

EXODUS

LITERARY TYPE: Historical Narrative.

AUTHOR: The author is not mentioned in the text itself, but tradition credits Moses as the author for the reasons stated in the Genesis LADROCK and also the following additional reasons:

- 1:1 indicates that Exodus is a continuation of Genesis, which we believe Moses wrote.
- There are indications within the book that Moses kept written records (see Exodus 17:14, 24:4, 34:27). He could have used these writing to collate this book.
- He was educated as an Egyptian prince so would have had the skills as a writer and historian to do so.
- He is the only recorded eyewitness to all the events of Exodus, including the details of his own birth and childhood, the account of when he killed the Egyptian officer etc.
- Other writers refer to Moses as being the author of Exodus/the Law (see Joshua 8:31 and Luke 20:28).

DATE: 1446BC is the suggested date given for when the Israelites left Egypt, according to what is written in 1 Kings 6:1 (*'In the four hundred and eightieth year after the people of Israel came out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel'* [ESV]).

So from this, we know that the events of the book occurred around this time in history, but it is not certain when Moses actually wrote them down. Did he record events as they happened? Or did he write the content of this book later in his life, reflecting back?

RECIPIENTS: The Israelites

OCCASION:

- To continue the history of Israel begun in Genesis
- To continue revealing the personal, relational and covenant making nature of God
- To show God's concern for, and power to rescue, His people
- To provide moral, social and spiritual laws for Israel

CONTENT SURVEY:

Part One: Israel in need of deliverance (1)

How Israel came to Egypt (1 – 1:7)

Egypt oppresses the Israelites (1:8 – 1:22)

Part Two: Preparing for deliverance (2:1 – 7:13)

Birth and childhood of Moses (2:1 – 2:10)

Moses in Midian (2:11 – 2:25)

God calls Moses at the burning bush (3:1 – 4:12)

Aaron appointed to help Moses (4:13 – 4:17)

Moses returns to Egypt (4:18 – 4:31)
Moses and Aaron before Pharaoh (5:1 – 5:5)
The oppression worsens (5:6 – 6:13)
Genealogy of Moses and Aaron (6:14 – 6:27)
Aaron's rod becomes a snake (6:28 – 7:13)

Part Three: Deliverance begins: the ten plagues (7:14 – 11:10)

Plague 1: waters become flood (7:14 – 7:25)
Plague 2: frogs (8:1 – 15)
Plague 3: gnats (8:16 – 8:19)
Plague 4: flies (8:20 – 8:32)
Plague 5: livestock pestilence (9:1 – 9:7)
Plague 6: boils (9:8 – 9:12)
Plague 7: hail and lightning (9:13 – 9:35)
Plague 8: locusts (10:1 – 10:20)
Plague 9: darkness (10:21 – 10:29)
Plague 10: foretold: death of firstborn (11)

Part Four: Deliverance comes: the Exodus (12:1 – 15:21)

Passover (12:1 – 12:28)
Plague 10: death of firstborn (12:29 – 12:30)
The Exodus (12:31 – 12:51)
Consecration of the firstborn (13:1 – 13:16)
Crossing the Red Sea (13:17 – 14:31)
Songs of victory (15:1 – 15:21)

Part Five: Deliverance forgotten (15:22 – 18:27)

The people grow discontent (15:22 – 15:27)
God sends manna and quail (16)
God sends water from a rock (17:1 – 7)
Israel defeats the Amalekites (17:8 – 17:16)
Jethro helps Moses (18)

Part Six: The Covenant at Sinai (19 – 31)

The covenant offered and accepted (19:1 – 19:8)
Israel prepares to hear from God (19:9 – 19:25)
The ten commandments (20)
Social laws (21 – 23)
Israel again accepts the covenant (24)
Laws of worship (25 – 31)

Part Seven: The Covenant is broken and renewed (32 – 34)

The golden calf (32)

Moses and the glory of God (33)

The covenant renewed (34)

Part Eight: The Tabernacle (35 – 40)

Materials (35)

Craftsmen and furnishings (36 – 38)

Priestly garments (39)

Dedication (40)

KEY VERSE:

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

Sources: Willmington’s Bible Handbook and SOTW lectures