Exodus

Quick Reference

1. Title and Theme.

The name Exodus comes from the Greek translation of the Hebrew Scriptures known as the Septuagint. Exodus means to depart or exit, this name was given to this book because of its' major theme of Israel's redemption from slavery in Egypt.

The name for this book in the Hebrew Bible is "*We'elleh Shemoth*" which comes from the first two words of the book which translate into English as, "Now these are the names." This book was given this name because it is a continuation of the book of Genesis, this book shows how the family of Jacob became the great nation of Israel.

Concerning the theme of the book of Exodus, this book shows how the family of Jacob grew to the great nation of Israel during its four hundred and thirty years of slavery in Egypt. Also this book shows how God based on His covenant with Abraham used Moses to lead the nation out of Egypt to Mount Sinai (Exodus 6:2-8). At Mount Sinai God revealed Himself to Israel, made a covenant with them and began giving them the law so they could be His holy nation and kingdom of priests (Exodus 19:4-6).

2. Author and Date.

The author of this book is Moses, Exodus 17:8-16 and 24:4 gives internal evidence that he was both an eyewitness and the author of this book. The date of the writing of Exodus was sometime during Israel's forty years in the wilderness (1446-1406 B.C).

3. Outline and Chapter Summary.

There are two major themes of the book of Exodus. First in chapters 1-18 Israel is delivered from bondage in Egypt. Second in chapters 19-40 God begins delivering to Israel their laws for their nation and religion.

Each of these two sections can also be subdivided into four sections.

- 1. Israel is delivered from bondage in Egypt (Chapters 1-18).
- A. Israel grows from a family into a nation and is put in bondage (Chapter 1).
- B. God calls Moses to deliver Israel out of Egypt (Chapters 2-4).
- C. Moses' confrontations with Pharaoh and the ten plagues on Egypt (Chapters 5-11).
- D. Israel's exodus from Egypt and their journey to Mount Sinai (Chapter 12-18).

2. God begins delivering to Israel their laws for both their nation and religion (Chapters 19-40).

A. God establishes a covenant with Israel based on their obedience to His law (Chapters 19-24).

B. God give Moses the instructions for the tabernacle and priesthood (Chapters 25-31).

C. Israel's idolatry and the renewal of God's Covenant with Israel (Chapters 32-34).

D. The construction of the tabernacle and the garments for the priesthood (Chapters 35-40).

4. Points to Ponder.

A. Chapters 1-18

- God is faithful to His promises (Exodus 6:2-8, Philippians 1:6).
- Israel's redemption through the Passover lamb is a type of Christ's sacrifice and the Christians salvation (1 Corinthians 5:7).
- B. Chapters 19-40
 - Redemption requires the believer's response of obedience (Exodus 19:2-7, Romans 12:1-2).
 - The tabernacle and priesthood is a type of the believer's access to God and Christ High priestly ministry (Exodus 35-40, Hebrews 5:4-5, 8:5, 9:23-24, 10:20).

Images of the tabernacle and its furniture:

