

EXODUS SUMMARY

Before we summarize the book of Exodus from the standpoint of what it is, I need to issue a note of caution concerning what it isn't. What Exodus isn't a manifesto for liberation theology. Liberation theology is a mixture of Marxist/socialist politics and a victim mentality coupled with a deconstruction of the biblical text which is then reinterpreted according to the presuppositions of minority victimization and oppression in a contemporary cultural setting. Unfortunately, the book of Exodus has been hijacked for those purposes which prevents properly understanding the message the book actually conveys. "According to black theology, the Old Testament substantiates the theology of liberation, beginning with the Exodus story. There Yahweh revealed Himself as a liberator and savior of an oppressed people. By extension, then, there can be no knowledge of Yahweh 'except through his political activity on behalf of the weak and helpless of the land.' For Cone [a leading voice in African American liberation theology], God's choosing an oppressed people to be his people has profound implications for developing theology. Israel's election cannot be disconnected from its 'servitude and liberation.' God chose Israel because they were weak, helpless, and oppressed. God, in the end, 'is the God of history whose will is identical with the liberation of the oppressed from social and political bondage.'"¹

¹ Anthony B. Bradley, *Liberating Black Theology: The Bible and the Black Experience in America* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2010), 73-74.

Liberation theology took root in Latin America when a priest named Gustavo Gutierrez wrote a book entitled "A Theology of Liberation" in which he made extensive use of the book of Exodus to justify his theology. "The liberation of Israel is a political action. It is the breaking away from a situation of despoliation and misery and the beginning of the construction of a just and fraternal society. It is the suppression of disorder and the creation of a new order."²

There is now a text on Palestinian liberation theology. In this system the orthodox understanding of the book of Exodus is the basis for oppression of people other than Jews. "For such [liberation theology] Christians the language of the Exodus and the promised land, the election of Israel as God's people, and redemption as the empowerment of the oppressed has been unquestioned. Christians of Latin America, Asia, and Africa have used such motifs from the biblical story as paradigms of their own situation. A Palestinian liberation theology reveals the dangerous, shadow side of these images of liberation from former oppression. Palestinians are victims of a Zionist liberation theology and ideology. The Jewish exodus from oppression in Europe is the rationale for their conquest. The Jewish claim to the promised land is their dispossession from their land of Palestine. Jewish peoplehood excludes the existence of the Palestinians as a people. Jewish redemption is Palestinian oppression. "³

² Gustavo Gutierrez, *A Theology of Liberation: History, Politics and Salvation*, trans. and ed. Caridad Inda and John Eagleson (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1973), 155.

³ Naim Stifan Ateek, *Justice and Only Justice: A Palestinian Theology of Liberation*, quoting from the forward by Rosemary Radford Ruether (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1989), xii.

My hope is after studying Exodus, the exegetical fallacies concerning Israel and God's purposes for the nation in history are readily apparent. It should also be obvious the only way to reach such conclusions is by denying the literal meaning of the words of Scripture and assigning to them the political and social significance one wants to find in them whether those concepts are present or not. The only way to avoid falling for false doctrines is to know the Word of God so the errors may be recognized and refuted.

Exodus began with the move into Israel of Jacob and his family. In Exodus 1, we see the growth of Israel, the subjugation of Israel, and the attempt to destroy Israel. To this point, God has sovereignly and miraculously created a family of people who will now grow into sufficient numbers to populate the land He is going to give them. As their population grew, new kings came to power in Egypt who became frightened over their growing numbers and enslaved them. That didn't stop the Israelites' population growth, so the Egyptians tried to murder all the male Hebrew children and that plan didn't work out either; they continued to grow. From the time Joseph went into Egypt until this time has been around four-hundred years.

Exodus revealed the blueprint Satan uses to try and destroy the Jews. He knows that Christ will not return to earth to establish the Messianic Kingdom until the Jewish leadership cries out to Him to return and save them from annihilation during the Tribulation.

Matthew 23:39 ³⁹“For I say to you, from now on you will not see Me until you say, ‘BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!’”

This is an ongoing process. The anti-Semitism evident in the world today is the visible manifestation of this attack on the Jewish people. The United Nations has been thoroughly coopted by anti-Semites. The Boycott, Divest, and Sanction Movement is an economic strategy to bankrupt Israel and many mainstream Protestant replacement theology denominations support it.

At various times in history, there have been serious efforts made to exterminate the Jewish people.

Assyria attempted to do that when they removed the Jews from Israel and resettled the land with foreigners who intermarried with the few Jews that were left and produced a people that became known as the Samaritans. That's not to say God wasn't using the Assyrians to impose divine discipline on Israel and that He didn't set limits on what they could do to the Jewish people, but Satan and the Assyrians didn't know that.

2 Kings 17:23–24 ²³...until the LORD removed Israel from His sight, as He spoke through all His servants the prophets. So Israel was carried away into exile from their own land to Assyria until this day. ²⁴The king of Assyria brought *men* from Babylon and from Cuthah and from Avva and from Hamath and Sephar-vaim, and settled *them* in the cities of Samaria in place of the sons of Israel. So they possessed Samaria and lived in its cities.

Babylon performed the same function a century or so later.

2 Kings 24:14 ¹⁴Then he led away into exile all Jerusalem and all the captains and all the mighty men of valor, ten thousand captives, and all the craftsmen and the smiths. None remained except the poorest people of the land.

Haman, following Pharaoh's example, was an example of this satanic program.

Esther 3:5–6 ⁵When Haman saw that Mordecai neither bowed down nor paid homage to him, Haman was filled with rage. ⁶But he disdained to lay hands on Mordecai alone, for they had told him *who* the people of Mordecai were; therefore Haman sought to destroy all the Jews, the people of Mordecai, who were throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus.

The Romans, in the first and second centuries, tried to do the same thing Assyrian and Babylon did centuries earlier. They even renamed Israel “Palestine” to try and erase even the memory of Israel in their land. Since that time, the world has persecuted and murdered the Jewish people at various times in various places. Russia is notorious for their pogroms against the Jews. The Roman Catholic Church murdered Jews at various times throughout history. They especially killed many of them during the Crusades. Luther turned on the Jews when they refused to believe in Christ. He erroneously thought they would embrace a Protestant break from Roman Catholicism. Hitler used some of Luther’s writing to justify the Holocaust. Protestant churches in Europe stood by, with some notable exceptions, and allowed Hitler to get away with Jewish genocide. Today, we have Islam doing Satan’s work in his plan to destroy the Jews. Exodus revealed this pattern.

Moses was born into the tribe of Levi and in order to protect him from the edict to throw the Hebrew sons into the Nile River to drown, his mother devised a plan to try and save the child. She floated Moses in the river where he was discovered by Pharaoh’s daughter and he was raised in Pharaoh’s house. Moses didn’t forget his Hebrew roots. He intervened when he saw an Egyptian beating

a Hebrew and killed the taskmaster. When that was discovered, he fled to Midian where he became a shepherd.

It was at this point in the narrative, the plan of God to redeem the Israelites as His nation began to come into focus.

Exodus 2:23–25 ²³Now it came about in *the course of* those many days that the king of Egypt died. And the sons of Israel sighed because of the bondage, and they cried out; and their cry for help because of *their* bondage rose up to God. ²⁴So God heard their groaning; and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. ²⁵God saw the sons of Israel, and God took notice of *them*.

God appeared to Moses on Horeb and told him the Israelites were about to be redeemed out of slavery. It would be Moses' assignment to lead the people out of Egypt and to the land promised Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Exodus 3:10 ¹⁰"Therefore, come now, and I will send you to Pharaoh, so that you may bring My people, the sons of Israel, out of Egypt."

Moses was a very reluctant prophet. God gave Moses some signs to perform in order to authenticate his divine assignment. The Israelites needed the authentication to know Moses was indeed sent from God. Pharaoh and the Egyptians needed to know Moses was Yahweh's prophet and they needed to listen to his requests. The signs in and of themselves are relatively meaningless because we know that Satan and his agents can, to some extent, perform miracles. Miracles were important because they were a witness to the authenticity of God. We know that Satan and his demons/disciples can perform real miracles. What makes a miracle true or false is to whom it points, only true miracles point to God.

Exodus 4:8–9 ⁸“If they will not believe you or heed the witness of the first sign, they may believe the witness of the last sign. ⁹“But if they will not believe even these two signs or heed what you say, then you shall take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground; and the water which you take from the Nile will become blood on the dry ground.”

Yahweh appointed Aaron to be Moses' spokesman. As Moses was Yahweh's prophet so Aaron would be Moses' prophet.

Exodus 4:15–16 ¹⁵“You are to speak to him and put the words in his mouth; and I, even I, will be with your mouth and his mouth, and I will teach you what you are to do. ¹⁶“Moreover, he shall speak for you to the people; and he will be as a mouth for you and you will be as God to him.

Moses returned to Egypt with Aaron. There they met with the elders and the people, performed the signs, and the people believed.

Exodus 4:29–31 ²⁹Then Moses and Aaron went and assembled all the elders of the sons of Israel; ³⁰and Aaron spoke all the words which the LORD had spoken to Moses. He then performed the signs in the sight of the people. ³¹So the people believed; and when they heard that the LORD was concerned about the sons of Israel and that He had seen their affliction, then they bowed low and worshiped.

This is very important doctrinal truth concerning grace and faith. The people believed in Yahweh apart from the performance of any works on their part. They heard the Word of God and observed the signs that authenticated God and they believed. Once they came to faith, they worshiped. It seems that all the Israelites were saved at that point. This is important because almost all of them engaged in the rebellion at Mt. Sinai and in the refusal to enter Canaan a little over a year later. Nearly everyone who came to faith in Egypt subsequently died in the wilderness. They died as believers; they didn't lose their salvation.

We also know the Israelites left Egypt with a mixed multitude of people. The text says nothing about their faith. They left with Israel in order to escape the

effects of the devastation imposed on Egypt. This mixed multitude may have been a largely unbelieving, destabilizing influence on the Israelites in the wilderness, but that is speculation and the text never says one way or the other.

Just because Moses showed up in Egypt and told Pharaoh to let the people go, doesn't mean Pharaoh was going to comply—and he didn't. God knew that and He had a plan.

Exodus 6:1 ¹Then the LORD said to Moses, “Now you shall see what I will do to Pharaoh; for under compulsion he will let them go, and under compulsion he will drive them out of his land.”

Exodus 6:1-9 reiterates God's faithfulness and veracity. He assured Moses He remembered His Covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and He was going to redeem them out of their slavery and put them into the land He promised their fathers. He also promised them they would be His people and He would be their God. By His works, He would be authenticated to the people; that is, they would know He was who He said He was and they would know He was their God.

Exodus 6:7 ⁷Then I will take you for My people, and I will be your God; and you shall know that I am the LORD your God, who brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.

The fact that Satan and his disciples can perform miraculous feats to deceive people was demonstrated in response to Moses' first miracle before Pharaoh. Exodus also makes it very clear there is a limit to the powers of Satanists. People must know the Bible well enough to be able to discern between what is true and what is false. Satan's deceptions run deep and they can appear to be

very biblical. True miracles point to God; false miracles, whether faked or real, point to Satan.

Exodus 7:11–12 ¹¹Then Pharaoh also called for *the* wise men and *the* sorcerers, and they also, the magicians of Egypt, did the same with their secret arts. ¹²For each one threw down his staff and they turned into serpents. But Aaron's staff swallowed up their staffs.

Exodus 7:22 ²²But the magicians of Egypt did the same with their secret arts [turned the water into blood]; and Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he did not listen to them, as the LORD had said.

Exodus 8:7 ⁷The magicians did the same with their secret arts, making frogs come up on the land of Egypt.

Exodus 8:18–19 ¹⁸The magicians tried with their secret arts to bring forth gnats, but they could not; so there were gnats on man and beast. ¹⁹Then the magicians said to Pharaoh, "This is the finger of God." But Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he did not listen to them, as the LORD had said.

The plagues were obviously designed to put pressure on Pharaoh to let the Israelites leave Egypt and to show the impotence of the pagan gods of Egypt. They were also designed to destroy the most powerful nation in the world at that time. No one and nothing can stand against the Creator God of the universe. There is a warning to the world embedded in the story of the Exodus. This type of judgment is going to happen again and when it does, it will not be confined to only one nation. It will be a judgment imposed on the world.

The tenth plague known as the Passover has obvious significance for the world. The blood of the lamb is a reference to Christ's work on the cross. Only by means of the application of His shed blood can people find redemption and be removed from the slave market of sin.

Exodus 12:13, 21-22 ¹³The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live; and when I see the blood I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.... ²¹Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel and said to them, "Go and take for yourselves lambs according to your families, and slay the Passover *lamb*. ²²"You shall take a bunch of hyssop and dip it in the blood which is in the basin, and apply some of the blood that is in the basin to the lintel and the two doorposts; and none of you shall go outside the door of his house until morning.

The New Testament makes the connection between the Exodus Passover and Christ Jesus very clear.

John 1:29 ²⁹The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

1 Corinthians 5:7 ⁷Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a new lump, just as you are *in fact* unleavened. For Christ our Passover also has been sacrificed.

1 Peter 1:19 ¹⁹but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, *the blood* of Christ.

The Egyptians were so ready to get the Israelites out of their country, they essentially gave their wealth away.

Exodus 12:35–36 ³⁵Now the sons of Israel had done according to the word of Moses, for they had requested from the Egyptians articles of silver and articles of gold, and clothing; ³⁶and the LORD had given the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they let them have their request. Thus they plundered the Egyptians.

Out of the death of the firstborn sons in Egypt came the practice of redeeming the firstborn sons in Israelite families because they belonged to Yahweh.

Exodus 13:15 ¹⁵It came about, when Pharaoh was stubborn about letting us go, that the LORD killed every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of beast. Therefore, I sacrifice to the LORD the males, the first offspring of every womb, but every firstborn of my sons I redeem.'

This was still the case during the time of the second Temple. We know the Lord, the firstborn son of Joseph and Mary, was redeemed according to the Law.

Luke 2:22–23 ²²And when the days for their purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “EVERY *firstborn* MALE THAT OPENS THE WOMB SHALL BE CALLED HOLY TO THE LORD”),

Once the Israelites set out on the Exodus out of Egypt, the Lord providentially guided and protected them with a pillar of fire by night and a cloud by day. This must have served as an affirmation He was with them because they could see the glory of His presence at all times. It may seem astonishing to us, although it shouldn't because we aren't any different, that the Israelites would begin complaining and rebelling almost right from the start of the Exodus even though they could see Yahweh's presence with them.

Exodus 13:21–22 ²¹The LORD was going before them in a pillar of cloud by day to lead them on the way, and in a pillar of fire by night to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night. ²²He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people.

The first time the Israelites complained was at the Red Sea which was only a few days after they began the trek out of Egypt.

Exodus 14:11–12 ¹¹Then they said to Moses, “Is it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you dealt with us in this way, bringing us out of Egypt? ¹²“Is this not the word that we spoke to you in Egypt, saying, ‘Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians’? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.”

It's not a coincidence the Israelites were continually described as a stubborn, obstinate, stiff-necked people. In terms of their relationship with God, they still are.

Exodus 32:9 ⁹The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and behold, they are an obstinate people.

Jeremiah 5:23 ²³But this people has a stubborn and rebellious heart; They have turned aside and departed.

In my mind, one of the greatest verses in the Bible is Exodus 14:13.

Exodus 14:13 ¹³But Moses said to the people, "Do not fear! Stand by and see the salvation of the LORD which He will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you have seen today, you will never see them again forever.

The salvation spoken of at the Red Sea was physical salvation from destruction at the hands of the Egyptians, but these were saved people who had nothing to fear even if they lost their bodily lives. The Israelites had something no one has seen since that time in terms of God's visible glory accompanying them and the miraculous acts He performed in their presence on their behalf. By application, we have nothing to fear either. Those of us who believe have eternal life right now. It is a normal human reaction to experience fright when physical danger is imminent, but we should at least be comforted by the assurance of eternal life we have in Christ Jesus.

The Song of Moses revealed a very key point concerning the consequences of Yahweh's activities in Egypt as they pertained to the conquest of Canaan. God told Moses at Mt. Sinai He would sow terror among the inhabitants of Canaan and that is exactly what happened. Everyone in the Middle East

and probably beyond heard about what happened in Egypt and they were scared to death. This is also a very key point pertaining to God's intervention in human history in very visible and very consequential ways.

Exodus 15:14–16 ¹⁴“The peoples have heard, they tremble; Anguish has gripped the inhabitants of Philistia. ¹⁵“Then the chiefs of Edom were dismayed; The leaders of Moab, trembling grips them; All the inhabitants of Canaan have melted away. ¹⁶“Terror and dread fall upon them; By the greatness of Your arm they are motionless as stone; Until Your people pass over, O LORD, Until the people pass over whom You have purchased.

Joshua 2:8–11 ⁸Now before they lay down, she came up to them on the roof, ⁹and said to the men, “I know that the LORD has given you the land, and that the terror of you has fallen on us, and that all the inhabitants of the land have melted away before you. ¹⁰“For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed. ¹¹“When we heard *it*, our hearts melted and no courage remained in any man any longer because of you; for the LORD your God, He is God in heaven above and on earth beneath.

Numbers 22:2–3 ²Now Balak the son of Zippor saw all that Israel had done to the Amorites. ³So Moab was in great fear because of the people, for they were numerous; and Moab was in dread of the sons of Israel.

Exodus 23:27 ²⁷“I will send My terror ahead of you, and throw into confusion all the people among whom you come, and I will make all your enemies turn *their* backs to you.

During the Exodus journey, the Israelites were miraculously cared for by the providence of God. They were provided bitter water made fit for human consumption, flowing water from a rock, manna to eat which provided all the nutrition and energy they required, and their clothing did not wear out as they traveled nor did their feet give them problems across very rough territory.

Exodus 15:23–25 ²³When they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah, for they were bitter; therefore it was named Marah. ²⁴So the people grumbled at Moses, saying, “What shall we drink?” ²⁵Then he cried out to the

LORD, and the LORD showed him a tree; and he threw *it* into the waters, and the waters became sweet. There He made for them a statute and regulation, and there He tested them.

Exodus 16:4, 14-15 ⁴Then the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether or not they will walk in My instruction....
¹⁴When the layer of dew evaporated, behold, on the surface of the wilderness there was a fine flake-like thing, fine as the frost on the ground. ¹⁵When the sons of Israel saw *it*, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, "It is the bread which the LORD has given you to eat.

Exodus 17:6 ⁶"Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it, that the people may drink." And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.

Deuteronomy 8:4 ⁴"Your clothing did not wear out on you, nor did your foot swell these forty years.

In the third month after leaving Egypt, the Israelites arrived at Mt. Sinai.

God gave Moses the nation's charter there.

Exodus 19:5-6 ⁵'Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; ⁶'and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel."

This is a conditional if/then statement. If they will be obedient, they will be blessed. Specifically, they alone would be God's personal possession among all the nations. At that point in time, the consequences for disobedience and Covenant lawlessness were not revealed. Yahweh would provide more details concerning both blessing and cursing in Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28. Israel's mission was to be a kingdom of priests; they were to be Yahweh's priests to the world. He was going to reveal Himself to the world through them. Due to progressive revelation and the historical record, we know they failed in their as-

signment, but we also know God is faithful. There will be a faithful remnant throughout Israel's history and eventually that faithful remnant will be rewarded with Covenant fulfillment.

When God revealed the Ten Commandments, He spoke them in the hearing of all the Israelites. The people were so frightened at being this close to Yahweh, they asked Moses to intercede for them lest they die.

Exodus 20:18–19 ¹⁸All the people perceived the thunder and the lightning flashes and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw *it*, they trembled and stood at a distance. ¹⁹Then they said to Moses, “Speak to us yourself and we will listen; but let not God speak to us, or we will die.”

The Bible clearly revealed that even righteous, faithful men with a sin nature are frequently scared witless when confronted with a holy being. Daniel was (Dan. 10:8-9) and John was (Rev. 1:17).

After hearing the Ten Commandments, Moses went back up the mountain and received various ordinances from the mouth of God (Ex. 21-23). The Law of the Sabbath included not only a day of rest on the seventh day, but a year of rest for the land every seventh year. God revealed three annual, national feasts with mandatory attendance requirements. They were Unleavened Bread/Passover, First Fruits or Pentecost, both of which were in the late winter/spring and Ingathering or Tabernacles observed in the fall. Yahweh also confirmed His intention to lead them into the land and drive out the Canaanites before them.

Yahweh promised to bless them in ways no people has ever been blessed in history if they did not serve the gods of the Canaanites. Their blessing was contingent on their obedience.

Exodus 23:25–26, 32-33 ²⁵“But you shall serve the LORD your God, and He will bless your bread and your water; and I will remove sickness from your midst. ²⁶“There shall be no one miscarrying or barren in your land; I will fulfill the number of your days.... ³²“You shall make no covenant with them or with their gods. ³³“They shall not live in your land, because they will make you sin against Me; for if you serve their gods, it will surely be a snare to you.”

Moses went back up the mountain and received the instructions for the Tabernacle, its furnishings, and the priesthood (Ex. 24-31). The Sabbath was identified and confirmed as the sign of the Mosaic Covenant. Moses received the two stone tablets upon which was written the Ten Commandments.

In chapter 32, the two broken stone tablets were replaced and the covenant was renewed. Moses' face was shining reflecting the glory of God which was a visible indication Yahweh was still with them and had restored them to fellowship after the rebellion of the golden calf.

Exodus 35-39 tell the story of the Tabernacle's construction. This repeats the original commands revealed to Moses on Mt. Sinai as a way of showing that the Israelites exactly and faithfully executed God's plans for the Tabernacle.

The book ends with the erection of the Tabernacle for the first time on the first day of the first month of the year. This was just in time to celebrate the Feast of Unleavened Bread and Passover. The glory of the Lord filled the Tabernacle.

The Israelites were led by God's glory through out the Exodus journey. Once the Tabernacle was operative, the cloud that represented the glory and

the presence of Yahweh rested over the Tabernacle. When they were to move, the cloud was retracted until they reached their new destination and the Tabernacle was erected in the new location.

Exodus 13:21–22 ²¹The LORD was going before them in a pillar of cloud by day to lead them on the way, and in a pillar of fire by night to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night. ²²He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people.

Exodus 40:36–38 ³⁶Throughout all their journeys whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the sons of Israel would set out; ³⁷but if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not set out until the day when it was taken up. ³⁸For throughout all their journeys, the cloud of the LORD was on the tabernacle by day, and there was fire in it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel.

KEY POINTS IN EXODUS

1. Exodus presented God's glory as the predominate story line. Everything in the book revealed the magnificence and glory of the Creator God of the universe.
2. Israel was created for God's purposes. Israel is not a nation God chose out of all the other nations to be His; He created them to be His and He set them apart from all the other nations in the world. Israel's mission was to be a kingdom of priests representing Yahweh to the world (Ex. 19:6).
3. God's people are specifically the sons of Jacob, who was renamed Israel (Gen. 35:10; Ex. 3:10, 15-16). Abraham had other sons and only one of them was in the line of Israel. Isaac had two sons, but only one of them was the father of the Hebrews. Israel had twelve sons and each one of them was the head of one of the twelve tribes of Israel.
4. The sovereignty of God was emphasized. Human beings have a great deal of autonomous free will decision making authority, but that doesn't mean God does not, at times, intervene directly into history in order to bring about the result He desires. Exodus was one of those times. God revealed His sovereign control over history in numerous ways in this book.

5. The miraculous plagues in Egypt were not only for the purpose of convincing Pharaoh to let God's people go, but also for the purpose of showing the false nature of Egypt's gods. Signs, wonders, and miracles have a purpose and that is to authenticate the message from God and the messenger who is bringing the message from God. Satan and his demons can perform miracles; they are false because they point away from God and to the devil rather than pointing to God. That's the difference between true and false signs, wonders, and miracles.
6. The plagues also served the purpose of bringing this most powerful nation in the world at the time to its knees by destroying its infrastructure, its productivity, and its wealth. This was a preview of God's work the world is going to experience during the Tribulation.
7. God is a covenant keeping God; He is a God of fulfilled promises. He remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Ex. 2:24). That is also why He has not replaced Israel with the church; the biblical Covenants have yet to be fulfilled with Israel.
8. God is the God of the supernatural. He can do miraculous things at will, but that in no way indicates these types of vastly public miracles are normal occurrences. They are done at specific times in history for specific purposes.
9. God is the God of redemption. The Passover was a type of Christ's work on the cross that paid the sin debt of the world and provides the opportunity for everyone to have eternal life by means of grace through faith.
10. When God visibly and actively intervenes in human history, the impact is tremendous and people take notice. That was true when He destroyed Egypt, that was true in the Incarnation, and that will be true during the Tribulation and the Messianic Kingdom.
11. God promised Israel blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience. They were not to serve the false gods of the Canaanites.
12. Satan's plan has been to destroy Israel from the beginning of their creation and he is still doing it.