

# EXODUS

REDEMPTION : THE STORY



WEDNESDAY NIGHT TEACHING  
Jim Rossi & Rebekah Townsend

**WEEK 7 | EXODUS 26-38**



**NORTHPARK**  
*Community Church*

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# READINGS FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Please read the following section prior to the Wednesday night Bible study. This will prepare you for the study and group discussion.

You may read any version. Most of the studies will utilize the NLT and NIV.

## THE BOOK OF EXODUS READINGS

Week 1	September 8	<b>Exodus 1-4</b>
Week 2	September 15	<b>Exodus 5-10</b>
Week 3	September 22	<b>Exodus 11:1-15:21</b>
Week 4	September 29	<b>Exodus 15:22- 18:27</b>
Week 5	October 6	<b>Exodus 19-24</b>
Week 6	October 13	<b>Exodus 25-27; 30-31</b>
Week 7	October 20	<b>Exodus 28-29</b>
Week 8	October 27	<b>Exodus 32-40</b>

## Session 7A – The Place Where God Dwells – Part 2

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### I. GOD HEARS THE PRAYERS OF HIS PEOPLE (Ex. 30:1-10, 34-38; 37:25-29)

The altar of incense → acacia wood / gold → 1.5' square / 3' high → Holy Place.

Gold rim (“crown”) → golden “horns” →

Before the veil → separated Holy of Holies from Holy Place → priest burned incense →

→ Burning incense → picture of prayer → (Rev. 5:8; 8:3-4)

→ Call for a time of prayer → (Luke 1:8-10)

The fire → from the brazen altar → (Lev. 16:12-13; Num. 16:46)

Coldhearted praying → not effective praying → (James 5:16)

→ The priest → the right fire → the prescribed mixture of spices → (Ex. 30:34-38)

Nadab and Abihu → “false fire” → killed → (Lev. 10)

Prayer isn't → jumble of words →

The “ingredients” of prayer → adoration, confession, thanksgiving, petition, submission (1 Tim. 2:1; Phil. 4:6) → a pattern (Matt. 6:5-15) →

Christ on the cross → presence of God → present worship and petitions → (Heb. 10:19-25)

Priest-King → Jesus Christ, → interceding continually for us (Rom. 8:33-34; Heb. 4:14-16; 7:19-28) → Holy Spirit intercedes (Rom. 8:26-27) →

→ “*pray without ceasing*” (1 Thess. 5:17) →

The priests warned → golden altar only burning incense (Ex. 30:9) → no substitutes for prayer →

The golden altar → (James 4:1-4; 1 John 5:14-15) → adoring Him and praying → “Your will be done”

The special incense → “salted” (Ex. 30:35) → symbol of purity → covenant relationship (Lev. 2:13) (Ps. 66:18)

→ Lift up “holy hands” → remove “anger or disputing” from our hearts (1 Tim. 2:8)

Day of Atonement → incense altar → ceremonially (Ex. 30:10)

## II. GOD RECEIVES HIS PEOPLE’S SACRIFICES (Ex. 27:1-8; 38:1-7)

The tabernacle → a white linen fence → 150’ long and 75’ wide → surrounded the tabernacle →

The tabernacle proper → west end → 30’ entrance → east end →

Priests met the people →

The worshipper → hand on the animal’s head (Lev. 1:1-9) → priest → slay the animal → offer it → Lev. 1-7

Jesus the only door (John 10:9) → the only way to God (John 14:6) →

Peter’s testimony → Acts 4:12 →

Pluralistic society → many ways to God → (Prov. 14:12; 16:25; Matt. 7:13-27)

The brazen altar → hollow “box” → 7.5’ wide / 4.5’ high → acacia wood covered with bronze →

Bronze → judgment (Num. 21:4-9; Deut. 28:23; Rev. 1:15)

→ Inside the “box” → bronze grating → fire burning (Lev. 6:8-13) →

Priests → carried ashes outside the camp → (Lev. 1:16; 4:12; 6:10-11)

→ The brazen altar → place of bloodshed and death → (Heb. 9:22)

The presence of God → began at the brazen altar →

→ The brazen altar → to Calvary → the Son of God died (Matt. 26:26-28; John 1:29; 3:14-16; Rom. 5:8; 1 Peter 2:24)

Each morning → priests offer a burnt offering on the brazen altar (Ex. 29:42-43) → total dedication (Lev. 1) →

→ “Living sacrifices” (Rom. 12:1-2)

The death of Jesus Christ → took care of the sin problem (Heb. 9:25-28) →

The Lord’s Supper → reminder of His sacrifice →

The “altar” → Jesus Christ Himself (Heb. 13:10; Luke 24:39; John 20:20)

A holy priesthood → believers → (1 Peter 2:5) →

We present to Him → bodies (Rom. 12:1-2) → material wealth (Phil. 4:18) → praise and good works (Heb. 13:15-16) → broken heart (Ps. 51:17)

### **III. GOD WANTS HIS PEOPLE TO BE CLEAN (Ex. 30:17-21; 38:8)**

Tabernacle courtyard → the laver → priests and Levites → wash their hands and feet →

No washing → in danger of death →

In Scripture → water for drinking → picture of the Spirit of God  
(John 7:37-39) →

→ water for washing → picture of the Word of God  
(Ps. 119:9; John 15:3; Eph. 5:25-27)

The laver → the Word of God → cleanses (John 17:17)

The laver → bronze mirrors (Ex. 38:8) → typifies God’s Word → the Word of God → compared to a mirror (James 1:22-26; 2 Cor. 3:18)

Old Testament → three ways to ceremonial cleansing → by water, by fire, by blood  
→

Cleansed from the guilt of sin → blood of Jesus Christ → (1 John 1:5-2:2)

Disobey God → our hearts and minds defiled by sin (see Ps. 51) → “*washing of water by the word*” (Eph. 5:26) → restores us

Old Testament priests → defiled → by serving God →

Feet became dirty → hands were defiled → needed constant cleansing →

Jesus → taught His disciples → by washing their feet (John 13:1-15)

Trust Christ → washed all over (Jn. 13:10; 1 Cor. 6:9-11) →

Not cleansed → no fellowship with the Lord (John 13:8) →

David → *“Wash me”* (Ps. 51:2, 7) → God answered prayer (2 Sam. 12:13)

Isaiah → *“Wash and make yourselves clean”* (Isa. 1:16) →

Paul → *“Let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God”* (2 Cor. 7:1)

#### **IV. GOD WANTS HIS PEOPLE TO APPRECIATE AND ENJOY HIS BLESSINGS (Ex. 26:1-37; 27:9-19; 36:8-38; 38:9-20)**

##### **A. Strength**

A solid structure → beautiful curtains →

20 boards → acacia wood → 15' high / 27" wide → overlaid with gold → north and south walls → 8 similar boards → west wall

Two silver bases →

48 boards → 4 long rods (crossbars) → through golden rings →

The east end → 5 posts → a linen curtain → blue, purple, and scarlet yarn → door into the Holy Place →

##### **B. Beauty**

Gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and white → major colors →

Linen fence → white → the holiness of God →

30' gate → east end → embroidered → blue, purple, and scarlet → white background →

Blue → sky → God of heaven →

Purple → royal color → the King →

Scarlet → blood / sacrifice →

Holy Place and Holy of Holies → four different coverings (curtains) →

Looking at the tabernacle →

→ Leather-like outmost covering → badgers' skins →

→ Tabernacle proper / its furnishings →

Beneath protective covering →

→ Curtain of rams' skins dyed red →

→ Fabric woven of goats' hair → black →

→ Beautiful covering → fine linen embroidered with cherubim in blue, purple, and scarlet

Holy Place → Holy of Holies → the veil → golden clasps → four pillars → embroidered with cherubim → white, scarlet, blue, and purple

Hebrews 10:20 → this veil typifies the body of Christ →

The veil of the temple → torn from top to bottom (Mark 15:38)

A parallel → four gospels → four pillars → four colors

**Purple** → royalty → Matthew → the King

**Scarlet** → sacrifice → Mark → the Suffering Servant

**White** → perfect Son of Man → Luke

**Blue** → heaven → John → the Son of God →

### C. Appreciation

The tabernacle appeared common to outsiders → costly and beautiful → spoke of the Savior →

Old Testament → treasures in God's house

David's testimony →

*Psalm 27:4 One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.*

*Psalm 26:8 LORD, I have loved the habitation of Your house, and the place where Your glory dwells.*

The sons of Korah →

*Psalm 84:1-2, 4 How lovely is Your tabernacle, O LORD of hosts! My soul longs, yes, even faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God. ... Blessed are those who dwell in Your house; they will still be praising You.*

Old Testament believers → the tabernacle → the temple → God's people → today → Jesus Christ

Furnishings / ceremonies → point to Christ → aspects of His character → salvation →

Spiritual needs met → provisions of the tabernacle →

→ Jesus Christ (2 Peter 1:3)

All fullness in Christ (Col. 1:19) → all the fullness of the Godhead (Col. 2:9)

In Christ → "hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" (Col. 2:3)

We must → "seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God" (Col. 3:1)

In Christ → every spiritual blessing (Eph. 1:3) →

→ The holy sanctuary → source of food and drink

*"Both high and low among men find refuge in the shadow of your wings [the Holy of Holies]. They feast on the abundance of your house." (Ps. 36:7-8)*



## Session 7B – Exodus and Prayer

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Incense:

**Ps. 141:2 says** “May my prayer be set before you like incense; may the lifting up of my hand be like the evening sacrifice.”

→ in scripture → incense, the cloud of incense coming from the altar, is a picture of our prayer before God.

### Revelation

→ John paints scene of heaven where the true golden altar of incense is visible.

→ prayers of the saints are offered like incense to God, a sweet aroma pleasing to Him.

#### I. General types of prayer:

1. Prayer of worship/adoration (Heb. 13:15; Rev. 4:11; Ps. 148:13)
2. Prayer of thanksgiving (Ps. 100:4; Phil. 4:6)
3. Prayer of faith (James 5:13-16)
4. Prayer of intercession (Daniel 9:1-27; Col. 1:9-12; 1 Tim. 2:1)
5. Corporate prayer (Acts 12:5-18)
6. Prayer of consecration (Rom. 12:1)
7. Prayer of Blessing (Phil. 1:9-11; Num. 6)

#### II. Exodus portrays prayer as it is used in a time of suffering, crisis, and deliverance.

→ 1 petition, 3 intercessions, 2 prayers of praise, and one blessing

##### A. Petition:

**Exodus 2:23**

##### B. Intercession

1. **Ex. 8:8-9,12**

2. **Ex. 9:28-29, 33**

3. **Ex. 10:16-18**

## C. Prayer of Praise

### 1. Exodus 15:1-18

#### (Table 1)

Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the Lord:

"I will sing to the Lord,  
for he has triumphed gloriously;  
he has hurled both horse and rider  
into the sea.

<sup>2</sup> The Lord is my strength and my song;  
he has given me victory.  
This is my God, and I will praise him—  
my father's God, and I will exalt him!

#### (Table 2)

<sup>3</sup> The Lord is a warrior;  
Yahweh is his name!  
<sup>4</sup> Pharaoh's chariots and army  
he has hurled into the sea.  
The finest of Pharaoh's officers  
are drowned in the Red Sea.<sup>[b]</sup>

#### (Table 3)

<sup>5</sup> The deep waters gushed over them;  
they sank to the bottom like a stone.  
<sup>6</sup> "Your right hand, O Lord,  
is glorious in power.  
Your right hand, O Lord,  
smashes the enemy.

#### (Table 4)

<sup>7</sup> In the greatness of your majesty,  
you overthrow those who rise against you.  
You unleash your blazing fury;  
it consumes them like straw.  
<sup>8</sup> At the blast of your breath,  
the waters piled up!  
The surging waters stood straight like a wall;  
in the heart of the sea the deep waters became hard.

**(Table 5)**

<sup>9</sup>“The enemy boasted, ‘I will chase them  
and catch up with them.  
I will plunder them  
and consume them.  
I will flash my sword;  
my powerful hand will destroy them.’  
<sup>10</sup> But you blew with your breath,  
and the sea covered them.  
They sank like lead  
in the mighty waters.

**(Table 6)**

<sup>11</sup> “Who is like you among the gods, O Lord—  
glorious in holiness,  
awesome in splendor,  
performing great wonders?  
<sup>12</sup> You raised your right hand,  
and the earth swallowed our enemies.

**(Table 7)**

<sup>13</sup> “With your unfailing love you lead  
the people you have redeemed.  
In your might, you guide them  
to your sacred home.  
<sup>14</sup> The peoples hear and tremble;  
anguish grips those who live in Philistia.

**(Table 8)**

<sup>15</sup> The leaders of Edom are terrified;  
the nobles of Moab tremble.  
All who live in Canaan melt away;  
<sup>16</sup> terror and dread fall upon them.  
The power of your arm  
makes them lifeless as stone  
until your people pass by, O Lord,  
until the people you purchased pass by.

**(Table 9)**

<sup>17</sup> You will bring them in and plant them on your own mountain—  
the place, O Lord, reserved for your own dwelling,  
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hands have established.  
<sup>18</sup> The Lord will reign forever and ever!”

**2. Exodus 15:21  
(Table 10)**

“Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously;  
he has hurled both horse and rider into the sea.”

**D. Blessing:**

**Exodus 18:10**

“Praise the Lord,” Jethro said, “for he has rescued you from the Egyptians and from Pharaoh. Yes, he has rescued Israel from the powerful hand of Egypt!”

Flow of a prayer life:

1. Petition → intercession → praise → blessing

**III. Application of the prayer form in Exodus:**

**The Collect:**

→ a classic form for prayer → appeared in medieval times

- 1) Naming God
- 2) Tells what God does that makes that name appropriate
- 3) Make a petition or request of God
- 4) Reason for request
- 5) Expression of praise

→ An Example:

1. Jehovah Jireh, God Provider
2. You provided manna and quail for the Israelites in the desert
3. I am in need of a job. Would you help me to find one?
4. I desire to provide for my family, to be generous and share what I have with those in need, and honor you by being a good steward of your blessings.
5. You have always been faithful to provide, I know you will be faithful again.

**Write your own Collect prayer below:**

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

# GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

## Session 7B

1. Go around the table and spend time in prayer together.  
One by one, pray your Collect prayers aloud.  
Table leaders then close the night in prayer and dismiss your tables.

## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION THIS WEEK

### Questions to consider on your own, during the week:

1. How is the burning of incense a fitting picture for prayer?
2. The ingredients for incense were a prescribed mixture of spices. What are some of the ingredients of prayer? Which are you most in danger of neglecting?
3. What was the significance of salting the incense?
4. What might the brazen (bronze-covered) altar symbolize? What has taken the place of the brazen altar today?
5. What is the only altar believers now have? What do we present there?
6. What does the water for washing symbolize? What then does the laver (the bronze basin) point toward?
7. What do we learn from Mark 15:38 and Hebrews 10:20 about the veil in front of the Holy of Holies?
8. Why do you think beauty was an essential element of God's worship? Where is the beauty in our worship today?
9. What is personally relevant in what you've learned about the incense, the altar, the laver, or the tabernacle's construction?

