

THE BIBLE YEAR (2023-2024)
Class #3: Moses, the Exodus, Yahweh
(Exodus - תּוֹרַת, shemōt)

1. Review/Questions

Read introduction to section, pages 19-20.

Hermeneutics: Context, Source theory, Oral Tradition, Hebrew
Major Themes - Creation, Sin, Covenant

2. Egyptian gods and Yahweh

3. The Moses Story (Group summary)

- A. Moses' life and call
- B. Plagues
- C. Passover
- D. Other aspects of Moses' life.

4. Journey in the Wilderness

- A. Memorable events - manna, quail, serpents, etc. - trust
- B. Notice the pattern: rebellion, repentance, return
- C. Exodus 20: The Law
(Torah = instruction)
- D. Worship/Rituals (Next week)
- E. Other themes.

5. Closing questions to consider:

- A. Over and over, the Hebrew people face death, and yet, God frees them and provides a way of escape. How has God sustained you or someone in your community by providing “manna” or a “way out”?
- B. Why does God give the commandments? What is the purpose of the law?
- C. How does one decide what laws/customs are for a given time and what have some validity today? (Jesus turns everything upside down.)
- D. Other questions.

6. Closing prayer.

THE BIBLE YEAR (2023-2024)
Class #4: Sacrificial System
(Leviticus)

Review/Questions (Read introduction to section, pages 25-26)

Overview of Leviticus - Worship (Offerings/Sacrifices, Place, Leadership, Atonement, Festivals)

Law/Torah - “Lex Talionis”

Exodus 34

Leviticus 19

Priesthood: Set apart (ordination); Justice; Community Health; Spiritual

Tent of Meeting/Tabernacle/Furnishings (Exodus 35ff)

Sacrifices/Offerings in the Ancient World (Leviticus 1ff)

Burnt Offerings

Cereal Offerings

Peace Offerings

Sin Offering

Atonement (Leviticus 16)

Worship in the Old Testament (Leviticus 23)

Festivals and feasts.

Reforms of Worship/Sacrifice/Offerings in the Old and New Testaments

Levitical worship and modern worship

Closing Prayer