

Through the Bible Series: Exodus

Exodus 20:2

Items Needed

- ✓ Bible with marked scripture
- ✓ Crayons/Pencils/Markers
- ✓ Illustration Photos in order of use for lesson.
- ✓ Copies of Word Trace
- ✓ Copies of Coloring Sheet
- ✓ Copies of Take Home Overview



Books of the Bible Series: Exodus

Objective of Lesson

The objective of this lesson, and every lesson in this series is for our children to become familiar with the structure and order of the books of the Bible and point out how each book is written to specifically picture the person and work of Jesus Christ.

Scripture Reference

Ex. 20: 2 I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

Lesson Instructions

1. Last week we learned what the first book of the Bible was and what it was about. What was the name of the first book? *Genesis*. Can you find the book for me? Do you remember what the book was about? Can you tell me what you remember about the lesson? 1How the earth and man was created by God; 2How we fell into sin; 3How God promised a man was going to die and when He did He would come and rescue them from the bondage of sin.
2. Today we are going to talk about the second book in the Bible: The book of Exodus. I want you to turn to the book of Exodus, Chapter 1 and verse 1. I have a few pictures and illustrations that I am going to show you as we go

through this book to help you follow along. There are five parts to the story told in this book. Some of them you have heard before but others may be new.

3. The word Exodus means "going out." The story that I am going to tell you today, which is recorded in this book, is all about how God's people were brought out of slavery (bondage); who arranged their deliverance; and how it all happened. I want you to keep in mind that everything you hear is a picture of what Christ Jesus did to save His people from their sins. What happened in this book is an illustration of God's salvation of His people through the work of Christ Jesus, His son. Jesus Christ is the one who God appointed to deliver His sinful people from the slavery (bondage) of sin.
4. Turn to Exodus Chapters 1 & 2 and put your finger on it and follow your finger down to the very last verse. What is written here is this...There was a people called the people of Israel. They fell under bondage to the people of the land of Egypt. They were enslaved, treated harshly, and forced to work very hard labor for a great King who ruled over Egypt, called Pharaoh. (Photos slaves of Egypt) This Pharaoh became scared of the people of Israel. There were so many of them and he was afraid they would rise up and take over. Because of that, he ordered every baby boy born to the people of Israel to be killed by casting them into the river as soon as they were born. (Photo of King of Egypt) There was a particular Hebrew woman who had a boy. She knew he would be killed under the orders of Pharaoh, so she hid him for three months. When she could no longer hide him she put him in a small boat (ark) made of bulrushes (grass) and placed him near a spot where she knew the Pharaoh's daughter would go to wash herself. (Photo of baby in grass) The mother had the boy's sister hide out and watch. When the Pharaoh's daughter came to the river, she saw the small boat and had her maiden go get it and bring it to her. Pharaoh's daughter saw the crying baby, felt sorry for the boy, and decided to adopt him and raise him as her own. She knew he was a Hebrew boy and would be killed. She named him Moses.

(Photo of Pharaoh's daughter finding baby Moses) She gave him the best education and the best Egypt had to offer. When Moses was grown, the Lord came to him and revealed to him that he was chosen to deliver the nation of Israel out of slavery from Egypt. Moses went out, trying to do his job, and ended up killing an Egyptian who was smiting a Hebrew, and for fear of his life, he fled into the wilderness. There he stayed for forty years tending sheep. (Photo of man tending sheep)

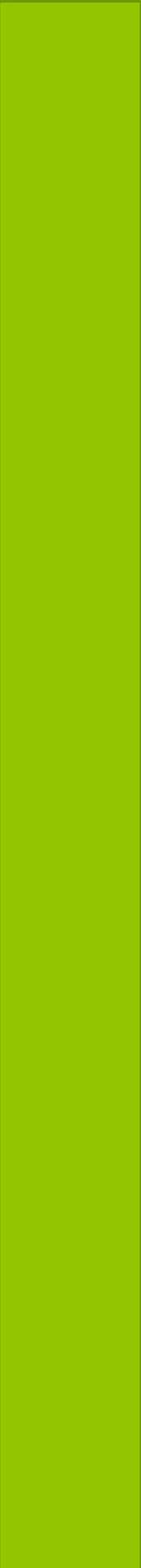
5. Turn to Exodus Chapter 3 & 4 and put your finger on it and follow your finger down to the very last verse. What is written here is this... While Moses was tending sheep God appeared to him in the form of a burning bush. (Photo of burning bush) He told Moses the time had come for him to go back to Egypt and go before the King and demand his people be released from slavery. Moses was scared, because he knew he did not have the power to command this King to do anything. He didn't... but, who did? God did. (Photo of Moses in front of the burning bush) The Lord assured him that He would be his tongue and that He would speak through him. The Lord God showed Moses what great things He was going to do, using him. Moses went back to Egypt with nothing but his Shepherd's rod, the Rod of God, to deliver Israel from the most powerful king the world had ever known.
6. Turn to Exodus Chapter 5-10 and put your finger on it and follow your finger down to the very last verse. What is written here is this... Moses went in front of the great king and demanded God's people be released. (Photo of Moses in front of the Pharaoh) Immediately Moses ran into trouble; he came into conflict with Pharaoh. Nine times Moses went in front of the King and demanded their release and every time the Pharaoh would say, "no." (Photo of the plagues) Each time he would say no, God would send a horrible plague onto the people of Egypt. God turned their water to blood; sent frogs, gnats and lice, flies; made their livestock sick; plagued them with painful sores called boils; sent thunder and hail, and locusts. The Lord God sent plague after plague, but "Pharaoh hardened his heart and refused to let the people

go." God was showing Himself to be the only God, sovereign (meaning no one rules over God) and holy (perfect and good).

7. Turn to Exodus Chapter 11, 12 and 13 and put your finger on it and follow your finger down to the very last verse. What is written here is this... This is the very last plague. (Photo of the Passover) The Lord tells Moses here that after this plague Pharaoh WILL let His people go. God told Moses to tell all the people that this night His spirit was going to pass over Egypt, and He was going to kill the firstborn of every single household in all of Egypt. (Photo of death of the firstborn) There was one condition in which the household would be spared, and this was only told to the people of Israel. A lamb was to be killed, eaten, and the blood of that lamb was to be sprinkled on the doorpost of that house. When God passed through Egypt that night any household which had not killed and eaten the lamb and sprinkled the blood on the doorpost was going to lose their firstborn, man and beast. The people of Israel did as God said and killed a lamb, ate it, and put blood on the doorposts and those under the blood were spared. (Photo of Passover 2) A wail went up in Egypt like has never been heard. All the first born from Pharaoh to the cattle who were not under the blood died that night.
8. Turn to Exodus Chapter 14 and put your finger on it and follow your finger down to the very last verse. This is what it says... After this Passover God's people were released. As they left, the King changed his heart again and regretted letting them go. He got an army together and went after them. (Photo of Red Sea) The people got to the Red Sea. They looked behind them and saw the army coming for them. Moses lifted the rod God had given him and God caused the waters to part and create dry land for them to cross on. (Photo of Red Sea 2) When the army came to the same spot, they started to cross and God caused the waters to fall in on them and drown them. He prevented the army from getting to the Israelites. (Photo of water closing over army)
9. Turn to Exodus Chapter 15. From here through the rest of the chapter many

things happened, but today we are just going to cover a few more things. The people of Israel lived in the wilderness many, many years after they were released from slavery. (Photo of desert wilderness) During this time the Lord gave Moses the Law. A small portion of this law is what we refer to as the Ten Commandments. (Photo of Moses with tablets of the law) This law was given so that we might know our condition of sin before God. Before the law was given we did not know we had sinned against God and needed a savior. The law was given so we might know our need of Christ. Also during this time the temple of God was built, the tabernacle. (Photo of the tabernacle) God gave Moses specific instructions how it was to be built and in this tabernacle was a place provided by God, where His people could meet with Him. In Exodus it tells us that God descended upon it and dwelt in it in a cloud. Remember, without a provided meeting place we can't be near God. He is so Holy and Good, and we are so sinful and bad that if we come near God we would be destroyed... but not in this tabernacle.

10. What an amazing story!!! Let's go back and look at our pictures from our story and let's talk about how this pictures Christ saving His people from their sins. In our first picture of the slaves there is a picture of God's people being in bondage to Egypt. All of God's people are a slave to something. What is that? Sin. This pictures our bondage to our sin. We can't get out of it; we must be delivered from it. The next picture is of the Pharaoh, who was evil and ruled over the people - a picture of us being ruled and controlled by sin. The next picture is baby Moses in the grass. Moses was the one who God promised would deliver His people. Who does Moses picture? Christ. Christ was the firstborn of God, chosen of God to deliver His people from their sin, their bondage. The next picture is of Moses being taken by Pharaoh's daughter and raised as her own. How is this a picture of Christ? God provided His Son, Christ Jesus - Christ came and lived on this earth and was raised as a man just like all of us. He became one of us in order to save us. The next picture is of a shepherd tending his sheep. Who is



our shepherd? Christ is, and we are His sheep. The next photo is of the burning bush. This bush burned but was not consumed! This is a picture of how Christ took the wrath and fire of God, but was not consumed. He paid for our sins. The next photo is of Moses in front of the Pharaoh. This is a picture of how Christ Himself demands the release of His people to be set free from the bondage of sin. The next picture is of the Passover. Who is our Passover lamb? Christ is. When God sees the blood of Christ He passes over us; therefore we are not punished for our sins, because Christ died for them and set us free. The next picture is of the Red Sea. God's power is mighty to save and nothing can take His children who He purposes to save out of His mighty hand - not even the sea can stand in His way. He controls even the sea and the waves. The next photo is of Moses given the law. This law is what Christ came to this earth to keep, and by keeping it and dying for His people, He paid for all the breaking of it. Lastly, this photo is of the building of the tabernacle. Who is our tabernacle? Christ is! He is our meeting place where we can meet with God and not be afraid. Christ is in every part of the story we just read. Christ is the only person about whom the Bible teaches.

Lesson Activities

- Word Trace
- Coloring Sheet



Take Home Lesson Overview

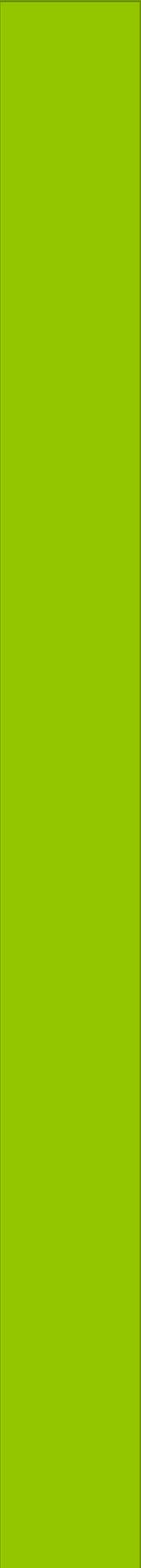
Through the Bible Series: Exodus

Scripture Reference:

Ex. 20: 2 I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage..

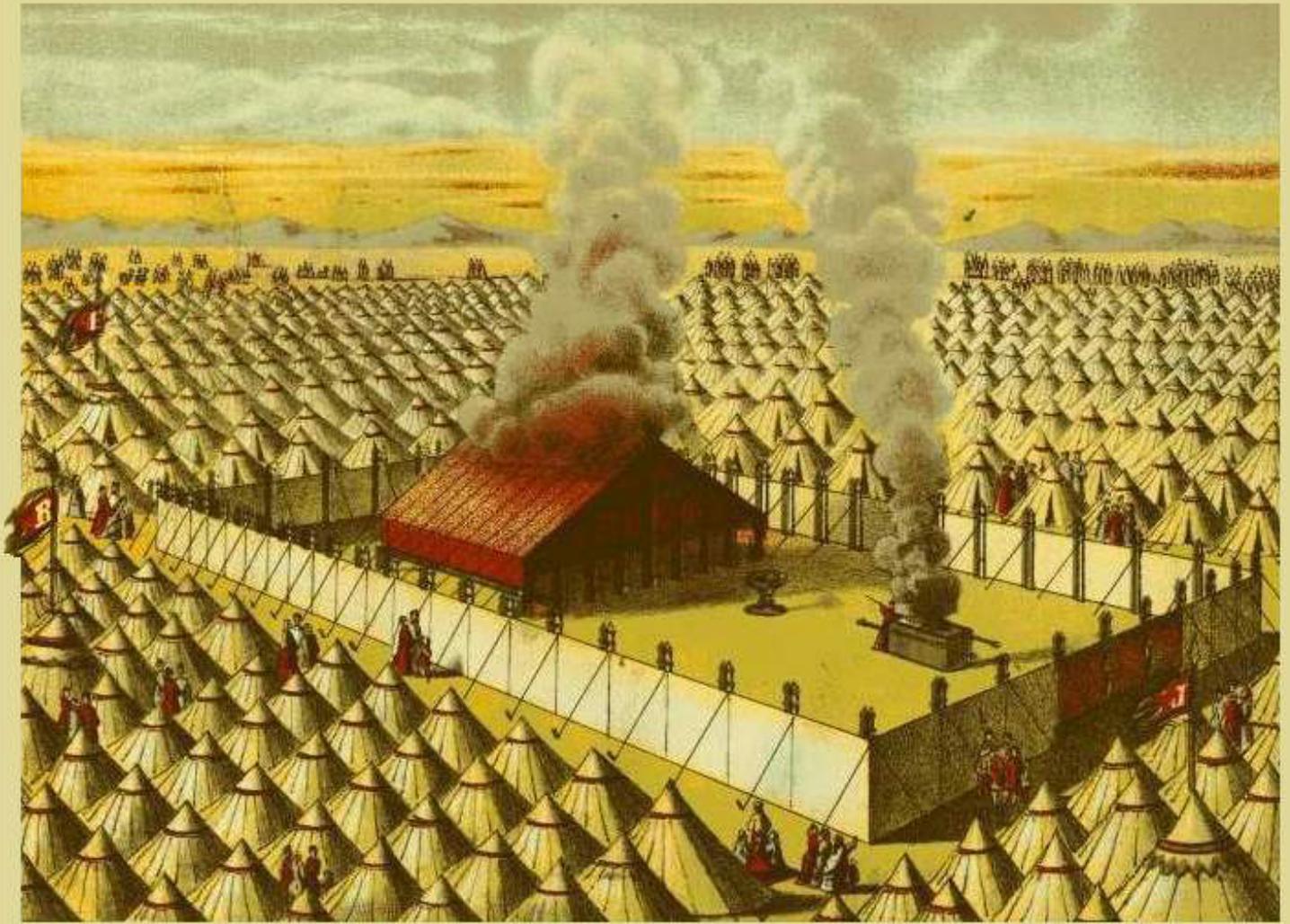
Lesson Overview:

The book of Exodus is a picture of how Christ delivers His people from the bondage of Sin. Each story told in this book takes us through God's method of grace and perfectly pictures the deliverance of sinners from their bondage of sin. The bondage of Israel to Egypt: Here is a picture of God's people being in bondage to sin. We can't get out of it. We must be delivered from it. Just like an evil Pharaoh we are ruled by it. Then God appointed a man to deliver His people - Moses - a picture of Christ. Moses being taken and raised by the Pharaoh's daughter is a picture of how God provided His Son Christ Jesus. Christ came and lived on earth and was raised as a man just like all of us. He became one of us in order to save us. Moses then became a shepherd. Who is our shepherd? Christ is and we are his sheep. Then our Lord came to Moses in the burning bush. This bush burned but was not consumed! This is a picture of how Christ took the wrath and fire of God but was not consumed and paid for our



sins. Then Moses goes in front of the Pharaoh and demands his people be released. This is a picture of how Christ Himself demands the release of His people to be set free from the bondage of sin. The next picture is of the Passover. Who is our Passover lamb? Christ - When God sees the blood of Christ He passes over us, and we are not punished for our sins, because Christ died for our sins and we are set free. Then the people of Israel come to the Red Sea. Here we see God's power is mighty to save and nothing can take His children who He purposes to save out of His mighty hand. Not even the sea can stand in His way. He controls even the sea and the waves. Then we see Moses given the law. This law is what Christ came to this earth to keep, and by keeping It, and then dying for His people He paid for all the breaking of it. Lastly, we see the building of the tabernacle. Who is our tabernacle? Christ is! He is our meeting place where we can meet with God and not be afraid. Christ is in every part of the story we just read. Christ is the only person about whom the Bible teaches.

Tabernacle



THE TABERNACLE IN THE MIDST OF THE ENCAMPMENT

Water closing over army



Desert Wilderness

The Red Sea



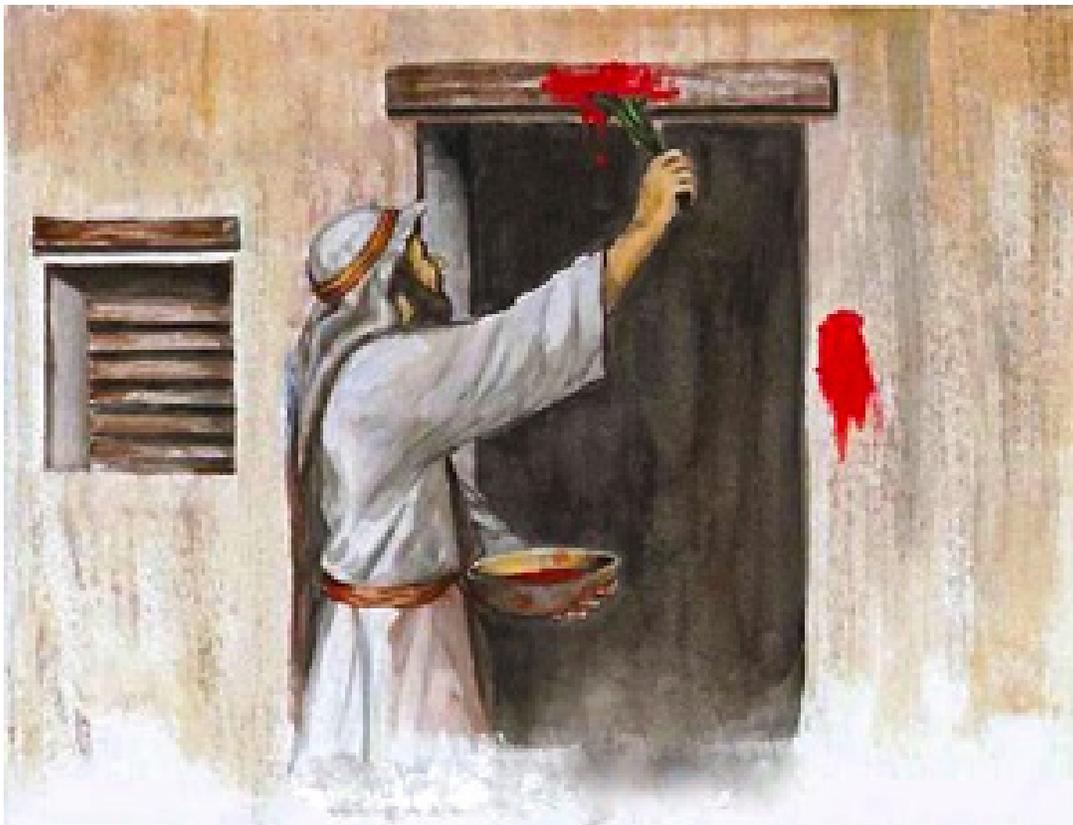
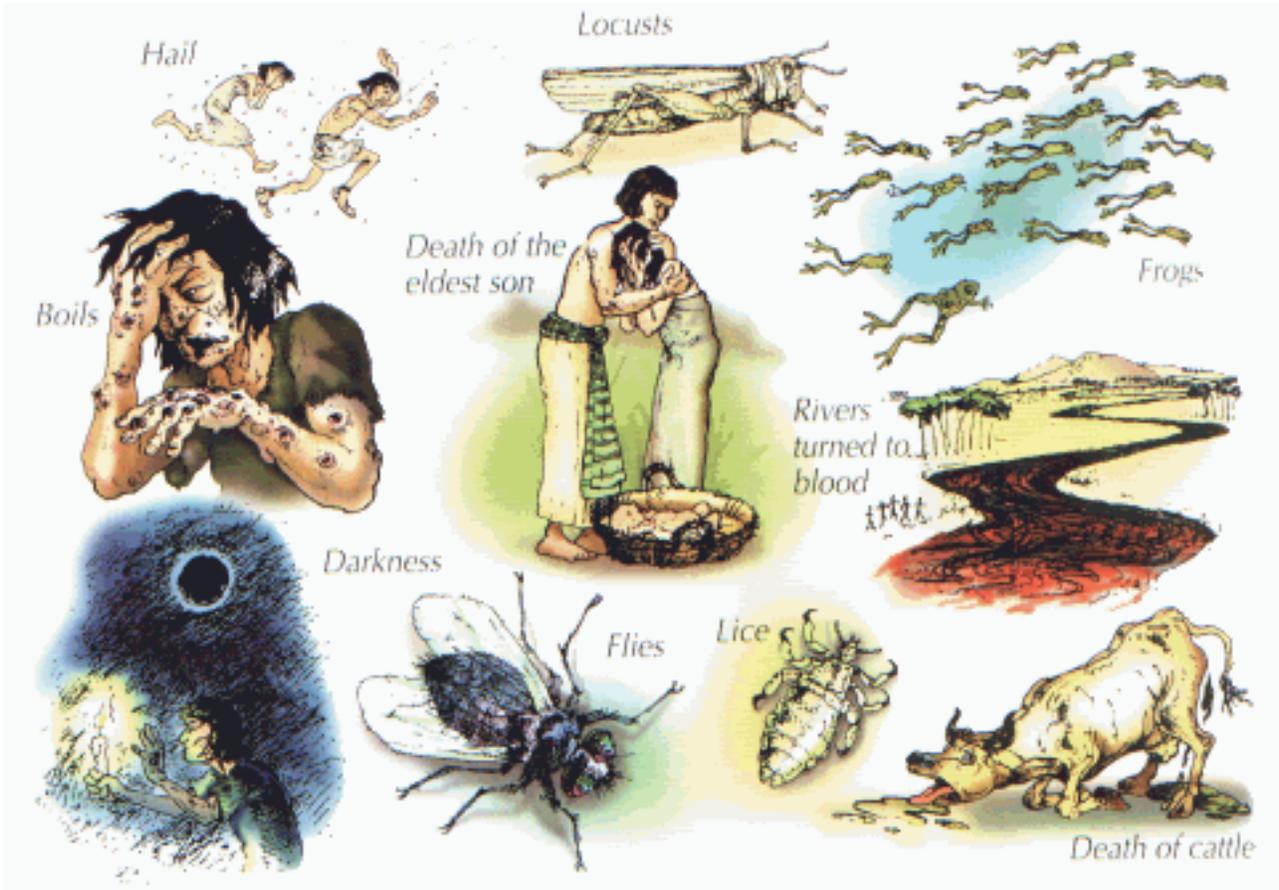
Red Sea 2

Death of the first born male



Passover 2

The 10 Plagues



The Passover

Moses in front of the burning bush



Moses in front of the Pharaoh

Man tending sheep



The burning bush

Baby in grass



Pharaoh's Daughter finding baby Moses

Slaves of Egypt



Kind of Egypt

Student Name _____

Date _____

Handwriting Practice Basic Print - Large Letters - 13/16 inch

To print worksheet widest side horizontal click "File" - "Page Setup" and "Landscape"

Exodus

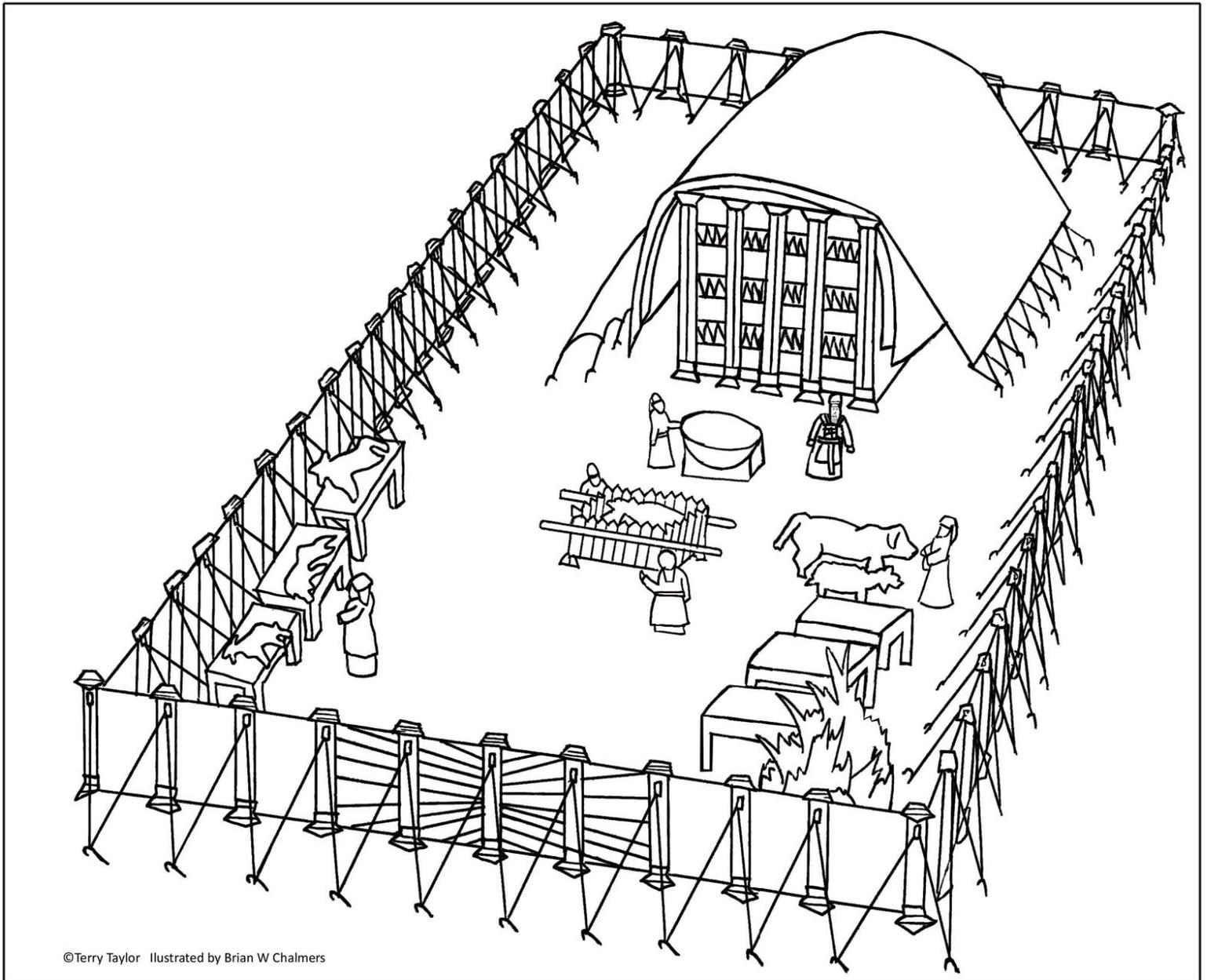
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redeeming us from the bondage of sin and death into what Paul calls, “*the glorious liberty of the children of God*” (Rom. 8:21).

Even as he gave Israel his law in ten commandments, he told them that his intention in his dealings with them was that they might ever be reminded of this fact (Ex. 20:2).

(Exodus 20:2) “I *am* the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.”

The first six books of the Bible, Genesis through Joshua, display the works of God in the lives of chosen sinners. His wondrous method of grace is the same in your life and mine, as it was in the lives of Adam, Abraham, Moses, and Joshua. He does not change; and his method of grace does not change.

In the Book of Genesis, we see our great need of redemption and grace. The very last words of the book of Genesis are very significant.

(Genesis 50:26) “So Joseph died, *being* an hundred and ten years old: and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.”

That is just about as needy as it gets. Joseph died. He was embalmed. And he was put in a coffin in Egypt. Exodus shows us God’s answer to our need, his remedy for our ruin, his deliverance from sin and death by Christ. As such, it is a tremendous picture and conveys very instructive lessons about redemption.—What it is and how it is accomplished. Here we see pictures of what our God has done for us, is doing for us and will yet do for us in bringing us into “*the glorious liberty of the children of God.*” Obviously, the story is not complete in Exodus. It continues in Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy and Joshua.

But the thing I want you to see is this—These first Books of the Bible were written by divine inspiration to show us how that God works in providence and grace, overruling evil for good, to teach us the gospel.

(Acts 10:43) "To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins."

(Romans 15:4) "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope."

(1 Corinthians 10:11) "Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come."

Divisions: The whole Book of Exodus revolves around six principle things. It focuses our minds on six great events.

1. The Birth of Moses
2. The Passover
3. The Crossing of the Red Sea
4. The Giving of the Law
5. The Making of the Tabernacle
6. The End of Moses' Work

THE BIRTH OF MOSES

- I. The book of Exodus begins with Israel in bondage in the land of Egypt. They had been in bondage for four hundred years. But the time of deliverance had come, and **GOD RAISED UP A DELIVERER.**

The Lord God told Abraham that he would send Israel in to a stranger's land, where they would be afflicted for four hundred years. Then, he promised to deliver his people (Gen. 15:13-14).

(Genesis 15:13-14) "And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land *that is* not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years; *14* And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance."

Now, the time of deliverance was at hand. So the Book of Exodus begins with the birth of Moses.

A. **Moses was a type of Christ.**

Without question, the name "Moses" represents the law of God and is used, at times, as a synonym for the law (Acts 6:11; 15:21; 21:21; 2 Cor. 3:15). But Moses was also a type of Christ (Deut. 18:15-18; John 1:45; Acts 3:22; 7:37).

(Deuteronomy 18:15-18) "The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken; *16* According to all that thou desiredst of the LORD thy God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God, neither let me see this great fire any more, that I die not. *17* And the LORD said unto me, They have well *spoken that* which they have spoken. *18* I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him."

As it was with the incarnation, birth and life of our great Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, the hand of God was remarkably and

undeniably manifest throughout the life of Moses. Like the Lord Jesus, that Deliverer he typified...

- Moses appeared “*in the fulness of time.*” When the “*due time*” arrived, the deliverer arrived.
- Moses’ birth was at a time of great darkness and great need.
- When he was born Pharaoh sought to kill him.
- Moses was miraculously preserved until the time of his appearing as God’s deliverer.

B. God often uses Satan’s devices to accomplish his purposes.

Sometimes, as I read the Scriptures, I can’t help thinking that our Lord must have a sense of humor. I can hardly refrain from laughter, as I read about him turning the tables on his enemies and overruling the evil ploys of men and devils to accomplish his great purpose of grace, the very thing they try to prevent. We see the ways of our God revealed in Psalm 76:10¹ displayed in the life of Moses and in the life of our Redeemer.

Though Pharaoh order the midwives to murder all the Hebrew male babies in Egypt, Moses was not only saved, but Pharaoh hired Moses' own mother to nurse him and take care of him!

Moses grew up Pharaoh’s house, as his own grandson. He was trained in to all the learning of the Egyptians, given the best education in the world at that time. As Pharaoh’s adopted son he had every privilege and every advantage of the world.

When he became a man, God revealed himself to him and showed him that he was chosen and ordained to be the deliverer of Israel. So he went out, trying to do his job, he thought, and

¹ (Psalms 76:10) "Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee: the remainder of wrath shalt thou restrain."

ended up an Egyptian and fleeing into the wilderness. He left the land of Egypt and tended sheep for forty years in the wilderness.

C. Moses was called, sent, and equipped of God to deliver Israel.

Then, the Lord God appeared to him in the burning bush and sent him back to Egypt to deliver Israel at the time appointed (ch. 3). But Moses was totally unfit for the task before him; and he knew it.

- He couldn't deliver Israel; but God could. Moses was only a typical redeemer (3:7-22). – “*I am come down to deliver them*” (v. 8).

(Exodus 3:10-15) "Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt. *11* And Moses said unto God, Who *am* I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt? *12* And he said, Certainly I will be with thee; and this *shall be* a token unto thee, that I have sent thee: When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain. *13* And Moses said unto God, Behold, *when* I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What *is* his name? what shall I say unto them? *14* And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you. *15* And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this *is* my name for ever, and this *is* my memorial unto all generations."

- Moses knew he was not able to articulate things as he should, as God’s spokesman. So the Lord assured him that he would be his tongue and that he would speak through him (4:10-12). There was nothing wrong with that. In fact, it is commendable humility. – God never uses anyone who thinks he is fit for the job. He always uses nothings and nobodies to do his work (Isa. 6:-18; 66:2; 1 Cor. 1:26-31).
 - But then Moses said, “Lord, can’t you get someone else to do this work?” “*And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses*” (4:14).
 - We would be wise to lay this to heart.—A sense of inability, inadequacy, and personal unworthiness is always commendable; but any lack of willingness, or even hesitancy, in doing what is clearly God’s will is abhorrent rebellion.
- D. **Moses went back to Egypt with nothing but the rod (Word) of God in his hand, to deliver Israel from the most powerful king the world had ever known.**

Immediately, he ran into trouble. He came into conflict with Pharaoh. The conflict between Pharaoh and Moses, the representatives of Satan and God, was tremendous. No drama ever written by a man compares to this bit of history. As you read it, you can feel the intensity of it. Though the Lord God sent plague after plague,; but "*Pharaoh hardened his heart and refused to let the people go.*"

There were nine plagues in all. Each one was directed against one of the gods of Egypt. By sending these plagues, God not only judged Egypt, but also, as he punished the Egyptians, showed the impotence of their idols and displayed himself as God alone, sovereign, omnipotent, majestic and holy.

THE PASSOVER

II. Moses was typical and representative of Christ, our Savior.
THE SECOND GREAT EVENT IN THE BOOK OF EXODUS, THE PASSOVER (ch. 11 and 12), WAS TYPICAL OF OUR REDEMPTION BY CHRIST.

It is so obvious that the passover represented our redemption by Christ that everyone who even claims to believe the Bible is the Word of God acknowledges it. Few understand what is taught by this great picture of redemption; but all acknowledge that it is a picture of redemption. Let me just call your attention to the highlights.

A. **The passover, like our redemption by Christ, was an act of God's free, sovereign, covenant mercy alone.**

- It was God who put a difference between Israel and Egypt (11:7)—*Distinguishing Grace!*
- The message was spoken in the ears of God's chosen (11:1)—*The Call of God.*
- God promised an effectual, glorious work, by which all (Egyptians and Israelites) would know that he is God.—Thrust Out!—With a High Hand!—With all the Good of Egypt!
- Israel was under the special protection of divine providence—*“Against the children of Israel shall not a dog move his tongue, against man or beast”* (11:7).
- The Lord God raised up Pharaoh and hardened his heart, he specifically says, *“that my wonders may be multiplied in the land of Egypt”* (11:9; Rom. 9:15-18).—Satan is God's servant, not his rival! When God gets done with him, he will dump his carcass in the sea of his fury, just as he did Pharaoh's.

B. The passover, like our redemption, was a display of how God saves sinners, by blood atonement.

- At God's Appointed Time (12:2)
- The Beginning of Months (*"All things are new"* – New Creation)
- The Paschal Lamb—*"Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us."*
- The blood had to be sprinkled. – Effectual Calling!
- The lamb had to be eaten.—Repentance and Faith
- All for whom a lamb was slain went out of Egypt.—Particular, Effectual Redemption (12:37).
- Israel spoiled the Egyptians (12:36).

THE CROSSING OF THE RED SEA

III. But the story does not end there. **BEGINNING IN CHAPTER 13, WE SEE THE THIRD GREAT EVENT IN EXODUS—THE CROSSING OF THE RED SEA.**

Really, the passover and the crossing of the Red Sea are two parts of the same thing. They cannot be separated. Israel could never have crossed the Red Sea had the passover not been kept. And the keeping of the passover would have been a meaningless, useless thing, had Israel not crossed the sea.

The crossing of the Red Sea is a picture of our conversion by the power and grace of God the Holy Spirit in effectual calling. This is so closely connected with the sacrifice of Christ as our sin-atonement Substitute that the two cannot be separated. Christ's death effectually secured our conversion. And without the conversion of God's elect, Christ's death would have been a useless, futile, vain and meaningless thing. Now, watch the type. May God back it dance with life.

- The Lord went before them (13:21).
- God led them through the way of the wilderness (13:18).
- Israel was brought into terror and fear; but their fear only stirred the rebellion that was in them (14:10-11).—Legal Conviction.
- “*Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord!*” (14:13).—“*The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace!*” (14:14)
- Israel crossed the sea by the rod of Moses.—That rod representing the whole Word of God, mercy and truth, justice and grace, holiness and love.
- Then, looking back upon their slain enemies, standing upon the shores of blessed deliverance, they believed, worshipped, gave praise to God and started on their journey (14:31-16:1).

(Exodus 14:31) "And Israel saw that great work which the LORD did upon the Egyptians: and the people feared the LORD, and believed the LORD, and his servant Moses."

(Exodus 15:1-3) "Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea. 2 The LORD *is* my strength and song, and he is become my salvation: he *is* my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him. 3 The LORD *is* a man of war: the LORD *is* his name."

(Exodus 15:11) "Who *is* like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? who *is* like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful *in* praises, doing wonders?"

(Exodus 15:13) "Thou in thy mercy hast led forth the people *which* thou hast redeemed: thou hast guided *them* in thy strength unto thy holy habitation."

(Exodus 16:1) "And they took their journey from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came unto the wilderness of Sin, which *is* between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after their departing out of the land of Egypt."

- Believers' Baptism

The Scriptures (1 Cor. 10:1-2) tell us plainly that the passage of Israel through the Red Sea was a baptism unto Moses. It signified the same thing as believer's baptism does today. It signified the distinction which God put between Israel and Egypt. So does believer's baptism. It was an act of obedience to God's command. So is believer's baptism. Both Israel's baptism unto Moses and the believer's baptism with reference to the finished work of Christ are acts of obedience performed to the command promise of God (Ex. 14:13-16, Matt. 28:19, Mk. 16:16). As Israel followed Moses through the Red Sea, so believers follow Christ through the waters of baptism, symbolically declaring salvation to be the work of God alone by Christ's fulfilling all righteousness as our Representative and Substitute.

- Notice this, too. Immediately after crossing the Red Sea, they came to the bitter waters of Marah (15:23-26).—The Tree—"*I AM the Lord that healeth thee.*"
- As they made their journey through the wilderness, the Lord graciously fed the children of Israel with heavenly manna every day (ch. 16), and refreshed their bodies with water flowing from the smitten rock that followed them (ch. 17).

Without question, these things were miraculous provisions for their physical sustenance. But they were much more than that. The manna that fell from heaven and the water that flowed from

the smitten rock was a picture of God's provision for our souls, for time and eternity in Christ, our crucified Savior (John 6:48-58; 1 Cor. 10:1-11).

- The Flesh and the Spirit

Perhaps the most difficult experience of God's people in this world after being converted is the constant, ever-increasing warfare between the flesh and the spirit. We see this portrayed in chapter seventeen as well. Amalek comes and fights with Israel; but God declares unending war with Amalek (Ex. 17:10) The fact is, the flesh lusts against the spirit and the spirit against the flesh, so that we can never do the things we would, we can never walk with our God and serve him perfectly, without sin, while we live in this world. We constantly find ourselves to be wretched sinners (Rom. 7:14-23; Gal. 5:17). This warfare will never end, or even abate, until we have dropped these bodies of flesh. We can never make peace with Amalek. Yet, Amalek will never cease to assail us.

THE GIVING OF THE LAW

IV. THE FOURTH THING THAT STANDS OUT IN THE BOOK OF EXODUS IS THE GIVING OF THE LAW AT SINAI (Ex. 19-24).

In chapters 19-24, we find Israel at Mt. Sinai, where the Lord God gave Israel his law in ten commandments and taught them how he must be worshipped. The law was a detailed revelation of God's immutable, unrelenting, perfect, glorious holiness. That is why the law and the giving of the law was terrifying to Israel. Nothing is so terrifying to sinful men and women as the realization God almighty is absolutely and unchangeably holy, that nothing can change him. He will never be talked out of anything. He can never be bought off. He will never lower his

standards in any degree. The law is the absolute, irrevocable standard of God's character. It is also a declaration of his absolute sovereign character and utter solitariness as God. Because he is who and what he is, the Lord our God demands perfection of all who are accepted of him.

At the very outset the law of God taught Israel and teaches us that the holy, sovereign, unalterable Lord God cannot be worshipped by fallen, sinful, sinning men and women except through a mediator he has ordained, provided, and accepted (20:18-19), upon an altar of his own making, an altar to which man contributes nothing, and can never climb by degrees (20:23-26). In other words, the law drives us away from Sinai to Calvary, away from Moses to Christ for refuge and salvation (Gal. 3:19-26).

THE ERECTION OF THE TABERNACLE

V. **THE FIFTH THING IN EXODUS IS THE ERECTION OF THE TABERNACLE, THE PLACE OF RECONCILIATION AND PEACE, WITH ITS ALTAR, SACRIFICES, PRIESTHOOD, AND MERCY-SEAT** (Ex. 25-40).

In chapter twenty-five the Lord began to give Moses instructions about the tabernacle and priesthood, the sacrifices and ceremonies by which the children of Israel might come to him and find acceptance with him. The whole thing speaks of Christ and the believer's acceptance with God in him (Heb. 9:1-10:22). Here we are taught by types and pictures how that the Lord our God can be both a just God and a Savior (Isa. 45:20). Through the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ the holy Lord God, in complete justice, holiness and truth, receives redeemed sinners in total reconciliation and declares, "*There is now no condemnation,*" none whatsoever. None whatsoever! Every

believing sinner has perfect access to the Father through the Son. And God himself, by his Holy Spirit, has taken up his tabernacle in our hearts and lives. He will never leave us, and will never let us leave him! We are forever, immutably “*accepted in the beloved!*”

THE END OF MOSES’ WORK

VI. THEN, THE LAST THING IS THE END OF MOSES’S WORK.

Once the tabernacle was finished and God and his people were ceremonially reconciled, Moses’ had finished his work (Ex. 40:33). And once the chosen, redeemed sinner has been brought to faith in Christ, the law of God has finished its work (Rom. 6:14-15; 7:1-4; 8:1; 10:4). Once God’s elect are brought into the blessedness of reconciliation with him by faith in Christ, the law has nothing more to do with us. It no longer terrifies, condemns, or even frowns upon us. Rather, the law of God cries as fully as the grace of God—“JUSTIFIED!” This is beautifully portrayed in the last paragraph of Exodus (40:34-38).

"Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. And when the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the children of Israel went onward in all their journeys: But if the cloud were not taken up, then they journeyed not till the day that it was taken up. For the cloud of the LORD *was* upon the tabernacle by day, and fire was on it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys."

“Free from the law—O happy condition!
Jesus hath bled, and there is remission!

Cursed by the law and bruised by the fall,
Grace hath redeemed us once for all.

Now are we free—There's no condemnation!
Jesus provides a perfect salvation!
'Come unto Me'—O hear His sweet call!
Come, and He saves us once for all.

Children of God—O glorious calling!
Surely His grace will keep us from falling!
Passing from death to life at His call,
Blessed salvation once for all!"

(Philip Bliss)

¹ Danville (Tuesday 01/21/03)—Rescue Baptist Church, Rescue, CA (Saturday 02/01/03)