moses' Questions	God's Response

3. As this week in the Word comes to a close, it would be good to reflect on all that you've learned about God as you have observed Exodus 1–3. This will be a real faith builder in your life. As you think about the many things you've observed about God, record them in the "Journal on God" located in the Appendix.

As you go through this wonderful exercise, you will find it very profitable not to rush, but to take time to worship God through prayer or praise...or maybe through confession for failing to live in light of who God is. To worship God is to acknowledge God for who He is, to look at His worth and respond accordingly.

4. Finally, Beloved, record the main themes of Exodus 1–3 on the "Exodus at a Glance" chart, located in the Appendix. Don't labor over the themes; they should simply tell you what the chapters are generally about.

As you finished your first week of study, did you hear His "well done"? We are sure you have pleased Him, for you have truly listened to what He has to say. You have given it close attention!



This map is based on information from *The Moody Atlas of Bible Lands*, Moody Press, 1985.

THE MAIN CHARACTERS OF EXODUS 1

EXODUS 1

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

- NOW** these are the names of the sons of Israel who came to Egypt with Jacob; they came each one with his household:
- 2 Reuben, Simeon, Levi and Judah;
 - 3 Issachar, Zebulun and Benjamin;
 - 4 Dan and Naphtali, Gad and Asher.
 - 5 All the persons who came from the loins of Jacob were seventy in number, but Joseph was *already* in Egypt.
 - 6 Joseph died, and all his brothers and all that generation.
 - 7 But the sons of Israel were fruitful and increased greatly, and multiplied, and became exceedingly mighty, so that the land was filled with them.
 - 8 Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph.
 - 9 He said to his people, “Behold, the people of the sons of Israel are more and mightier than we.
 - 10 “Come, let us deal wisely with them, or else they will multiply and in the event of war, they will also join themselves to those who hate us, and fight against us and depart from the land.”
 - 11 So they appointed taskmasters over them to afflict them with hard labor. And they built for Pharaoh storage cities, Pithom and Raamses.
 - 12 But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and the more they spread out, so that they were in dread of the sons of Israel.
 - 13 The Egyptians compelled the sons of Israel to labor rigorously;
 - 14 and they made their lives bitter with hard labor in mortar and bricks and at all *kinds* of labor in the field, all their labors which they rigorously imposed on them.
 - 15 Then the king of Egypt spoke to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other was named Puah;
 - 16 and he said, “When you are helping the Hebrew women to give birth and see *them* upon the birthstool, if it is a son, then you shall put him to death; but if it is a daughter, then she shall live.”
 - 17 But the midwives feared God, and did not do as the king of Egypt had commanded them, but let the boys live.

- 18 So the king of Egypt called for the midwives and said to them, “Why have you done this thing, and let the boys live?”
- 19 The midwives said to Pharaoh, “Because the Hebrew women are not as the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife can get to them.”
- 20 So God was good to the midwives, and the people multiplied, and became very mighty.
- 21 Because the midwives feared God, He established households for them.
- 22 Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, saying, “Every son who is born you are to cast into the Nile, and every daughter you are to keep alive.”

EXODUS 2

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

NOW a man from the house of Levi went and married a daughter of Levi.

- 2 The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was beautiful, she hid him for three months.
- 3 But when she could hide him no longer, she got him a wicker basket and covered it over with tar and pitch. Then she put the child into it and set *it* among the reeds by the bank of the Nile.
- 4 His sister stood at a distance to find out what would happen to him.
- 5 The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the Nile, with her maidens walking alongside the Nile; and she saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid, and she brought it *to her*.
- 6 When she opened *it*, she saw the child, and behold, *the* boy was crying. And she had pity on him and said, "This is one of the Hebrews' children."
- 7 Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and call a nurse for you from the Hebrew women that she may nurse the child for you?"
- 8 Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Go *ahead*." So the girl went and called the child's mother.
- 9 Then Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child away and nurse him for me and I will give *you* your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed him.
- 10 The child grew, and she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. And she named him Moses, and said, "Because I drew him out of the water."
- 11 Now it came about in those days, when Moses had grown up, that he went out to his brethren and looked on their hard labors; and he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his brethren.
- 12 So he looked this way and that, and when he saw there was no one *around*, he struck down the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.
- 13 He went out the next day, and behold, two Hebrews were fighting with each other; and he said to the offender, "Why are you striking your companion?"
- 14 But he said, "Who made you a prince or a judge over us? Are you intending to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?" Then Moses was afraid and said, "Surely the matter has become known."

- 15 When Pharaoh heard of this matter, he tried to kill Moses. But Moses fled from the presence of Pharaoh and settled in the land of Midian, and he sat down by a well.
- 16 Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters; and they came to draw water and filled the troughs to water their father's flock.
- 17 Then the shepherds came and drove them away, but Moses stood up and helped them and watered their flock.
- 18 When they came to Reuel their father, he said, "Why have you come *back* so soon today?"
- 19 So they said, "An Egyptian delivered us from the hand of the shepherds, and what is more, he even drew the water for us and watered the flock."
- 20 He said to his daughters, "Where is he then? Why is it that you have left the man behind? Invite him to have something to eat."
- 21 Moses was willing to dwell with the man, and he gave his daughter Zipporah to Moses.
- 22 Then she gave birth to a son, and he named him Gershom, for he said, "I have been a sojourner in a foreign land."
- 23 Now it came about in *the course of* those many days that the king of Egypt died. And the sons of Israel sighed because of the bondage, and they cried out; and their cry for help because of *their* bondage rose up to God.
- 24 So God heard their groaning; and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
- 25 God saw the sons of Israel, and God took notice *of them*.

EXODUS 3

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

NOW Moses was pasturing the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian; and he led the flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God.

- 2 The angel of the LORD appeared to him in a blazing fire from the midst of a bush; and he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, yet the bush was not consumed.
- 3 So Moses said, "I must turn aside now and see this marvelous sight, why the bush is not burned up."
- 4 When the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am."
- 5 Then He said, "Do not come near here; remove your sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground."
- 6 He said also, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." Then Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.
- 7 The LORD said, "I have surely seen the affliction of My people who are in Egypt, and have given heed to their cry because of their taskmasters, for I am aware of their sufferings.
- 8 "So I have come down to deliver them from the power of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanite and the Hittite and the Amorite and the Perizzite and the Hivite and the Jebusite.
- 9 "Now, behold, the cry of the sons of Israel has come to Me; furthermore, I have seen the oppression with which the Egyptians are oppressing them.
- 10 "Therefore, come now, and I will send you to Pharaoh, so that you may bring My people, the sons of Israel, out of Egypt."
- 11 But Moses said to God, "Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the sons of Israel out of Egypt?"
- 12 And He said, "Certainly I will be with you, and this shall be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God at this mountain."

- 13 Then Moses said to God, “Behold, I am going to the sons of Israel, and I will say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you.’ Now they may say to me, ‘What is His name?’ What shall I say to them?”
- 14 God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM”; and He said, “Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”
- 15 God, furthermore, said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.’ This is My name forever, and this is My memorial-name to all generations.
- 16 “Go and gather the elders of Israel together and say to them, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, has appeared to me, saying, “I am indeed concerned about you and what has been done to you in Egypt.
- 17 “So I said, I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land of the Canaanite and the Hittite and the Amorite and the Perizzite and the Hivite and the Jebusite, to a land flowing with milk and honey.”
- 18 “They will pay heed to what you say; and you with the elders of Israel will come to the king of Egypt and you will say to him, ‘The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, has met with us. So now, please, let us go a three days’ journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.’
- 19 “But I know that the king of Egypt will not permit you to go, except under compulsion.
- 20 “So I will stretch out My hand and strike Egypt with all My miracles which I shall do in the midst of it; and after that he will let you go.
- 21 “I will grant this people favor in the sight of the Egyptians; and it shall be that when you go, you will not go empty-handed.
- 22 “But every woman shall ask of her neighbor and the woman who lives in her house, articles of silver and articles of gold, and clothing; and you will put them on your sons and daughters. Thus you will plunder the Egyptians.”

EXODUS 4

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

- THEN** Moses said, “What if they will not believe me or listen to what I say? For they may say, ‘The LORD has not appeared to you.’”
- 2 The LORD said to him, “What is that in your hand?” And he said, “A staff.”
- 3 Then He said, “Throw it on the ground.” So he threw it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from it.
- 4 But the Lord said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand and grasp *it* by its tail”—so he stretched out his hand and caught it, and it became a staff in his hand—
- 5 “that they may believe that the LORD, the God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you.”
- 6 The LORD furthermore said to him, “Now put your hand into your bosom.” So he put his hand into his bosom, and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous like snow.
- 7 Then He said, “Put your hand into your bosom again.” So he put his hand into his bosom again, and when he took it out of his bosom, behold, it was restored like *the rest of* his flesh.
- 8 “If they will not believe you or heed the witness of the first sign, they may believe the witness of the last sign.
- 9 “But if they will not believe even these two signs or heed what you say, then you shall take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground; and the water which you take from the Nile will become blood on the dry ground.”
- 10 Then Moses said to the LORD, “Please, Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither recently nor in time past, nor since You have spoken to Your servant; for I am slow of speech and slow of tongue.”
- 11 The LORD said to him, “Who has made man’s mouth? Or who makes *him* mute or deaf, or seeing or blind? Is it not I, the LORD?
- 12 “Now then go, and I, even I, will be with your mouth, and teach you what you are to say.”
- 13 But he said, “Please, Lord, now send *the message* by whomever You will.”
- 14 Then the anger of the LORD burned against Moses, and He said, “Is there not your brother Aaron the Levite? I know that he speaks fluently. And moreover, behold, he is coming out to meet you; when he sees you, he will be glad in his heart.

- 15 “You are to speak to him and put the words in his mouth; and I, even I, will be with your mouth and his mouth, and I will teach you what you are to do.
- 16 “Moreover, he shall speak for you to the people; and he will be as a mouth for you and you will be as God to him.
- 17 “You shall take in your hand this staff, with which you shall perform the signs.”
- 18 Then Moses departed and returned to Jethro his father-in-law and said to him, “Please, let me go, that I may return to my brethren who are in Egypt, and see if they are still alive.” And Jethro said to Moses, “Go in peace.”
- 19 Now the LORD said to Moses in Midian, “Go back to Egypt, for all the men who were seeking your life are dead.”
- 20 So Moses took his wife and his sons and mounted them on a donkey, and returned to the land of Egypt. Moses also took the staff of God in his hand.
- 21 The LORD said to Moses, “When you go back to Egypt see that you perform before Pharaoh all the wonders which I have put in your power; but I will harden his heart so that he will not let the people go.
- 22 “Then you shall say to Pharaoh, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Israel is My son, My firstborn.
- 23 “So I said to you, ‘Let My son go that he may serve Me’; but you have refused to let him go. Behold, I will kill your son, your firstborn.””
- 24 Now it came about at the lodging place on the way that the LORD met him and sought to put him to death.
- 25 Then Zipporah took a flint and cut off her son’s foreskin and threw it at Moses’ feet, and she said, “You are indeed a bridegroom of blood to me.”
- 26 So He let him alone. At that time she said, “*You are* a bridegroom of blood”—because of the circumcision.
- 27 Now the LORD said to Aaron, “Go to meet Moses in the wilderness.” So he went and met him at the mountain of God and kissed him.
- 28 Moses told Aaron all the words of the LORD with which He had sent him, and all the signs that He had commanded him *to do*.
- 29 Then Moses and Aaron went and assembled all the elders of the sons of Israel;
- 30 and Aaron spoke all the words which the LORD had spoken to Moses. He then performed the signs in the sight of the people.
- 31 So the people believed; and when they heard that the LORD was concerned about the sons of Israel and that He had seen their affliction, then they bowed low and worshiped.

EXODUS AT A GLANCE

Theme of Exodus:

	Chapter Theme(s)
Author:	1
	2
Date:	3
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Purpose:	5
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Key Words:	8
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