



The Old Testament

Lesson 3: The Book of Exodus

St Mark Coptic Church London
Pre-servants course

The Old Testament

- The focus of the Old and New Testaments is Christ.
- The OT and NT are one book (one story).
- The OT reveals God's plan and the NT is the fulfilment of that plan.
- The NT is hidden in the OT, and the OT is unveiled in the NT (St Augustine)

The Pentateuch

Book	The work of God
Genesis	Created us
Exodus	Saved us
Leviticus	Sanctified us
Numbers	Guides us to His Kingdom
Deuteronomy	Gave us his commands

Recap of Genesis

- Genesis: the book of beginnings.
- Man is God's crown of creation, created on the image and likeness of God
- Man transgressed God's command and became subject to death
- And he was exiled from Paradise.

Promise of Salvation

- First Promise of salvation to Adam and Eve:
 - *“Seed of woman shall crush the head of the serpent”*
- God taught Adam and Eve need for sacrifice to cover sin.
- The practice of offering sacrifices was passed down by tradition

Covenant with Noah

- Wickedness grew on the earth.
- Noah was righteous in God's eyes
- Noah and his sons saved through the Flood
- God made a covenant with Noah never to destroy the earth again through a Flood
- God's plan for the salvation of the world was kept alive through Noah
- Noah had 3 sons: Shem, Ham, Japheth

Covenant with Abraham

- Abraham called to leave his family and land to move to the land of Canaan
- Abrahamic covenant: God promised Abraham that the Saviour of the world would come from his seed
 - *“In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed.”*
- Promise confirmed with Isaac and Jacob

The Israelites in Egypt

- Joseph sold into Egypt.
- Because of a famine, Jacob and his sons went down to Egypt
- They were in Egypt for 430 years.
- They started to multiply in Egypt.
- The Egyptians feared that the Jews would pose a threat to their national security, so they began to oppress them.

Exodus: Introduction

- The book of Exodus tells the story of their deliverance from the bondage of Egypt.
- The word Exodus:
Ex = out, hodos = way.
- Written by Moses the Prophet, the key character (type of Christ)
- Salvation from the bondage of Egypt is a type of our salvation from the bondage of sin.

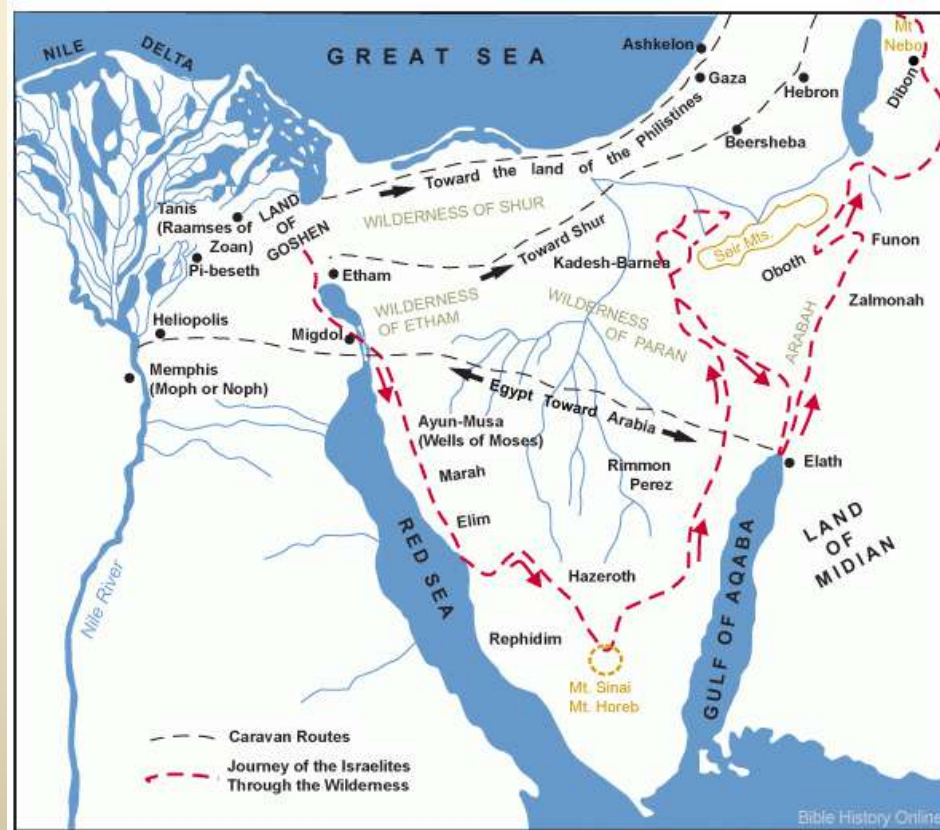


The Story of salvation

- The people left Canaan (Paradise) and went down to Egypt (land of exile and slavery)
- They became enslaved to Pharaoh
- God sent his Prophet Moses to Egypt to deliver them from Egypt to serve the Living God, and bring them back to Canaan.
- Likewise God the Father sent His Son into the world to deliver us from the bondage of Satan and sin and death and restore us to Paradise.

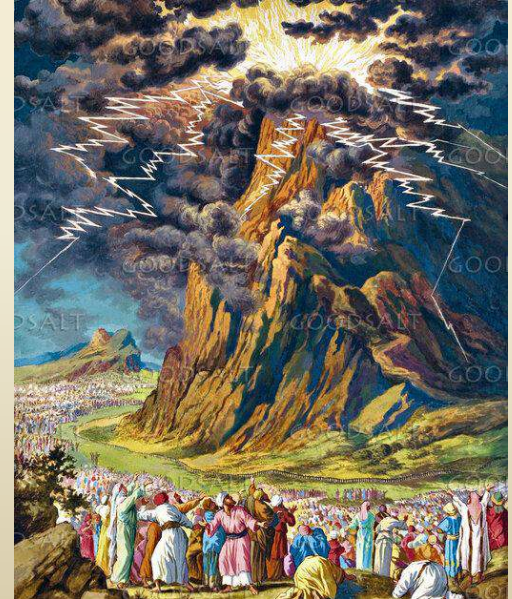
Location of Exodus

- The Book of Exodus covers the journey from Egypt to Mount Sinai (in Southern Sinai)



Structure of Exodus

- Israel in Egypt (1 – 14)
- Israel in the wilderness (15-18)
- Israel at Sinai (19- 40)



The Israelites in Egypt



The Israelites in slavery

- The people were enslaved by Egyptians for 430 years.
- Pharaoh ordered two midwives to kill all the newly born males in order to destroy the Jewish race.
- The midwives feared God and did not carry out the plan
- God preserved them because he would be incarnate from them.
- God's plan for the incarnation cannot be defeated.

Moses the deliverer

- God heard the groaning of His people under servitude.
- In the fullness of time he sent Moses to bring out the Jews from the bondage of Egypt.
- Likewise he heard the groaning of humanity under the servitude of sin.
- In the fullness of time He sent His only begotten Son to deliver us from the bondage of sin.

Moses early years

- From the tribe of Levi. His brother was Aaron, the first High Priest and his sister, Miriam.
- His mother weaned him in the faith for the first 3 years of his life, and for the rest of his youth he was brought up in the palace of Pharaoh.
- God preserved the life of Moses, and likewise God the Father preserved the life of His Son.

Moses, God's chosen vessel

- When he was old (40 years) he left all the glory of the palace to visit his brethren.
- In the fullness of time, Christ came down from heaven to visit us, and redeem us.
- Moses killed the Egyptian. He served by his own strength.
- He escaped to Midian where he lived till the age of 80.
- God wants us to be His vessels to depend on His strength.

The Commission

- The Angel of Lord appeared to Moses from the midst of a burning bush.
- The burning bush was lit but was not consumed.
- This is a symbol of the incarnation: divinity (fire) was united with humanity (bush) without change.
- “I am the God of your father – the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob” (Exodus 2:6)
 - God has not forgotten the covenant he made in Genesis with the Patriarchs.

The Burning Bush

- Divinity (fire) united with humanity (bush) without change.



The ten plagues

1. The water into blood
2. The frogs
3. The Lice
4. The Flies
5. The diseased cattle
6. The boils
7. The hail
8. The Locusts
9. The Hail
10. Death of the Firstborn

- God is showing that he is Lord over all gods. He “exists” (Yahweh), the other gods do not.
- “Also on their gods the LORD had executed judgments.” (Numbers 33:4)
- Many Egyptians feared the true God seeing the wonders He did.
 - *“All things work together for good.”* (Romans 8:28)

The Miracles

- Moses performed miracles as evidence that God had sent him.
- Pharaoh saw the miracles but his heart was hardened.
- Likewise Christ did miracles in his ministry as evidence that He has been sent by the Father.
- Likewise the heart of the Jews was hardened and they did not believe in Christ.

The Passover

- The tenth plague was the destruction of the first born.
- The Lord ordered to people to slay a lamb and sprinkle its blood on the doorposts.
- The angel of destruction passed over all the houses marked with blood.



Christ the True Passover

The Passover Lamb is a type of Christ the True Lamb

“Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed for us” (1 Cor 5:7)

OT Passover	Christ
Lamb without blemish	Christ was without sin
A male, year old lamb	Christ was sacrificed in the prime of his life
None of it remained till morning	Christ was not left hangin on the cross
Roasted in fire.	Christ bore the intense sufferings of the Cross
Blood sprinkled on the doorposts as a sign of protection from the plague	Christ’s blood shed on the wood of the Cross as a means of salvation and protection from God’s wrath against sin.
The Lamb was eaten after it was slaughtered	We partake of Christ in the Eucharistic meal

Crossing the Red Sea

- The people had to cross the Red Sea to pass from Egypt to Sinai.
- In the baptismal waters we transfer from the kingdom of Satan to the kingdom of God.
- *“All were baptised into Moses in the cloud and the Sea”* (cloud = Holy Spirit, Sea = water)
- The Passover Lamb was sacrificed before the crossing of the Red Sea. And our baptism is founded on the blood of the True Lamb, Christ.

In the Wilderness



In the wilderness

- After crossing the red sea, the people were led into the wilderness.
- They were tested for 40 years.
- Christ after His baptism was led by the Spirit into the wilderness where he was tested for 40 days.
- The wilderness is a type of this world, where we are tested after we are baptised.

Guided through the wilderness

- The people were guided through the wilderness by the pillar of fire and the cloud.
- Christ is our light who guides our path through this world.
 - Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.”
(John 8:12)

The Bitter waters sweetened

- When they came to a place called Marah, they could not drink the water for it was bitter.
- They complained against Moses.
- Moses cast a tree into the water and it became sweet.
- The tree is symbol of the Cross, and the water is a symbol of baptism.
- Through the cross and the waters of baptism the bitter water of sin is converted to the sweet water of God's liberty.

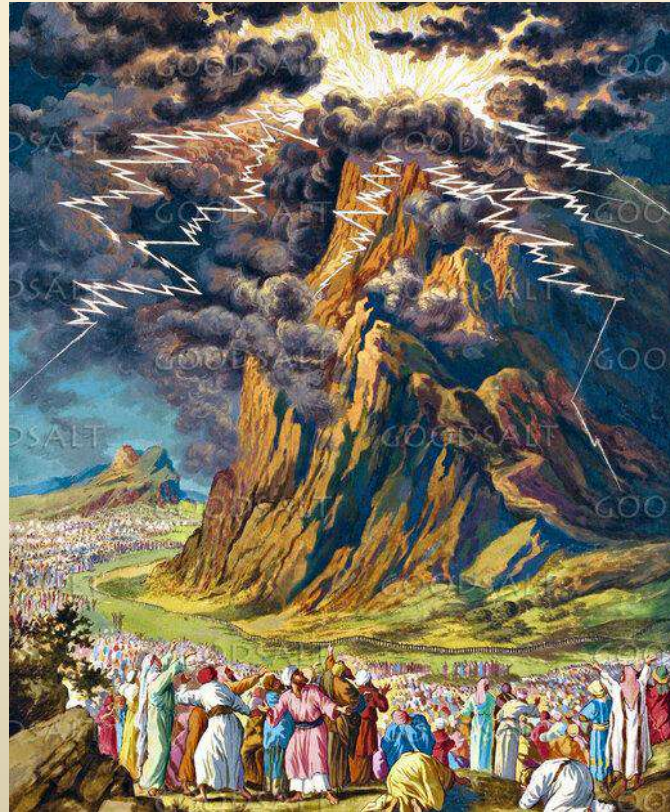
Fed with Manna

- They were sustained with Manna during their 40 year sojourn in the wilderness
- The Body of Christ sustains us during our sojourn in this wilderness of this world.
 - “I am the true Manna that gives life to the world”
 - “I am the bread of life.”

Water from the rock

- When the people thirsted, they started to complain to Moses.
- God commanded Moses to strike the rock at Horeb, and water gushed forth from it.
- The rock symbolises Christ. He was struck on the Cross, and water and blood came from His side.
- The water symbolises the Holy Spirit, and baptism through which we receive the merits of the blood of Christ.

At Mount Sinai



At Mount Sinai: the Mosaic Covenant

- The Lord gave them the covenant through Moses:
 - Now therefore if you will indeed obey my voice and keep My covenant, you shall be a special people to Me above all nations” (Exodus 19:5)
 - Then all the people answered with one accord and said, “Everything the Lord said we will do and hearken to” (Exodus 19:8)

Giving of the Law

- Laws regarding relationship with God and with people:
 - Laws regarding God: no other gods, idols, rest
 - “I am the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt. You shall have no other gods before Me...”
 - Laws regarding people.

The Priesthood

- Prior to the giving of the Law, the head of the family was the priest for his family.
- But now God sets apart the tribe of Levi for the priesthood.
- Aaron and his sons are chosen to be priests.
- The rest of the Levites are the assistants of the priests.

The golden calf

- While Moses was on Mount Sinai, the people below waited impatiently. They made a golden calf to worship.
- The people were unable to keep the law because of the corruption of their heart.
- Because of sin the image of man was corrupted, and needed to be renewed.
- The Law simply revealed the corruption of their heart but it could not heal them.

The New Covenant

- *“Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. ²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you ²⁷ I will put My Spirit within you **and cause you to walk in My statutes**” (Ezekiel 36:25-28)*
- *“clearly you are an epistle of Christ, ministered by us, written not with ink but by the Spirit of the living God, **not on tablets of stone but on tablets of flesh, that is, of the heart.**” (2 Cor 3:3)*

The Tabernacle

- The people dwelt in tents.
- God desired to dwell among them.
 - *“And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them.” (Exodus 25:8)*
- In John 1:14: *“And the Word became flesh and dwelt (tabernacled) among us amongst us.”*
- The Greek word dwelt is **σκηνή** (skēnē) which originally meant “tent” or tabernacle

God desires to dwell among his people

- Garden of Eden.
- The Tabernacle
- The Temple
- The Church (the Eucharist)
- Heavenly Jerusalem

Tabernacle points to Christ

- “According to **all** that I show you ...thus you shall make it.” (Exodus 25:8)



- Every detail points to Christ and his redemption

The Tabernacle

Covenant Box/Ark of the Covenant

Incense Altar

Golden Lampstand

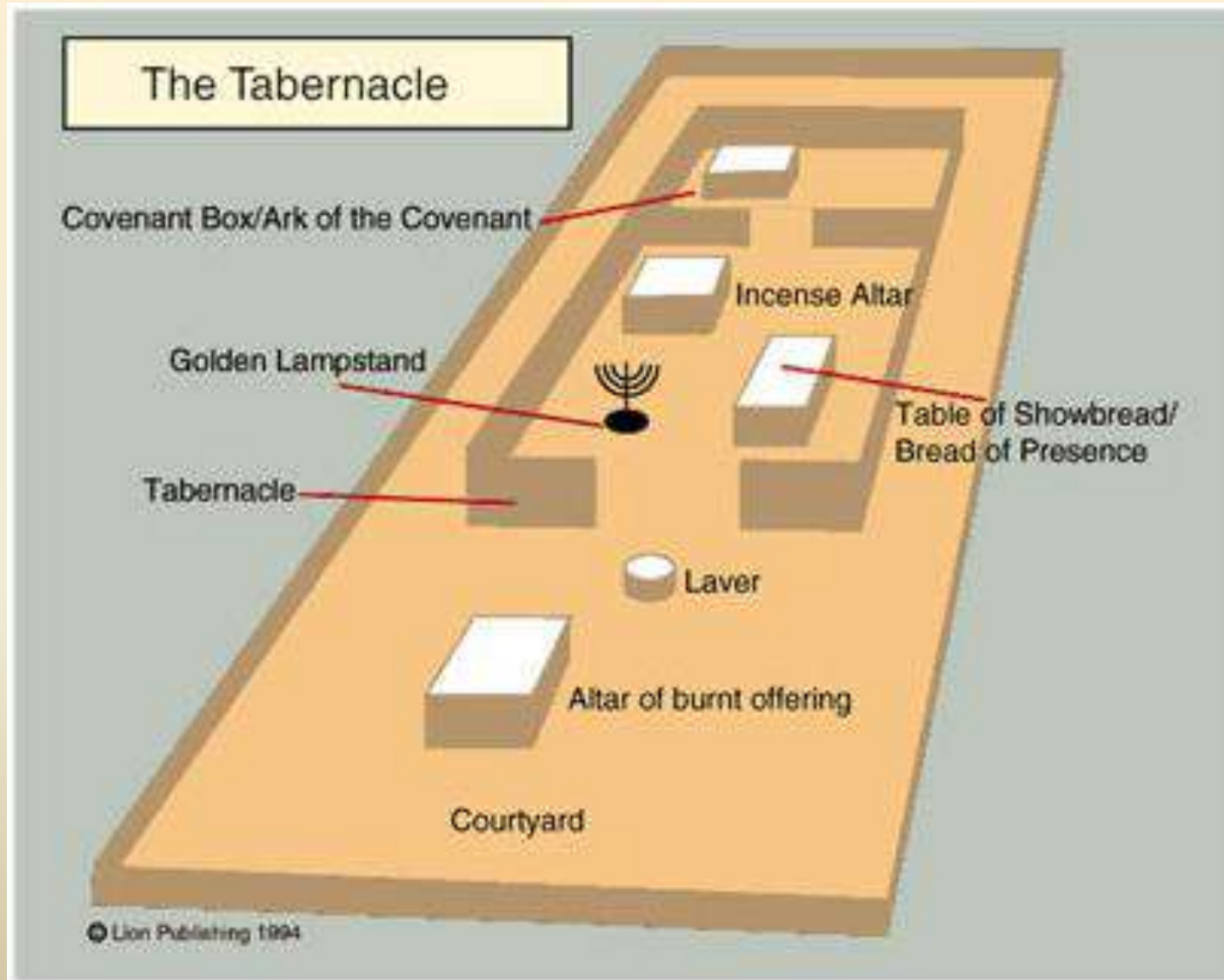
Table of Showbread/
Bread of Presence

Tabernacle

Laver

Altar of burnt offering

Courtyard



The ark of covenant



Summary

- Through the Passover Lamb Christ the Baptism we are saved from the bondage of sin and death.
- God sustains us and walks with us in the “wilderness” of this world in our journey towards the Kingdom of heaven
- We have been renewed in God’s image through baptism, and have God’s laws written on our hearts.