



A Summary of the Old Testament

within the word

Lesson Five | Moses

The Biblical account of the Hebrew people is found in four historical books, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. The central characters are Jehovah, Moses and the Hebrew nation.

- Exodus is primarily concerned with the departure of the Hebrews from Egypt. It begins with their oppression in Egypt and closes with the story of the tabernacle at Mt. Sinai.
- Leviticus is concerned with worship of the Hebrew people, their various laws, offerings, and the priesthood.
- Numbers is filled with wilderness experiences, legal matters, and statistics.
- Deuteronomy is largely devoted to the laws governing the Hebrew people and several historical accounts of the experiences of the Hebrews, as they traveled from Egypt to Canaan.

Day One

1. Read Exodus 1:1-7.
Note the facts gleaned in these few verses.
The names of the sons of Israel

The number of persons who came into Egypt with Jacob: _____
The death of Joseph and his _____.

In your notes, list five statements that describe the children of Israel becoming a mighty nation.

-
-
-
-
-

2. It is sad how quickly hearts can change when we do not share with our descendants these stories of gratitude. The next generation is relying on us to share the stories of those who have done great things to help others. You might want to read and discuss great men and women of faith with your children so they can know them.

1. Men like **Billy Graham**, who gave his life to leading others into a real relationship with Christ. Note all he sacrificed and all that was gained of eternal value.
2. **Bill Bright**, who received a unique impression from God to invest his life in helping reach the entire world, beginning with college students. He became the founder of Campus Crusade for Christ, known today as Cru.
3. **Elisabeth Elliot**, who despite many difficult tragedies, consistently lived what she preached: trusting God, keeping a quiet heart, and doing the next right thing. She stated, *"The fact that I am a woman does not make me a different kind of Christian, but the fact that I am a Christian makes me a different kind of woman."*

Godly men and women are not perfect, but they are humble, repentant, and used by God.

3. Exodus 1:8-14 describes the problem and the fear experienced by the Egyptians.

What did they see as a problem?

What did they fear might happen?

What was their solution to this problem?

4. When their plan of oppression did not seem to be working, Pharaoh ordered the baby boys, of the Israelites, thrown in the Nile at birth. Exodus 2 tells us the story of a Levite, Amram, and his wife, Jochebed (we are not given their names until Exodus 6:20,) who were led by God to save their son. You are probably familiar with this amazing story of God's plan of protection for one who would deliver this nation.

Read Exodus 2.

List the two times God protected Moses.

- 1.
- 2.

5. Do not miss the good news found in Exodus 2:23-25.
What was the good news?

Day Two

1. While tending sheep in Midian, Moses saw a bush that was burning but, was not consumed. God spoke to him and called him to deliver the Israelites from their bondage in Egypt. Moses asked how would he will get the people to follow him.

Read Exodus 3:13-17.

What did God tell him to share with the Israelites when he spoke to them?

2. Leaving would not be easy, but it would happen.

Read Exodus 3:19-22.

What did God promise the Israelites?

3. This is a huge assignment; it will require ultimate trust on Moses part, as he goes both to the Israelites and stands before Pharaoh. God gives Moses three signs to share with the Israelites, if they do not believe his words.
 1. His staff turned into a serpent, then back into a staff.
 2. His hand covered in leprosy, then healed.
 3. Water drawn from the Nile turned to blood when poured on the ground.

Sadly, even though Moses saw these miracles, he still feared the people might not listen and follow. After all, he was not an eloquent speaker. God was not pleased with this lack of faith.

Read Exodus 4:14-17.

Who did God give him to go with him?

4. Moses did not go into this assignment blindly, God told him that Pharaoh would not listen.

Read Exodus 4:22-23.

What was he to say to Pharaoh?

5. Moses was raised in the house of Pharaoh, so it is understandable that he was not circumcised. Circumcision is a sign of the covenant. Before returning to Egypt, he and his son were circumcised. After this, Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh for the first time.

They said to Pharaoh, *“Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, ‘Let my people go, that they may hold a feast to me in the wilderness.’”*

Read Exodus 5:2-9.

Put Pharaoh’s response in your own words.

6. Moses cried out to God on behalf of the people. He did not understand, since he returned things had only gotten worse, not better.

Read Exodus 6: 5-8.

God reassured Moses of all he was about to do.

1. I have heard the groanings of the people of Israel.

2. I have remembered my covenant
3. I am the LORD; I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.
4. I will deliver you from slavery
5. I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment.
6. I will take you to be my people, I will be your God, and you shall know that I am the LORD your God.
7. I will bring you into the land that I swore to give to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob.
8. I will give it to you for a possession, I am the LORD.

Moses shared all this with the people, what was their response? Exodus 6:9

Have you ever suffered from a broken spirit?
Increased afflictions, heavy burdens and cruel bondage can leave us short of breath and fearful.

What are we to do when experiencing seasons of affliction?
Look up Proverbs 3:5-6 and Romans 12:12 to realign your heart and remember the truth.

Day Three

1. Moses and Aaron appeared before Pharaoh several times. Each time Pharaoh was given an opportunity to obey. Exodus 7:7 tells us that Moses was 80 years old and Aaron was 83 years old when the plagues began.

Fill in the chart with each plague.

Exodus 7:19	First plague	
Exodus 8:1-2	Second plague	
Exodus 8:16	Third plague	
Exodus 8:21	Fourth plague	
Exodus 9:3--4	Fifth plague	
Exodus 9:8-9	Sixth plague	
Exodus 9:18	Seventh plague	
Exodus 10:4-6	Eighth plague	
Exodus 10:21	Ninth plague	
Exodus 11:4-7	Tenth plague	

2. God had instructed Moses to go to the Israelites and tell them to each ask their Egyptian neighbors for gold and silver jewelry. Moses also gave them instructions for safety during the tenth and final plague. The Israelites were to take a lamb, without blemish, for each household and to paint the blood on the doorposts and lintel of their house. They were instructed how to cook the lamb and how they were to eat it. Careful obedience to all God's commands was vital to protecting the first born of each Israelite household.

Read Exodus 12:29-32, 36.

What were the events of this night?

3. The Israelites left Egypt and traveled from Rameses to Succoth.

Read Exodus 12:37.

How many Israelite men left Egypt?

4. In Exodus 12:43-50, the Passover was established as an ordinance. No foreigner or uncircumcised person was to share in the Passover. However, every person in the congregation of Israel was to participate in the annual remembrance of God's great deliverance. God went before the Israelites with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night, as he led the nation out of Egypt. The people camped between Migdol and the Red Sea.

Can you imagine the joy of knowing you are once again a free people?

Can you imagine the celebration going on in each tent as they spoke of all that had just happened in Egypt?

Read Exodus 14:5-8.

What happened to strike fear in their hearts once again?

5. Moses reminds the people that God is for them.

"Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent."

If you are unfamiliar or if it has been awhile since you read of this event, read Exodus 14:15-31. In your own words what did God do that day?

6. There were many times while traveling through the desert, on their way to Canaan, the people met with daily difficulties and trials. However, instead of remembering all God had done so miraculously on their behalf, they grumbled and complained.

Reference	God's provision
Exodus 15:22-25	
Exodus 16:12, 35	
Exodus 17:6	

Day Four

1. The nation of Israel camped at the foot of Mt. Sinai and there only Aaron and Moses were permitted to come up on the mountain. God gave Moses what is commonly called the Ten Commandments.

Read Exodus 20:3-17.

Briefly write them below

- 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.
 - 6.
 - 7.
 - 8.
 - 9.
 - 10.
2. These Ten Commandments were not all-inclusive laws. They were guidelines for how to live pleasing to God and at peace with one another. Exodus 21-23 gave greater details of the moral laws, the ceremonial laws, and the judicial laws. Everything we do has consequences; it is vital to think before acting and to consider the effects of our choices.

How important is this for us as followers of Christ?

What questions might we ask ourselves before we make a move?

3. Exodus 24 is a reconfirming of the covenant with God's people. Moses takes the time to repeat all God's laws and commands to the people.

What was the response of God's people in Exodus 24:3, 7?

4. Exodus 25-31 are instructions for God's dwelling place, the tabernacle.

First the offering is gathered from among the people.

Next, we see the instructions for building the furniture that would go into the tabernacle and then the structure itself.

After that, the bronze altar for burnt offerings and the laver for the priests washing.

All these instructions were given to Moses on the mountain. He was also given two tablets of stone, with the Ten Commandments, engraved by God's own hand.

Moses' time on the mountain seemed too long for the Israelites. They lost faith and chose to make a god of their own to worship. They reverted to their experiences in Egypt.

Read Exodus 32:1-4.

What did Aaron fashion from the gold he was given?
How long is too long to wait on God?

It is just as sad when we say, we trust God, but then grow weary with waiting and take matters into our own hands. When we do this, aren't we simply building our own 'golden calf,' based on past experiences?

5. When Moses came down the mountain and saw how the people had sinned, he was angry with them and threw the tablets to the ground. They broke into pieces.
Can you imagine how Moses felt when he saw what was going on in the camp?

Exodus 32:20 tells us that he took the calf and burned it with fire, ground it to powder, scattered it on the water and made the people drink it.

Jamieson-Fausset-Brown Bible Commentary: These operations of grinding were intended to show contempt for such worthless gods, and the Israelites would be made to remember the humiliating lesson by the state of the water.

The investment they had made into this idol would have been an utter waste of time, talent and treasure. Anything that is not of faith is works.

Take a moment to consider your actions lately, are you walking by faith or considering another course of action?

6. There was a cost for this sin.

Three thousand lost their life in judgement of this gross sin of idolatry. Moses intercedes in prayer for the people in Exodus 32:31-32.

7. Oswald Chambers said, *"You cannot truly intercede through prayer if you do not believe in the reality of redemption."*

Moses believed God would redeem his people even from this gross sin. Intercessory prayer is not only a privilege, but a command to 'continue steadfastly in prayer'...Colossians 4:2

Who are you interceding for in prayer?

Day Five

1. Many other events happened to the Israelites, as they wandered in the wilderness for some forty years.

Moses grew old; he asks God to help him lead the people. The life of a godly leader can be very lonely at times; it is hard work. God spoke to Moses, "I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name."

God is letting him know, he is intimately acquainted with Moses. Moses wanted to see God's glory. He was allowed to see God, as he passed by.

To see God from behind means: we can only see where God has been. We can only know him by what he does and how he acts. God is still at work today.

Describe how you have seen God's handiwork in the world around you?
Then you have seen the glory of God.

2. The construction of the wilderness tabernacle, and all the articles pertaining to it, are described in Exodus 34-40. God led the nation of Israel throughout their time in the desert.

Similarly, the story of Israel can be seen in our journey of faith as believers. God finds us in misery and bondage, he redeems us by his infinite power, and he leads us in our continuing journey of faith. Like the Israelites we learn many lessons along the way.

Read James 4:7-8, 10.

Underline what is necessary, if we want an intimate relationship with God.

James 4:7-8, 10 TPT ...surrender to God. Stand up to the devil and resist him and he will turn and run away from you. ⁸ Move your heart closer and closer to God, and he will come even closer to you. But make sure you cleanse your life, you sinners, and keep your heart pure and stop doubting. ¹⁰ Be willing to be made low before the Lord and he will exalt you!

3. The book of Leviticus describes the priests and Levites and outlines their duties in worship.

Leviticus has been called 'the Hebrew guidebook for holy living.' The theme of the book is basically two parts:

Worshiping a Holy God

Living a holy life.

The book of Deuteronomy is a bit of a history lesson, written to remind God's people of what he had done. It begins by stating that it is the fortieth year of their wanderings. The purpose is to encourage them to rededicate their lives to God. Moses called the people to commitment.

God still calls us to be committed to love him with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength.

What has God done for you?

When you think about God what type of thoughts do you have?

When you consider holy living, what might that look like?

4. Read Deuteronomy 34.

What did you learn about Moses from these 12 verses?

5. As we have done each week, add God's character qualities, which you have seen, to your list on **The Character of God** page.

Please, do not leave this undone. The purpose of our study is to get to know our God.