

BO - EXODUS

-Go in, Enter-

Dan Stolebarger - Holy Ground Explorations
Chapters 10:1-13:6

INTRODUCTION



PARASHAT BO - 'Go in, Enter'

4 ...if you refuse to let my people go, behold, tomorrow **I will bring locusts** into your country, 5 and **they shall cover the surface of the earth**, so that one won't be able to see the earth. They shall eat the residue of that which has escaped, which remains to you from the hail, and shall eat every tree which grows for you out of the field. 6 Your houses shall be filled, and the houses of all your servants, and the houses of all the Egyptians, as neither your fathers nor your fathers' fathers have seen, since the day that they were on the earth to this day.'" He turned, and went out from Pharaoh.

7 **Pharaoh's servants said to him, "How long will this man be a snare to us? Let the men go, that they may serve Yahweh, their God. Don't you yet know that Egypt is destroyed?"**

Of the swarm of locusts, God said they would "cover the eye of the land", suggesting that the occultic eye of the Egyptians would be "covered" and made blind.

I BELIEVE
OBAMA
WAS SEND BY GOD

WHY?
DID HE RUN
OUT OF LOCUST?

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²¹ Yahweh said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward the sky, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, **even darkness which may be felt.**" ²² Moses stretched out his hand toward the sky, and there was a thick darkness in all the land of Egypt for three days. ²³ **They didn't see one another, and nobody rose from his place for three days; but all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings.** ²⁴ Pharaoh called to Moses, and said, "Go, serve Yahweh. Only let your flocks and your herds stay behind. Let your little ones also go with you."

According to Jewish tradition, the darkness lasted seven days, with the last three days constituting total and absolute darkness. The darkness was said to be like the primordial and chaotic darkness that existed at the beginning of creation, before God had said, "Let there be light!"

This plague was undoubtedly sent to overthrow the Egyptian god of the sun, Ra.

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²⁷ But Yahweh hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he wouldn't let them go. ²⁸ Pharaoh said to him, "Get away from me! Be careful to see my face no more; for in the day you see my face you shall die!"

²⁹ **Moses said, "You have spoken well. I will see your face again no more."**

God hardened Pharaoh's heart but only *after* the despot had already hardened it by refusing the message of the first five plagues. One sin leads to another. If someone repeatedly refuses to submit to God, the Lord may ratify the decision and prevent repentance (see Paul in Romans 9:17-ff).

Another interpretation: God "strengthened" the king's heart so that he would be able to express his free will – *despite* the afflictions upon Egypt.

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10 Then he said to them, “The Lord had better be with you when I let you and your little ones go! Beware, for evil is ahead of you.

Dan Stolebarger- I wonder how this made Moses feel? I wonder if he had just a little doubt? I wonder if his relationship had grown so much with Yahweh that he knew they would be OK? I wonder

2 I’ve also done it so you can tell your children and grandchildren about how I made a mockery of the Egyptians and about the signs I displayed among them—and so you will know that I am the Lord.”

Sharon Stolebarger - This chapter has always raised a lot of questions in my mind. God tells Moses to tell Pharaoh to let the people go, Pharaoh agrees, changes his mind, plagues come...rewind...repeat...over and over again. In my flesh, I wonder how many eye rolls Moses gave when told yet again to go into Pharaoh and tell him to let the Israelites go. HERE WE GO AGAIN! But then there is verse 2 which gives the reason ... it is for generations to come to look back and ponder the miracles of God - plagues and all!



Yahweh said to Moses, "I will bring yet one more plague on Pharaoh, and on Egypt; afterwards he will let you go. When he lets you go, he will surely thrust you out altogether. ² **Speak now in the ears of the people, and let every man ask of his neighbor, and every woman of her neighbor, jewels of silver, and jewels of gold."**

³ Yahweh gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians. Moreover, the man Moses was very great in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh's servants, and in the sight of the people.

This was for repayment for their years of slavery and the fact that Joseph had created the wealth for Egypt in the first place... More importantly, God had promised Abraham that after his descendants were enslaved for 400 years, He would send them out with great wealth (Gen. 15:13-14).

Note that the Hebrew text has God saying to Moses, "Please ask the people to do this..." since they were reluctant to do this under the circumstances. However, the LORD gave the people great "status" in the eyes of the Egyptians so they were willing to comply.

4 Moses shouted, “This is what Yahweh says: **‘About midnight I will go out into the middle of Egypt, 5 and all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sits on his throne, even to the firstborn of the female servant who is behind the mill, and all the firstborn of livestock. 6** There will be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as there has not been, nor will be any more. 7 But against any of the children of Israel a dog won’t even bark or move its tongue, against man or animal, **that you may know that Yahweh makes a distinction between the Egyptians and Israel.**”

Moses loudly proclaimed that at “about midnight” the LORD would kill all the firstborn people and animals so that there would be a great scream throughout all the land of Egypt – though no evil would befall the Israelites.

It would be a night of sheer terror for Egypt, for there will not be a single Egyptian home that would not experience death. Moses further prophesied that all of Pharaoh’s officials and officers would come and bow down before him, begging for him to take the Israelites out from the land of Egypt... Since Moses was forbidden to appear before Pharaoh (10:28-29), he directly shouted this message out so that the king could hear every word.



9 The LORD had said to Moses, “Pharaoh will refuse to listen to you—so that my wonders may be multiplied in Egypt.”

Andrew Suedkamp - I'll bet that if Moses had it his way, he would have been able to approach Pharaoh at the very beginning, had a conversation where he made convincing arguments and in which God intervened and softened Pharaoh's heart, and the Israelites would have peacefully left the country while bidding their neighbors goodbye. That's what I would have wanted, and I would have told everyone how the Lord's hand was upon it.....and no one would have remembered the story or considered it very remarkable. Our ways are not God's ways, but that doesn't mean He isn't involved or interested - it means that He is in control and divine, and we are not! The way that He allowed this to unfold resulted in no doubt who was in control and was very memorable. Maybe I need to look at certain things in my life from a slightly different perspective - maybe some of you do too!

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Yahweh spoke to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, ² "This month shall be to you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year to you. ³ Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying, '**On the tenth day of this month, they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household;** ⁴ and if the household is too little for a lamb, then he and his neighbor next to his house shall take one according to the number of the souls. You shall make your count for the lamb according to what everyone can eat. ⁵ Your lamb shall be without defect, a male a year old. You shall take it from the sheep or from the goats. **⁶ You shall keep it until the fourteenth day** of the same month; and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at evening. **⁷ They shall take some of the blood, and put it on the two door posts and on the lintel, on the houses in which they shall eat it.** ⁸ They shall eat the meat in that night, roasted with fire, with unleavened bread. They shall eat it with bitter herbs.

"Blemish" - 1 Peter 1:19; Leviticus 22:18-20. Every detail in the scripture about Passover will point to Jesus Christ. Psalm 34:20, one is not to break a bone of the Passover lamb (Exodus 12:46).

The motion of putting the blood on the lintel and the side posts makes a cross.

PASSOVER LAMB

The animal must be flawless, without the slightest blemish, a male that is less than one year old (note that these were the exact qualifications for animals dedicated/worshipped in Egyptian temples). Note that the Hebrew word *seh* (hf,) can mean either a lamb or a kid (goat).

In Jewish tradition, the lamb is intended to recall the merit of the binding of Isaac, though ultimately the Passover foreshadows Yeshua, the great Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

The lamb was to be kept in safekeeping until the 14 of Nisan (i.e. tethered to a bedpost within the house). It would become a pet?

The defect-free lamb was to be offered because it was a symbol of innocence and purity. In addition, the Egyptians worshipped the sheep, and especially the sign of Aries so the sacrifice demonstrated God's power over the occult and astrological powers.

YESHUA

In John 1:29, John the Baptist when he first introduces Jesus (who was his cousin) to the people, he says, "Behold the lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world." He is referring to Passover. Notice in that the language of the text (12:3-6) goes from the indefinite article "a" to "the" to "your" lamb, personally. Throughout these several chapters of instruction about Passover, never does the word "lamb" appear in the plural. Do you have your lamb?



The Passover is a key event in the history of Israel. It becomes an underlying current throughout the entire Old Testament.

It is interesting that by tradition almost every major event in Israel's history is regarded as having occurred on Passover. **The Covenant with Abraham** is regarded as occurring on the Passover, Genesis 15; Abraham is regarded as having **entertained his heavenly guests by the oaks of Mamre** on Passover; **Sodom is regarded as being destroyed** following Passover; **Jericho is regarded to have fallen** on Passover; the **handwriting on the wall in Daniel 5** is regarded to have been on Passover.

These are just traditions, but it is curious that Passover surfaces historically as a significant date. Nisan was the month that **Isaac was born**, and (according to some) the time when **Isaac was offered up and bound to the altar** (Gen. 22). **God appeared to Moses in the burning bush during Nisan** and later redeemed Israel on the first Passover. **Nisan is also the month when Yeshua was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead.** |

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¹¹ This is how you shall eat it: with your belt on your waist, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; **and you shall eat it in haste**: it is Yahweh's Passover.

¹² **For I will go through the land of Egypt in that night, and will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and animal. I will execute judgments against all the gods of Egypt. I am Yahweh.** ¹³ The blood shall be to you for a token on the houses where you are. When I see the blood, **I will pass over you**, and no plague will be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. ¹⁴ This day shall be a memorial for you. You shall keep it as a feast to Yahweh. You shall keep it as a feast throughout your generations by an ordinance forever.

INTRO

According to the Midrash, there were in fact three parties who were in a rush for the Israelites to leave Egypt. The Egyptians, afraid of further plagues and catastrophes, wanted the Hebrew slaves to clear out as quickly as possible. The Israelites were in a hurry lest Pharaoh change his mind yet again and refuse to let them leave.

And there was a third party in a state of urgency. The Midrash speaks of the chipazon of the Shechinah. Why was God in a hurry?

A Hasty Redemption

The redemption from Egypt needed to be fast, like the swift release of an arrow from a bow. Here was a group of slaves who had almost completely forgotten the greatness of their souls, a treasured inheritance from their ancestors who were widely respected as holy princes (see Gen. 23:6). With a decisive wave of God's hand, a nation brimming with courage and nobility of spirit, unlike any people the world had ever seen, was formed. This was the dramatic birth "of a nation from the midst of another nation" on the stage of human history.

A meteoric exodus from Egypt with wonders and miracles was critical to protect this fledgling nation from the dark confusion of universal paganism. The Jewish people needed to be quickly extracted from the idolatrous Egyptian milieu in which they had lived for centuries so that they would be free to raise the banner of pure faith and enlightened ideals.

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²¹ Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel, and said to them, "Draw out, and take lambs according to your families, and kill the Passover. ²² You shall take a **bunch of hyssop**, and dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and strike the lintel and the two door posts with the blood that is in the basin. None of you shall go out of the door of his house until the morning.

"Hyssop" - In [Leviticus 14:4-7](#) the hyssop and the blood are used in the ceremonial cleansing of the leper. Basically the hyssop branch is a means by which the blood of the sacrifice was transferred to the sinner. The hyssop branch, however, shows up in the New Testament as well, right at the crucifixion of Jesus. The hyssop plant and the wine vinegar are symbolizing the substitutionary death of Jesus on our behalf. Look at the hyssop and remember my son.

Rashi states the blood was to be smeared on the inside of the house – as a sign for them (12:13), whereas others say it was smeared on the outside of the house as a sign for the Egyptians. When the people looked at the door and heard the screams outside, they would see the blood and remember how God was showing them mercy and not judging them along with the Egyptians...

This would form the letter Chet which is connected with the word *chai*, short for *chayim*, "life."

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²⁹ At midnight, Yahweh struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of livestock. ³⁰ Pharaoh rose up in the night, he, and all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt, for there was not a house where there was not one dead. ³¹ **He called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, "Rise up, get out from among my people, both you and the children of Israel; and go, serve Yahweh, as you have said! ³² Take both your flocks and your herds, as you have said, and be gone; and bless me also!"**

Midrash: When Pharaoh arose during the night and saw his son dead, he grabbed his sword and began killing all his advisors and officers (as well as their family members). He began to run through the streets trying to find Moses and Aaron, crying out "Moses! Where are you?" He went to the Hebrew ghetto and then began screaming: "Get out! Get out! All you Hebrews - leave my country!" Finally he found Moses and said, "Go, and bless me too," which was thought to mean that he really meant, "Go on your three day festival.. but you will still return to me."

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³⁵ The children of Israel did according to the word of Moses; and they asked of the Egyptians jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and clothing. ³⁶ Yahweh gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they let them have what they asked. **They plundered the Egyptians.**

⁴⁰ Now the time that the children of Israel lived in Egypt was **four hundred thirty years.**
⁴¹ At the end of four hundred thirty years, to the day, all of Yahweh's armies went out from the land of Egypt. ⁴² It is a night to be much observed to Yahweh for bringing them out from the land of Egypt. **This is that night of Yahweh, to be much observed by all the children of Israel throughout their generations.**

Passover is regarded as the birth of the nation. The NATION was born out of Egypt.

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47-49: All the congregation of the children of Israel shall keep it. But when a stranger dwells with you and wants to keep the Lord's Pascha, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and sacrifice it; and he shall be as a native of the land. For no uncircumcised person shall eat it. One law shall be for the native-born and for the stranger who dwells among you."

Glen Iverson – Jesus used the Passover supper to institute the New Covenant in Matthew 26. While Passover was for the Hebrews leaving Egypt with circumcision being the sign of the covenant, the New Covenant is circumcision of the heart (Romans 2). The New Covenant through Jesus fulfilling Passover is available to all. When our churches do communion, this is the event that it all points back to.

3 Moses said to the people, **"Remember this day**, in which you came out of Egypt, out of the house of bondage; for by strength of hand Yahweh brought you out from this place. No leavened bread shall be eaten. 4 Today you go out in the month Abib. 5 It shall be, when Yahweh brings you into the land of the Canaanite, and the Hittite, and the Amorite, and the Hivite, and the Jebusite, which he swore to your fathers to give you, **a land flowing with milk and honey, that you shall keep this service in this month.** 6 Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, and in the seventh day shall be a feast to Yahweh.

"Abib" - alternative word for Nisan (both stand for same 1st month of the ecclesiastical year).

3 Moses said to the people, "Remember this day in which you went out from Egypt, from the house of slavery; for by a powerful hand the Lord brought you out from this place. And nothing leavened shall be eaten.

6 For seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, and on the seventh day there shall be a feast to the Lord.

Troy Anderson – Feasts to the Lord and remembering all that He has done is lacking in the lives of Christians. We have everything from Christmas Trees to Easter Eggs, from Santa to the Easter Bunny. Time to enjoy family and friends while we laugh and eat together is a wonderful thing but what do we do where the focus and attention is on God and what He has done?