

**Everything in the Old Testament and the New Testament is rooted in the Exodus event**

- The Law
- The Prophets
- The Psalms
- The Gospels

**The Story of the Exodus continues to inflame the hopes and passions of people today**

- New Pharaohs
- New Egypts
- New people
- New situations that enslave and destroy life
  
- New Moseses
- New deserts
- New Sinais
- New Promise Lands
  
- New unknowns and a call to follow in God's ways
- New journeys to a new life from a bad life
- New complaints when the journey gets hard
- New uncooperative people whom God is trying to help
- New questioning if God is in our midst or not

**Book of Exodus Class 1 Slide 14 Transcript**

Next part. Everything in the Old Testament and the New Testament is rooted in the Exodus event, as I mentioned before so we go a little deeper and we say all the law, obviously the Ten Commandments, all the talking of the Prophets, all the Psalms, anybody read the psalms?, and you just know that you keep repeating. If you go into the Book of Psalms, or actually if you listen to the Psalms that are sung in between the First Reading and the Second Reading, they are almost always about the Exodus, if you'll notice when you look at it. They are all rooted in that event and of course the Gospel.

So the story of the Exodus continues to inflame the hopes and the passions of people today. And so this is not really just about the past. We are talking about something that was thousands of years ago, both events, but when we as people of faith, like everybody else here wants to know “so what does that mean for today?” Like what I am to do today? And we believe there are new pharaohs today? Right? What do I mean by that? There are still slave drivers. Can you think of any pharaohs today? The internet, cell phones, right that kind of bind people. Chocolate. (*laughter*) Greed. How about people who oppress? Can you name people who are oppressive? Who are oppressing others? You take a look at how certain countries live now and if we think or even take a look we keep talking about sex trafficking and the new pharaohs who are oppressing these people and really exploiting them

New Egypts would be places where people are that are. Epstein Island. Places would also be like the Internet and I think that in consumeristic world – the need to buy more to have more, to be better, to have more power. And there are new people, new situations that enslave and destroy life.

But then there are new Moseses. Anybody know any new Moseses in the world? This is where we want – cause we are going to read the story and the story isn’t just about Ramses and his oppression. You have to find those people today because this is a proclamation about today. This is the Good News for us. But you have to identify them. So who would be the people who are the new Moseses today and the new deserts? What do I mean by deserts? Places of growth? Absolutely. But remember now they are freed, but they are not free yet cause everybody knows the story, right? You all saw the movie. And they are in the desert for 40 years. That’s why we have 40 days of Lent and Jesus was 40 days in the desert. People are still searching, a thirst, hungering

for something. I think that the world right now, the United States is going to be a desert because people are looking for meaning. They are looking for something and we have the opioid crisis because they can't seem to find this meaning and they are looking everywhere else for something. They're hungering and longing for something, realizing that some of you might be in the desert right now looking and longing for something.

One of my favorite things about the 40 years in the desert, why 40 years in the desert? We are going to come to this. We are going to read it but I want to give you an idea of what this might mean for today. It's a couple generations right? This is one of the things that I found pretty powerful. I hope you do as you start reading this. They were slaves, okay and they were taken out of Egypt. So they were not longer slaves outwardly, but yet they still consciously were slaves and that had to be purified just as much. So you can take them out of Egypt, but now you have to take Egypt out of them. Because they kept acting like slaves, because as soon as things got bad, they started complaining. That's what I love about this. Watch and read all the complaining. As soon as things got bad in the desert, they started romanticizing about a time that didn't exist. Right. When we ate cucumbers and had fleshpots and all this other stuff and life was so much better there and here we are out in the desert starving and yet that was the purification they needed. And so often people who are going through a purification process in the desert, the struggle they got to do, is to not believe the crazy things in their mind that got them there. That will want to play over and over again and enslave them again. Because they got to get that out of them.

One of the things about purification is that it takes a long time to change because you have to get that out of you, especially for those of you who have been through counseling. They have this "stinking

thinking” where they play the tape and you’ve got to get that tape out of you.

When you take a look at them (*the Israelites*) they still acted like slaves even though they were free. And Moses is trying to get them to act like free people. You don’t just act like free people. It’s really difficult and one of the reasons why you have someone who is in jail, they get out jail and I was doing some jail ministry and they are back in. It takes a whole new life.

When I start getting my act together, I know that it’s going to change everything in my life. When I start living healthy. It means that the Doritos in the bag, watching Fox News and MSNBC trying to compare which one is the right one, right with my bag of Doritos, saying “I don’t know what you are talking about. I don’t believe any of that.” [laughter]

That’s gotta change and I am not sure I want it to change yet. That’s trouble with this, you cannot get it out of you.

So that is why the desert is really important.

New Sinais. What do mean by that? What was Sinai? That is the mountaintop. What happened on the mountain? The Theophany, right. Moses encounters God. What are our Mount Sinais? Places where everything changes.

How about a New Testament example of a Sinai mountaintop experience? The Transfiguration. You got Moses who appears on Mount Tabor, where the Law and the Prophets are there. But now it’s this experience where Peter experiences the amazingness of Jesus, as God. Jesus reveals his glory. And what does he want to do? He wants to stay there. So there are Sinai experiences where you get a new understanding, a new life, new experience of God, a new way of understanding things. Hopefully, you are going to have a Sinai in this

class. You will be like “Wow! This is amazing!” And then wonder “What does this mean for my life?” And can we just stay here and just glory in this. No, you have to go down to reality and deal with life with this new information, this new experience of God, this new encounter with the Lord.

Then we have the Promised Lands. Eternal life is a new promised land. How about in our everyday life? Can you have new promised lands in your life? Retirement, there we go. New promised land. Not everybody considers that new promised land. Sometimes God answers your prayers and you're happy. It's a new promised land. God brought you to a great place in your life. The birth of a child, creating of a family. Getting a new pastor. I'm kidding.

New unknowns and a call to follow in God's ways. That's the call of Moses. It's your calling. From the unknown to now God is telling you what to do.

The journey to a new life from a bad life. New complaints when the journey gets hard. New uncooperative people whom God is trying to help. They are so uncooperative and they are complaining all the time. God is trying to help them on the way. It always reminds me I can act this way is when an animal is hurt. We had a little dog. Not my dog. My dog doesn't get hurt. My other dog when I was at home when I was a kid. We used to let him free. Back then you always let your dogs out to do their business and then would come back and you let them back in the house, but sometimes they came back and something happened to them. I remember my dog named Muffins. You how embarrassing it is to be a 13 year old boy saying “Muffins”. It was awful. And it was a boy. That made it even worse. Muffins would go under the couch and you needed to help Muffins, but the dog could not understand I was trying to help him. And so he is fighting me all the way and getting

further and further away and sometimes we do that with God. We are so uncooperative. He is trying to help us to move in a direction that would be for our good and yet we fight him all the way. And that's classic spiritual experience.

And new questioning if God is in our midst or not. That's especially through times of difficulty and suffering. So I gave you some of the themes that are going to come up as we get to them.

So you want to keep this sheet. I will put these slides up online so you can just look at the slides again because they are on a pdf.

I did not know we were going to have so many people interested in Exodus.