## Fifty Lessons from the Exodus

# Why Were the Israelites in Egypt?

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#### What IS the "Exodus"?

The "Exodus" refers to the 40 years God, and His "agent", Moses, led the Israelites out of Egypt (where they had been slaves for over 400 years) to the land of Canaan that God referred to as "the Promised Land." Even with a million Israelites making the journey on foot, it shouldn't have taken longer than about a month. But it took 40 years for reasons we will learn.

#### Why should we study the Exodus?

The Exodus took place some time between 1500 years and 1200 years before Christ. That was at least 3,200 years ago. How does that have any relevance for us now?

Many, who call themselves "New Testament" Christians, belittle the study of the Old Testament, thinking it is unimportant for Christians, saying that the Old Testament is for the "Jews." These Christians do not realize that there is no such thing as a "Jew", a least not ethnically.

Jewishness is a culture, not an ethnicity. Jewishness is the culture of the Talmud, the "holy" book of Judaism that turns the Bible upside-down and inside-out. The Talmud distorts and perverts every precept given by Jesus Christ when He was on earth. When Jesus rebuked the Pharisees and their traditions, calling the Pharisees vipers, hypocrites, and the synagogue of Satan, He was referring to their diabolic belief system. He was referring to what we now know as the Talmud, the written-down false doctrines of the "traditions of the elders" – the Pharisees. Much to the surprise of most Christians, the Jews of today do NOT live by the Old Testament. They don't even study it. The Babylonian Talmud, a book of debauchery and paganism, is their "holy" book.

But the apostle Paul in the Tenth Chapter of 1 Corinthians, makes it very clear that the Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt "happened for examples" to those alive when Paul

was writing, as well as those alive since that time, and those alive now, irrespective of their ethnicity. As far as God is concerned, there are only two groups of people: those who BELIEVE in Jesus Christ, and those who DON'T!

"Now all these things happened unto them for examples and they are written for our instruction upon whom the ends of the ages (eons) are come. 1 Corinthians 10:11 (literal translation)

The term *Israelites* (notice the term is NOT the "Jews") means those who worship the God of heaven, the God that Jacob (Spiritual name – Israel) worshiped. The Spiritual name of *Israel* was given to Jacob **after** he became an overcomer, after he had given up his ways of deceit and had become a true follower of the God of heaven (Genesis 32:28). The name Israel was given to Jacob by God to affirm the change of Jacob's **character**, from a deceiver to one "at peace with God and man."

The name "Israel" does NOT mean "Jew." The name "Israel" means "One with God" or "at peace with God and man."

The term "children of Israel" is found in Exodus 1:1 to identify those of Jacob's literal sons who went down into Egypt and whose offspring multiplied for 400 years while they were held captive as slaves by the Egyptians. Jacob (who later was given the Spiritual name Israel) was the grandson of Abraham and Sarah, two Babylonians.

About 2,000 years before Jesus was born into the world, God called Abraham to "cross over" the Euphrates River, a major geographic dividing line at the time, to journey to Canaan, and to "cross over" from worshiping pagan gods in Babylon, to worshiping the true God.

That's why the Bible refers to Abraham as a "Hebrew" – a word that means "to cross over." The word "Hebrew" does NOT mean "Jew." Abraham was a worshiper of the true God – he was a "Christian" looking forward to the Messiah, Jesus Christ. Abraham was NOT a Jew!

Abraham and his wife, Sarah, had one child together, Isaac, who later had twin sons, Jacob and Esau. Again, Jacob was NOT a "Jew." He was the grandson of two Babylonians. His NAME was changed when his character changed. Jacob did NOT change his GENES! Jacob did NOT become a "Jew."

As noted, Jacob happened to be a twin. Jacob's TWIN brother, Esau, became the leader of the Edomites, a group that NO ONE (including the "Jews" of today) claims was "Jewish." How could one twin be "Jewish" and the other twin NOT be "Jewish"? Jacob was not "Jewish." He was just the grandson of two Babylonians.

# Flee From Idolatry (ALL Kinds)

Let's look at 1 Corinthians, Chapter 10 (Literal Concordant Translation).

1 For I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, that our fathers all were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea.

Paul is obviously speaking of the Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt.

"The redemption of Israel out of Egypt was to typify the spiritual deliverance which is ours in Christ. All, indeed, were redeemed by the blood of the paschal lamb, but not all by any means pleased God in the wilderness journey. They all went through the Red Sea on dry land, all were identified with Moses, all ate the manna, and all drank the water brought forth by Moses' rod in the desert.

"Yet, notwithstanding these privileges, they failed in self-control, they went back in heart to the flesh pots of Egypt, reverted to idolatry, sinned and murmured. .

These things still have their appeal to us unless we, like the apostle, reduce our bodies to bondage" to Christ Jesus. Knoch, A. E., Concordant Commentary of the New Testament, p 257

(LESSON No. 1) Unless we are continually grounded in the Lord, continuing to read the Bible every day, keeping the Seventh-day, Saturday, Sabbath holy, following God's commandments, living, thinking, acting, eating, and handling stress God's way – we will fall back into our old ways of the world and our relationship with Jesus Christ will rapidly deteriorate. We will not have the strength of character to stand for the Lord when the trials and tribulations come!

2 and all are baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,

3 and all ate the same spiritual food,

4 and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they drank of the spiritual Rock which followed. Now the Rock was Christ.

Notice here that Paul is telling us that CHRIST, Himself, was in the cloud leading the Israelites out of Egypt. Christ was the one giving the instructions to Moses.

Often, Christians say that God is the "Justice" part of the Deity – and Christ is the "Mercy" part, because they know that when Christ was on earth, He never killed or even hurt – anyone! "New Testament Christians" often are uncomfortable studying the Old Testament because they believe that it gives a picture of a vicious warrior God, the

"justice" God, a blood-thirsty God who kills His enemies, a God who supports war. But this is the "God" that the entire "Christian" Church worships, a "Killer God" who has a character just like "man."

As we study the Bible more in-depth, we will see that God is NOT like ANY of the churches teach. God is INVISIBLE and Jesus is the VISIBLE form of the INVISIBLE God (Col 1:15). So Jesus IS God – in human form. He came to earth so we could SEE what a life of Love looks like!

#### Paul continues telling us WHY we should study the Exodus

5 But not in the majority of them does God delight.

God was not happy with the way the majority of the Israelites behaved.

6 For they were strewn along in the wilderness. Now these things became <u>types</u> (examples) for us, for us not to lust after evil things, according as they did lust.

7 Nor yet even becoming idolaters, according as some of them, even as it is written, Seated are the people to eat and drink, and they rise to sport.

Eating, drinking and rising to "sport." It sounds like our culture today, consumed with satisfying their appetites – of all kinds.

8 Nor yet may we be committing prostitution, according as some of them commit prostitution, and fell in one day, twenty-three thousand.

9 Nor yet may we be putting the Lord on trial, according as some of them put Him on trial, and perished by serpents.

10 Nor yet be murmuring even as some of them murmur, and perished (destroyed) by the exterminator (destroyer).

The Israelites were constantly complaining, and because of this they perished in the wilderness. As we go through life, we must be careful not to complain. God has written the script for our life before He created the world. EVERYTHING in our life is meant to build character in us to make us holy.

If we complain, we are really saying that God doesn't know what He is doing – that we don't agree with the way He is running the world and running our life, and presumably WE could do a better job. Those are the words of Satan, and if we utter them, we are Satan's children.

11 Now all these things happened unto them for examples. And they are written for our admonition (instruction), upon whom the end of the eons have attained. (literal translation)

#### What is an Eon?

An "eon" is a long period of time, with a beginning and an end, the length of which is designated by God. It is constantly **mistranslated** by the Bible translators as eternity, everlasting, forever and ever, and eternal, words that never appear in the Bible. We know that an "eon" does NOT refer to "eternity" because the Bible speaks of the "conclusion of the eons" (Heb 9:26). Eternity never "concludes."

Obviously, the translators didn't know what the word "eon" meant, but that didn't stop them from putting their own "spin" on it. They incorrectly translated it according to their OWN preconceived religious beliefs.

There **will** be an "eternity" but it is not spoken of in that way in the Bible.

"Eons" are designated periods of time BEFORE we enter "eternity."

The eons, of which there are five, are divided into two classes, the first three, which are preparatory and the last two, called the 'eons of the eons', that turn the **evil** of the first class (of eons) into **good**. The last two eons, are the fruit and consummation of the evil eons.

We are now living in the third of the five eons. The third eon began with the Flood at the time of Noah, about 1500 years after creation, and will end with the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. The fourth eon will begin with the return of Jesus Christ when the righteous will be taken to heaven for the 1,000 year- millennium. The last, or fifth eon, will begin AFTER the millennium, when the unsaved dead are resurrected for the Great White Throne Judgment. The last eon, beginning with the Judgment, will also be a long period of time, probably a thousand years. This is the time when the unsaved will be judged, reap what they have sown, and eventually turn back to right-doing (righteousness) and receive salvation.

#### What Happens at the Judgment?

All the "Christian" denominations teach that the "wicked" will be judged at the Great White Throne, and thrown into Hellfire!

But that is NOT what the Bible says. All of God's disciplines are "remedial" just like a loving parent. They are meant to turn a person back to the right way. They are NOT punitive. No loving parent disciplines his or her child just to see the child suffer, with no good goal in sight.

All the churches teach that the wicked will burn FOREVER (or as long as they deserve) with "NO SECOND CHANCE" to turn their life around. So, the discipline is totally punitive – just to watch the person suffer – and suffer – and suffer. In medical and psychiatric terms, a person that would do that is called a Psychopath!

So, the "God" that ALL the churches worship is really a Maniacal Psychopath, who PUNISHES the wicked just to watch them suffer – with NO CHANCE to turn their life around!!

But that is NOT the God of the Bible!

**The Judgment** is to bring the sinners sins to his mind, and allow him then to "reap what he has sown" in order to learn that he needs Jesus Christ to run his life. The "Reaping" for many will be long and horrific! But it has a marvelous purpose: to turn the sinner back to right-doing (righteousness).

Psalm 94:15 But Judgment shall return (turn you back) to righteousness (right-doing.

Isaiah 26:9 "When the Judgments of God are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn TO DO RIGHT (righteousness)."

ALL of God's disciplines are REMEDIAL - to turn sinners BACK to RIGHT-DOING, AFTER they have reaped what they have sown, just like a loving parent disciplines his or her children – NOT to KILL them!

#### **Forty Years of the Exodus**

In Bible times, a man didn't reach maturity until he was 30 years old. That's why Jesus started His ministry at age 30. If He had been younger, no one would have listened to Him. Also, at the time of the Exodus, the life expectancy was around 70 years. So, from 30 to 70 is 40 years – the average length of adulthood.

God was teaching the Israelites in those 40 years, during the Exodus, all the lessons WE need to learn in our adult life, in order to be like Him and to learn to TRUST Him with everything in our life.

THAT is why it is so important to study the Exodus!

The HARDEST thing anyone must learn to do in his or her entire life is - - - to truly TRUST God with everything! Christians "think" they trust God, but when the troubles begin, they fall like dominoes.

#### Why Were the Israelites in Egypt?

Jacob, the grandson of Abraham, had 12 sons. His favorite son (something that no parent should "have") was Joseph, the first of 2 sons by Jacob's favorite wife, Rachel. The other ten sons were by Jacob's other wife, Leah (the older sister of Rachel who was thrust on Jacob by the deceit of his father-in-law, Laban) and by two women servants of his wives.

The other 10 sons of Jacob hated Joseph because he was their father's favorite, so one time, when they were tending the flocks, many miles from home, the 10 brothers decided to kill Joseph, who was only a teenager at the time.

(By the way, Joseph did NOT have a "coat of many colors" which would look rather bizarre. The literal translation says he had a "coat of many pieces" which was probably referring to an exquisite fur coat, such as a beautiful mink coat of today, with many pelts (pieces) beautifully put together, given to him by his father.)

Joseph's brothers put him down into a deep pit, to leave him there to starve to death. But right at that time, a group of Arab merchants came by, heading for Egypt, so the brothers decided to "make a buck" by selling their younger brother into slavery.

There is a long story of Joseph's severe difficulties in Egypt, and how he overcame them by trusting completely in God. Eventually, Joseph became second only to Pharaoh, in ruling over Egypt.

When there was a 7-year famine in the entire area, only Egypt had food because of Joseph's wisdom and his close connection with God. Later, Joseph's father and all his brothers moved from Canaan, to an area in Egypt called Goshen, and that is how the nation of Israel began, in the land of Egypt.

For the next more than 400 years, the Israelites grew into a community of over one Million people and the Egyptians were concerned that their Israelites slaves would outnumber the Egyptians. During this time, Joseph had died, and there had been many different Pharaohs, the most recent making a law that the Israelite Midwives must kill all male babies born to Israelite mothers.

And the Egyptian slave masters became more oppressive, demanding more work from the Israelites than it was physically possible to do. When they were unable to do it, they were beaten unmercifully.

Life for the Israelites had become unbearable. They knew that their ancestor Abraham had been promised by God to give the Israelites the land of Canaan. After all these years of persecution, the Israelite slaves in Egypt were ardently praying for God to give them an escape from their massive oppression.

By that time, Moses, an Israelite who had been raised by Pharaoh's daughter, had fled from Egypt after killing an Egyptian who had been beating an Israelite. Moses had been in Midian, several hundred miles away, tending sheep for 40 years. He was now 80 years old. One day, when he was out in the field, he saw a bush that was burning. But the bush didn't burn up. It just kept burning. Moses walked closer and heard God's voice say,

"Take off your shoes. This is holy ground."

Then God said to Moses that He was aware of the major oppression of the Israelites by the Egyptians and He was going to deliver them out of Egypt and take them to Canaan, the land that God had promised to the descendants of Abraham.

God told Moses He wanted Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. Moses argued with God, bringing up the fact that Moses hadn't been living in Egypt for 40 years and the Israelites probably wouldn't listen to him. Many of them might not even know who he was. And that since he had been away from Egypt for so long, he didn't speak the language very well anymore, so he needed his brother Aaron to talk for him since apparently Aaron was still living in Egypt.

But God said, "I will put the words in your mouth." But Moses still argued with God saying he needed Aaron to talk for him. So God finally said, "O.K. you can have Aaron."

**(LESSON No. 2)** Don't argue with God! Just do what he says. Aaron turned out to be a horrible burden for Moses because when Moses was at the top of Mt. Sinai, getting the Ten Commandments from God, Aaron made the golden calf for the Israelites to bow down to worship – they fell right back into PAGANISM!

If you feel that your burdens are too much to bear, learn to give them over to God. Don't argue with God. He knows what we need to go through, and what we need to learn, far better than we do. Don't complain – and don't argue! Just keep doing the task that God has placed before you – without whimpering. We are here on this earth to learn to live God's way – not our own. The Bible says we are here to "glorify God" (Isa 43:7) and the way that we do that is to follow His instructions – His laws, commandments and decrees" (Deut 7:11-15). We are to live our life by His "manual" – the Bible – because He created us, and knows exactly how to lead us through the experiences we need to develop the vigor, commitment, determination, self-control and tenacity that we must have in order to stand for God through the severe trials and tribulations that are soon coming on us.

So, Moses made the long trip back to Egypt and, with Aaron, went in to Pharaoh to ask him to let the Israelites go. But God told Moses, ahead of time, that Pharaoh would NOT let the Israelites go.

Why would God tell Moses to go to Pharaoh and ask him to let the Israelites go, while simultaneously telling Moses, that Pharaoh would refuse over and over again because God would harden Pharaoh's heart?

**(LESSON No. 3)** People often wonder, "Why does God allow these things to happen?" The real question is, "What is YOUR relationship with the Lord? How much are YOU

studying your Bible every day? Are YOU keeping God's Commandments? Do you even know what they are?" People never change if things are going fine. And many times they don't change even when things are horrible. It usually takes something catastrophic in a person's life to get them to acknowledge that they need Jesus Christ to run their life.

In the case of Pharaoh, God was going to bring NINE plagues (through Moses), and each time Pharaoh would refuse to let the Israelites go. The last plague, the death of the first born of every family in Egypt who did not put the blood on the doorpost, would prove that only God, Himself, could bring that about. God wants to make sure that human beings don't take the credit for what God has done. He wants us to know that HE is in charge – and we are not.

All the Israelites put the animal blood on the doorpost, and the angel of death "passed over" their household, and their first-born son lived. (That was the beginning of the feast of "Passover.") But the Egyptians did not put blood on their doorpost, and the first-born of every family died – including Pharaoh's first-born son. It was clear to everyone that God was ultimately in charge – and not Moses! Moses had no ability to do that!

#### Moses and Aaron again go to Pharaoh

Moses and Aaron went again to Pharaoh to ask him to let the Israelites go. Pharaoh mocked the God of heaven and said, "Who is He, that I should do what He says?" Then Pharaoh asked for Moses to perform a miracle. Pharaoh brought in all his wise men and the sorcerers who were the magicians of Egypt.

At God's command, Aaron threw down his rod, and it became a snake. Then the magicians and sorcerers (agents of Satan) cast down their rods and ALL their rods became snakes, too!

(LESSON NO. 4) Satan can do miracles too! There are Mary apparitions seen in many places. There are supposed miraculous "healings" done by TV preachers. NASA's "Project Blue Beam" can cause a FAKE "Alien Invasion" in the sky – and everyone will believe it. With the same lasers and holograms, they can FAKE the Second Coming of Christ, and they can FAKE a "Rapture" (people being levitated into the sky) and everyone will believe it is God doing it. They will "see it with their own eyes." But it will be the agents of Satan doing it.

In fact, the magician/witches of Pharaoh were able to duplicate the **First Three** miracles: the rod turning into a serpent and the first two plagues.

We must live by Faith in God's Word and not by sight. The Bible warns us of all these FAKE miracles, and False "Christs" that will come – deceiving almost everyone. The

only way we can keep from being deceived is to study God's Word diligently and daily, and praying daily that God will keep us close to Him and aware of His Truth. Whatever happens must correlate with what the Bible says. We CANNOT live by our "feelings" or even what we THINK we are "seeing." We must live completely by the Word of God. But we can only do that if we KNOW what the Word of God says!

Jesus tells us that the deceptions will be so sophisticated that, "if it were possible, even the very elect will be deceived" (Matt 24:24).

#### These things are ALREADY Happening!

People are already being deceived in major ways. Frequently I am asked about the "Medical Medium" and how he says he does the things he does - - through God! But the very word "medium" means the occult, a psychic, or a witch – ALL of which are controlled by SATAN! The Medical Medium is a tool of Satan, and yet he CLAIMS to be doing his work through God. But his "god" is Satan!

Satan has been deceiving human beings for thousands of years. We are no match for him. The ONLY way we can keep from being deceived is to have a close, personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and continue studying His Word, the Bible, every day in a very systematic way, and praying – on our knees – at least morning and evening, as well as spending the Saturday Sabbath, from sundown Friday night to sundown Saturday night, learning about the Lord. We need to keep the day that God made holy – not the day that a "man" – the Pope – supposedly "made holy." "Man" can't do that!

If everyone had been doing those things for the last hundred years, we wouldn't be in the mess we're in now!

#### **CONCLUSION:**

**LESSON 1**: Unless we are totally grounded in God's Word, studying the Bible daily, praying daily, keeping the Sabbath, we will fall like a rock when the trials and tribulations come our way.

**LESSON 2**: Don't argue with God and don't complain about the task He has given you to do. Just buckle down and do the job He has placed before you. He knows, a whole lot better than you do, what you need to go through to bring you to Him.

**LESSON 3**: Don't lose heart when things continue to get worse. Frequently things have to get a lot worse, to show that God is in charge, and only God can fix the problem. Remember, there were TEN horrible plagues in Egypt before things got bad enough that it was clear that God was in charge of EVERYTHING!

**LESSON 4:** Just because it's a "miracle" – it doesn't mean that God has done it. Satan can do miracles too. The ONLY way you can make sure you won't be deceived is by studying God's word daily and diligently, praying at least twice a day, and staying very close to the Lord. If you don't do that – you WILL be deceived – just as almost everyone is already deceived by the FAKE Covid-19 scamdemic. They are anxious to get the vaccine, that will, in many cases, lead to their Death!

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