

WEEK 5 — GOD SETS ISRAEL FREE

Date: about 1447-1446 BC

The Story: God continues to battle against Pharaoh to force him to release Israel from slavery. The Ten Plagues culminate in the first Passover and Israel's departure from Egypt. God demonstrates his power on Israel's behalf—and his care—again and again: punishing Egypt, parting the sea, miraculously providing food and water in the wilderness, defending Israel from its enemies. Then Israel arrives at Mount Sinai, where they will stay for roughly two years. There God speaks the Ten Commandments to Israel and begins to give them his laws for their new nation.

* Kids' readings may not align with the daily full readings. Parents, see the content ratings on the back page.

JANUARY 30 EXODUS 9-11

Today's reading relates how God continues to battle Egypt for control of his people. The next five of ten total punishments from God upon Egypt (the Ten Plagues) happen in these chapters, and God prepares to send the terrible tenth plague. In all this, God continues to reveal his power to, and his love for, Israel.

Date: about 1447-1446 BC

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: Exodus 9-11

Kids' Reading*: Exodus 9

JANUARY 31 EXODUS 12-14

Today's reading brings about the climax of God's great confrontation with Egypt. It includes Israel's first Passover and instructions about future observance of the Passover; even today, the Passover is one of Israel's most important annual festivals. Then, at last, God brings Israel out of Egypt and ends Egypt's threat against his people.

Date: about 1446 BC

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: Exodus 12:29-42 • Exodus 13:17 to 14:31

Kids' Reading*: Exodus 10

FEBRUARY 1 EXODUS 15-17

Today's reading begins with celebration: Israel is free! But Israel's journey with God quickly sours as they begin to grumble about their difficulties (lack of good water, lack of food, lack of water again). God provides for his people, but their complaints begin to wear down Moses' patience. Even so, God continues to help Israel, defending them from attackers.

Date: about 1446 BC

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: Exodus 16-17

Kids' Reading*: Exodus 11 • Exodus 12:21-42

FEBRUARY 2 EXODUS 18-20

Today's reading sees Moses' father-in-law help him adapt to the challenge of leading an entire nation of people. Then Israel arrives at Mount Sinai, where God, in one of the most important moments in the Bible, descends and speaks personally to the Israelites. He gives them the Ten Commandments and begins to establish his laws for this new nation.

Date: about 1446 BC

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: Exodus 18-20

Kids' Reading*: Exodus 13:17 to 14:31

DAILY BIBLE READINGS — Summit View Church of Christ

FEBRUARY 3 EXODUS 21-23

Today's reading continues God's communication of his laws for the new nation of Israel. Notice God's concern for justice. For example, in a time and region where slavery is unquestioned, God imposes severe limitations on the duration of the enslavement of a Hebrew servant. Watch also for laws teaching Israelites to act kindly: toward foreigners, widows, the fatherless, the poor, etc. And don't miss God's call for his people to be holy (22:31, etc.), which is a vital principle in God's law for Israel.

Date: about 1446 BC

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: Exodus 21 • Exodus 23

Kids' Reading*: Exodus 16-17

FEBRUARY 4 EXODUS 24-27

Today's reading begins with the Israelites pledging to obey all God's laws, thus ratifying the covenant he is establishing with them to care for them as his people. Then Moses goes up onto Mount Sinai, where God gives him instructions for the construction of the tabernacle (the holy tent) and its furnishings; the tabernacle will be a portable temple, the center of Israel's worship of God.

Date: about 1446 BC

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: Exodus 24-26

Kids' Reading*: Exodus 19:1 to 20:21

FEBRUARY 5 EXODUS 28-29

Today's reading shifts from instructions about the construction of the tabernacle to a related topic, instructions for the consecration of Israel's priests, who will serve in the new tabernacle. Notice the frequency of words like "holy," "sacred," and "consecrate." These point to the importance of holiness in the priesthood as Israel's priests lead God's people in worship of, and devotion to, the holy God.

Date: about 1446 BC

In a hurry? 10-minute reading: Exodus 28-29

Kids' Reading*: Exodus 23:20 to 24:18

Parents' Guide

PG preview for young children

9:15-19 (V)
12:12-13 (T), 44 (C), 48 (C)
13:13 (V), 15 (V)
14:26-30 (V)
15:4-5 (V), 10 (V)
17:8-13 (V)
19:15 (S)
20:26 (N)
22:2-3 (V), 20 (V)

PG-13 preview for under age 13

11:5-6 (T)
12:29-30 (V)
21:12-36 (V)
22:16 (S), 19 (S), 24 (V)

R shocking, graphic, or disturbing

none

C = Circumcision
N = Nudity
S = Sexuality
T = Dark/Sensitive Themes
V = Violence