

# *The Book Of:* ***Exodus***

*Hebrew Name*  
*shemot*  
*"names"*

## **I. Structure and Outline**

### **The Deliverance of God's People: "Relief"**

<i>Background &amp; Call of Moses</i>	<i>Chapters 1—4</i>
<i>Moses &amp; Aaron Before Pharaoh</i>	<i>Chapters 5:1 — 12:32</i>
<i>Exodus &amp; Crossing Red Sea</i>	<i>Chapters 12:33—15:21</i>
<i>Initial Journey</i>	<i>Chapters 15:22—18:27</i>

### **The Covenant of God's People: "Relationship"**

<i>Covenant Established</i>	<i>Chapters 19—24</i>
<i>Instructions for the Tabernacle</i>	<i>Chapters 25—31</i>
<i>Covenant Breach and Renewal</i>	<i>Chapters 32—34</i>
<i>Preparing the Tabernacle</i>	<i>Chapters 25—40</i>

## **I. What is Exodus?**

Like Genesis, the Hebrew title for Exodus mentioned above is taken from the opening phrase of the book: "These Are the Names" (commonly just "Names"). The more common title, "Exodus," is Greek taken from the Septuagint meaning "departure" or "going out." This is appropriate since it chronicles the departure of the Israelites (descendants of Jacob) from Egypt to the desert.

## **II. Who Wrote Exodus?**

Traditional scholarship holds that Moses is the author of the first five books of the Bible (known as the Pentateuch). Within the book of Exodus are several explicit references to Moses either writing or being commanded by God to write (see 17:14; 24:4; 34:28), so it makes sense to conclude that Moses is responsible for the content. Scholars disagree on the date of Israel's departure from Egypt, but the two accepted dates are around 1440 B.C. or 1260 B.C., and arguments for both find substantial support. Therefore, Moses wrote Exodus in either the 13<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> century B.C.

# ***Exodus*** (continued)

## **Why Was Exodus Written?**

Exodus details the establishing of the covenant between God and His people, Israel, and the 10 Commandments. The book chronicles God's rescuing the Jewish ancestors from slavery in Egypt, beginning their journey to the Promised Land. In fact, at least 23 other books of the Bible cite this deliverance as evidence of God's covenant faithfulness. Modern Jews still celebrate the Passover today, commemorating the events of Exodus 12, which is actually a foreshadowing of the sacrifice of Christ (see 1 Corinthians 5:7). Therefore, Exodus is foundational for both Jews and Christians. Moreover, throughout Exodus, the overarching theme is the importance of the presence of God in individual lives as well as the community of faith.

## **Key Themes and Theology in Exodus**

### **• God's Faithfulness**

<i>Exodus 3:7—10</i>	<i>God's Plan for Deliverance</i>
<i>Exodus 12:1—40</i>	<i>The Passover and Exodus</i>
<i>Exodus 15:22—17:15</i>	<i>God Provides Israel's Needs</i>
<i>Exodus 32</i>	<i>Idolaters Are Spared</i>

### **• God's Infinite Power and Ability**

<i>Exodus 4:1—9</i>	<i>Moses Given Powers</i>
<i>Exodus 7:14—11:10</i>	<i>Ten Plagues on Egypt</i>
<i>Exodus 14:13—31</i>	<i>Crossing the Red Sea</i>

### **• The Importance of God's Presence**

<i>Exodus 33:1—6, 12—17</i>	<i>Moses Asks for God's Presence</i>
<i>Exodus 40:34—38</i>	<i>God Leads Israel's Journeys</i>

# Possible Routes of the Exodus

