



A Biblical Theology of Exodus

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Cornerstone Catholic Scripture
Study

Preview

- Historical Coordinates
- Narrative Composition
 - Act 1: The Call of Moses
 - Act 2: Signs and Wonders
 - Act 3: Sinai Covenant
 - Act 4: Rival Loyalties
- Elements of Biblical Theology
 - Key Terms
 - Key Concepts

- Greatest Hits



Exodus: Biblical Theology

- Name
 - Beginning
 - Genesis resonances
 - Moses
 - YHWH
 - Faithful forever, necessary being
 - Shiprah/Puah, “Pharaoh”?
- Know
 - Covenant (Gen 4:1)
- Serve
 - “work” – “worship”
 - *leiturgia*



Exodus: Biblical Theology

- Problem of Idolatry
 - Familiarity
 - Ignorance of God's name (3:13)
 - Plagues as divine warfare (12:12)
 - Holiness: separation (32:6)
- Divine Name
 - Necessary being (ὁ ὢν), forever faithful (*ehyeh*)
- Tabernacle
 - Glory “settled” (Exod 40:35)
- Primacy of Ten Commandments
 - Law: moral, ritual, judicial
 - Special gift (Matt 5:17-20; 21-48)
- Prefiguring Baptism
 - Water destroys evil, as means to salvation (1 Cor 10:2)
- Prefiguring Eucharist
 - Provisions for a New Exodus (John 6:49)
 - Manna: foretaste of Promised Land (Exod 16:31; 3:8...honey)
 - Passover (spotless lamb, death pass, feast as memorial)
 - Bread of the Presence (12 loaves), as a “memorial” offering and “covenant forever”.



Act 1: The Call of Moses

- Israel in Egypt (1-2)
 - Infanticide: land-grab and existential crisis
- “Holy” Ground (3)
 - Sandal idiom



Act 2: Signs and Wonders

- Pharaoh vs. God (5-6)
 - Firstborn son (Exod 4:22-23); apt punishment
 - “hardened heart”?
- Signs and Wonders (7-11)
 - Judgment on Egypt’s gods: Sobek, Hapi, and Heqt
 - Failed compromise: deicide

- Passover (12-13)
 - Israel takes a stand: for YHWH!



Act 3: Sinai Covenant



- Struggles in Wilderness (16-17)
 - Hunger and thirst
 - Purpose: trust the Father (Deut 8)
- Coming to Covenant (19-24)
 - Horeb or Sinai?
- Renewed Covenant
 - Like and unlike covenant with Abraham
- Ten Commandments
 - Religion as relationship with God
- Response
 - Kinship by Covenant

Act 4: Rival Loyalties



- Golden Calf (Exod 32)
 - Plagues: for Egypt and Israel
- Change in Priesthood (Exod 32)
 - No trust in God (spring)
 - New organization/leadership
- Renewed Covenant (Exod 33-34)
 - Merciful and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast mercy and faithfulness (34:6)
 - Glory veiled