

Exodus 3:14; 6:2-3 God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM"; and He said, "Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God spoke further to Moses and said to him, "I am the LORD; and I appeared to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, as God Almighty, but *by My name, LORD, I did not make Myself known to them.*

Part One: Exodus 1-18

Basic theme: God makes Himself known to Israel and to the entire world by means of various miracles to show that He is the only God and protects His Chosen People.

Alternate outline:

1. The Name of God (1:1-15:21)
 - a. The name unknown (1:1-2:25)
 - b. The name made known (3:1-14:29)
 - c. The name known and believed upon (14:30-31)
 - d. The name exalted (15:1-21)
2. YHWH Educates About His Name (15:22-17:16)
 - a. YHWH provides for His people (Jehovah Rapha)
 - b. YHWH fights for His people (Jehovah Nissi)
 - c. YHWH instructs His people (Jehovah Nasah)
3. Moses Evangelizes (18:1-27)
 - a. Jethro hears (18:1-8)
 - b. Jethro believes (18:9-11)
 - c. Jethro worships (18:12)
 - d. Jethro advises (18:13-27)

Part Two: Exodus 19-40

Basic theme: God makes Himself known through the covenantal relationship with Israel.

1. The initial treaty between YHWH and Israel (19:1-9)
 - a. If you obey YHWH (Exodus 19:5)
 - b. You shall be a kingdom of priests (19:6)
2. YHWH comes down to meet the people (19:10-25)
3. The Decalogue – The basics of the covenant (20:1-26)
4. Laws for worship and justice (21-24)
5. Instructions for the Tabernacle (25-31)
6. The golden calf incident (32-34)

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- a. Israel's failure
 - b. Moses' intercession
 - c. YHWH's mercy
7. The construction of the Tabernacle (35-40)

Date

Exodus 19:1-2 – Three months after they left they came to and camped at the mountain of God.

Numbers 10:11 – Second year in the second month on the 20th day, they left the mountain.

The year of the Exodus, according to our current dating system, is 1446 BC and they leave the mountain to go into the Promised Land at 1444 BC. After the failure of Kadesh-Barnea, they finally enter into the land through Jericho around 1404 BC.

Historical Context

During the time of the Exodus and the eventual conquest of Canaan, there are many important developments and events. An understanding of the historical context becomes vital when we start moving forward into the wilderness wanderings and the eventual conquest of Canaan. Many times, secular historians refuse to include Israel. We need to develop and understand how the history of the world interacts with biblical history. Doing so will provide a better understating of the interactions of various kingdoms, will help us better understand historical events when explored outside of the Bible, and we will see the influence of YHWH upon all the world's civilizations as He establishes kings and kingdoms.

Phoenicia is becoming prominent. The Phoenicians were a Mediterranean civilization and were known for the vast trade routes throughout the Mediterranean Sea. Their system and expertise meant that travel and communication were becoming easier and more widespread over a relatively short time frame.

They are the known for establishing an alphabet and are credited for the spread of "phonetic" systems, which have influence on almost all languages today. It is believed that Greek, Latin, and English have their roots in the Phoenician language and alphabet.

They are responsible for establishing the cities of Tyre, Sidon, and Byblos. They also established colonies in the West—Cyprus, Sicily, Sardinia, Malta, Southern Spain and Northern Africa. They created an empire but not by war; this was an empire built on trade. Their commercial empire would last for nearly a millennium and had a prominent relationship with Israel. In biblical terms, they were the people of the sea, primarily known as Philistines.

The Hittites (Kingdom of Hattusa) were also becoming powerful. They are well known for their development of iron smelting and established a strong advantage in iron trade. The area that they controlled primarily was that of modern-day Turkey.

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The Hittites play a prominent role in the Bible: Ephron the Hittite sells Abraham the family burial ground (Genesis 23); Esau married Hittite women and Rebecca despised the Hittites (Genesis 26); frequently they are listed as one of the inhabitants of Canaan (e.g., Exodus 13:5; Numbers 13:29; Joshua 11:3); David had Uriah the Hittite killed in order to acquire Uriah's wife (2 Samuel 11); King Solomon had Hittites among his many wives (1 Kings 10:29–11:2; 2 Chronicles 1:17); and the prophet Ezekiel degrades Israel with the metaphor of a Hittite mother (Ezekiel 16:3, 45).

Assyria was not yet established, but the seeds are planted. They are in the upper regions of the Mesopotamian ridge originating from the city of Assur. They establish their independence as their own kingdom from the ancient Babylonians around 1360 BC, about 80 years after the conquest of Jericho. They eventually had Nineveh as their capital. The account of Jonah is the most well known interaction in the Bible, but the most important fact is the judgment of the Northern Kingdom of Israel by the hands of the Assyrians in 721 BC. A Christophany, the Angel of YHWH, killed 185,000 Assyrian soldiers in one night. Assyria fell to the Babylonians (with help from the Medes and Scythians) in 621 BC.

Babylon has always been prominent and is thought to have had the largest population prior to its fall to the Hittites, about 200,000 people living in its walls, around 1600 BC. They eventually become part of the Assyrian empire around 1235 BC, but later (612-540 BC) become the super power in the world and are used by God to take the Southern Kingdom of Judah captive and Jerusalem is destroyed in 586 BC.

Egypt is in ruins and does not become a major threat for around 400 years. Egypt does make its way back into prominence and Solomon makes a treaty with Egypt by marrying one of that Pharaoh's daughters. Eventually they become hardened enemies. Pharaoh Neco killed Josiah in 609 BC.

Conclusion

As God is preparing Israel in the Midian desert and at the mount of God, YHWH is also preparing various nations, cities, and kings. God prepares them for interaction with Israel and YHWH prepares Israel for interaction with these nations.

Why? In Exodus 40:34-38, we see the tabernacle is completed and the glory of YHWH comes into the tabernacle. As the people move and interact with the nations, the presence of YHWH is well seen and His popularity becomes well known throughout the entire world.

The nations' interaction with Israel provides an opportunity for Israel as priests (mediators between God and man) to evangelize the truth of YHWH.

1. The Righteousness of YHWH
2. The Response of YHWH to Unrighteousness
3. The Substitutionary Atonement System
4. The Messianic Hope