From Egypt To Canaan

THE BOOKS OF
EXODUS, LEVITICUS, NUMBERS
AND DEUTERONOMY

A Thirteen Lesson Bible Study
by Jeff S. Smith
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A PASSAGE THROUGH THE OLD TESTAMENT
Year One, Quarter Two
From Egypt To Canaan

A PASSAGE THROUGH THE OLD TESTAMENT is designed to take a Bible class all the way through the thirty-nine books of the Old Testament in two years’ time. Sacrifices were made to arrange this pace, especially in obscure passages such as some found in the Pentateuch, major prophets and wisdom literature. Topical class books can supplement the cursory study of these books at other times, however, so that no part of God’s writ is slighted.

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Lesson 1: Call of Moses
Exodus 1-5

1. Who was Joseph in Egypt (Exodus 1:1-7)?

2. Why did the new pharaoh fear the Hebrews (1:8-22)?

3. How did the Egyptians treat the Hebrews? Did the Hebrews die as the taskmasters afflicted them?

4. What did the pharaoh instruct the midwives of the Hebrews? Why did they refuse?

5. Explain the cunning of Moses’ sister (2:1-10).

6. What was Moses’s crime (2:11-15)? Did he have good intentions?

7. How are the two events in Exodus 2:16-25 related (Moses’s benevolence and God hearing Israel’s moaning)?

8. How did God appear to Moses (3:1-10)? What did he require Moses to do there?
9. What promise to Abraham was God intending to fulfill now? What was Moses’s role to be?

10. How did Moses reply to this invitation to service (3:11-22)?

11. What did God tell Moses to call him before the people?

12. Did God believe Pharaoh might let the Hebrews go immediately?

13. What three miraculous abilities did God give Moses to confirm the word (4:1-9)?
   a. 
   b. 
   c. 

14. What was Moses’s objection now (4:10-17)? How did God respond?

15. How did the people respond to Moses and Aaron (4:18-31)?

16. How did Pharaoh respond to Moses’s first entreaty (5:1-9)?

17. What did the people say to Moses (5:10-23)? What did Moses say to God?
Lesson 2: The Nine Plagues
Exodus 6-10

1. To whom had God appeared before Moses (Exodus 6:1-9)? What had he promised to give them? How can he keep this promise since they are all dead?

2. What were God’s intentions concerning the Hebrews (verse 7)? Did the people cooperate this plan at first? Why or why not?

3. How can these things get in the way of a person accepting Christ (Matthew 13:18-22)?

4. What effect did the people’s attitude have on Moses (6:10-30)?

5. What did God plan to do with Pharaoh’s heart? How (7:1-7)?

6. What purpose would be served in Egypt by going through this process?

7. Make a list of the ten plagues (7:8-11:5):
   1. 
   2. 
   3. 
   4. 
   5. 
   6. 
   7. 
   8. 
   9. 
   10.

8. What made Pharaoh’s heart hard against the serpent miracle (7:8-13)?
9. What was the physical effect of the first plague (7:14-25)? Was Pharaoh moved?

Moses turned the water into blood, which made the fish die and the river stink. Pharaoh was unmoved because his magicians copied the miracle.

10. What was the physical effect of the second plague (8:1-15)? Was Pharaoh moved?

Frogs covered the land and filled every inch of it. Pharaoh promised to let the Hebrews go if the plague were relieved, but did not. Relief hardened his heart.

11. What was the physical effect of the third plague (8:16-19)? Was Pharaoh moved?

Lice covered man and beast. Although the magicians could not copy it, Pharaoh was still hard-hearted.

12. What was the physical effect of the fourth plague (8:20-32)? Was Pharaoh moved?

Swarms of flies filled the land. Pharaoh was so afflicted that he agreed to let the people go but relief hardened his heart again. Pharaoh hardened his heart.

13. What was the physical effect of the fifth plague (9:1-7)? Was Pharaoh moved?

A very severe pestilence fell on all the animals but Pharaoh was unmoved.

14. What was the physical effect of the sixth plague (9:8-12)? Was Pharaoh moved?

Boils appeared on the skin of the Egyptians. The magicians could not copy it because they were also afflicted. Still Pharaoh was hard.

15. What was the physical effect of the seventh plague (9:13-35)? Was Pharaoh moved?

Hail and a great thunderstorm hit the nation and damaged the crops and animals. Pharaoh admitted sin and begged for relief. He hardened his heart when relief came.

16. What was the physical effect of the eighth plague (10:1-21)? Was Pharaoh moved?

Locusts covered the land and ate what was left. Again, relief hardened his heart.

16. What was the physical effect of the ninth plague (10:22-29)? Was Pharaoh moved?

The light was eclipsed for three days and Pharaoh agreed to release his slaves. He changed his mind when the price grew to include sacrifice animals. He sent Moses away, claiming he would never see Pharaoh's face again. Moses agreed with that.
Lesson 3: The Passover
Exodus 11-13

1. What outcome did God foresee for the tenth plague (Exodus 11:1-10)?

2. How did the common Egyptians feel about Moses and the Israelites?

3. What was the effect of the tenth plague going to be on the people? How did Pharaoh react to this announcement?

4. What did God tell the people to do with some of the lamb’s blood (12:1-11)? What did God call this odd observance?

5. What was the purpose of the blood on the doorposts (12:12-20)? What observance was to follow Passover? What did it mark?

6. For how long were the Hebrews to mark these events (12:21-28)? How were they to impress them upon their children?
7. Why was there a great cry in Egypt that night (12:29-36)? How did Pharaoh react? How did the Egyptians treat the Hebrews now?

8. How long were the Hebrews in Egypt (12:37-50)?

9. How did Moses describe the land of Canaan (13:1-10)? What was to be in their mouths after God redeemed them?

10. What further command did Moses give them to mark the death of Egypt’s firstborn (13:11-16)?

11. Why did God make them detour around Philistia (13:17-22)?

12. What special burden was Moses carrying? Why?

13. How did God appear to Israel?
Lesson 4: Crossing the Red Sea
Exodus 14-18

1. In Exodus 14:1-18, God reiterates why he is rescuing the Hebrews in this manner. What does he say?

2. How did the Israelites feel when they saw the Egyptians in pursuit? What was their faithless complaint?

3. How did God intend to rescue the Hebrews from this pursuit?

4. What was the effect of the Angel of God in the pillar of cloud (14:19-31)?

5. What effect did their escape have upon the Hebrews and their faith?

6. Considering this expression of worship, how could it be possible these people could ever fall away from God (15:1-21)?

7. Did the Red Sea crossing alleviate their fears and complaints about finding physical sustenance in the wilderness (15:22-27)? What does this show?
8. What promise did God make through Moses? How was it conditional?

9. Now about what are they complaining (16:1-10)? What one word would you use to describe the Hebrew people on this journey so far? How can Christians do likewise?

10. How did God test the people’s willingness to obey him (16:11-36)?

11. What was the Hebrews’ question and how did Moses characterize it (17:1-7)?

12. What was the purpose of blessing Israel’s warfare only when Moses’s hands were outstretched (17:8-15)? What did Moses call the altar he built?

13. How did Jethro react to the news about Egypt (18:1-12)?

14. What was Jethro’s advice to Moses (18:13-27)?
Lesson 5: The Ten Commandments
Exodus 19-31

1. What promise did God make to Israel (Exodus 19:1-25)? How was it conditional?

2. How did the people react?

3. How did their attire matter at all to God?

4. Briefly summarize the ten commandments in order (20:1-21):
   1. 
   2. 
   3. 
   4. 
   5. 
   6. 
   7. 
   8. 
   9. 
   10. 

5. Evidently God did not have total nudity in mind in this prohibition against steps (20:22-26). Understanding the robes worn by priests of that day, how would their nakedness be exposed while climbing steps (Exodus 28:42).

6. What four crimes warranted the death penalty in this passage (21:1-17)?
7. Why would it have been a crime to kill an unborn child (21:18-36)?

8. How did God handle matters wherein a person was negligent and someone else suffered?

9. What three other crimes demand the death penalty under the Old Law (22:1-31)?

10. Why were they forbidden to oppress strangers in their midst (23:1-33)? What did God command them to do with the inhabitants of Canaan?

11. What three feasts were they to keep?

12. What did Moses read to the people (24:1-18)? What did they say?

13. How were the people to give to God (25:1-40)? For what purpose?

14. Of what family was the priesthood to come (26:1-30:38)?

15. Who were the two main artisans (31:1-11)?

16. What was the penalty for profaning the Sabbath (31:12-18)? How was it profaned?

17. With what did Moses leave the mountain?
Lesson 6: The Golden Calf
Exodus 32-40

1. Why were the people suddenly afraid again (Exodus 32:1-10)? What did they suggest to Aaron as a remedy?

2. Why should he have known better? What did he do instead of refusing?

3. Did Aaron think he had completely rejected God? Explain. What did the people do after his feast? What did God want to do with the apostates?

4. How did Moses get the Lord to relent (32:11-18)? Was Joshua also guilty?

5. What did Moses do upon returning to the camp (32:19-29)? What is identified as Aaron’s crime?

6. This passage sounds like the tales of the Alamo. What did Moses say in the entrance of the camp after hearing Aaron’s plea?

7. Whom does God blot out of his book (32:30-35)?
8. What bad news did Moses deliver to the people from God (33:1-6)? What does this mean?

9. How did the people know God was talking with Moses (33:7-11)?

10. Why could Moses not be allowed to see God’s face (33:12-23)? What did Moses see? How do you reconcile verse 11 with verse 20?

11. What does God mean when he says that he will not clear the guilty (34:1-7)? How does God visit the iniquity of the parents on the children?

12. What did God say his name was (34:8-26)? What does this mean?

13. Why did Moses veil his face (34:27-35; see Second Corinthians 3:13)?

14. What are the Hebrews constructing in this long passage (35:1-40:38)? Was there a pattern?
Lesson 7: Nadab and Abihu
Leviticus 1-10

1. Why was the offering to be unblemished (Leviticus 1:1-17)? How could a person’s own attitude be blemished in his giving?

2. What animals could be sacrificed as burnt offerings? Why was this offering a sweet aroma to God?

3. Why did the priests get to keep some of the offering (2:1-16)?

4. What was the third kind of sacrifice (3:1-17)?

5. What kind of sin was provided for in this offering (4:1-12)?

6. What kind of sin was provided for in this offering (4:13-21)? When was the offering to be executed (verse 14)?

7. Whose sin is discussed here (4:22-26)?

8. Whose sin is considered here (4:27-35)?

9. What are the three basic types of sins mentioned in this passage (5:1-13)?
10. What kind of sins is God concerned with here (5:14-19)?

11. How might a man defraud his neighbor (6:1-7)? What was the penalty?

12. Whose family would be most interested in these commands (6:8-7:38)?

13. What is going on in chapter eight (8:1-36)?

14. How did the people know that all this sacrificing was real and necessary (9:1-24)?

15. What was the mistake of Nadab and Abihu (10:1-7)? How did God punish them? Why did he punish them so severely?

16. What distinction were the priests to learn (10:8-20)? Why?

17. Why was Moses mad at Eleazar and Ithamar? How was he satisfied?
Lesson 8: Holy Living

Leviticus 11-27

1. Leviticus chapter eleven deals with animal impurities. Among land animals, what could the people eat (1-12)? What could they eat from the water?

2. What could they not eat among birds (11:13-23)? Could they eat some insects?

3. What effect did eating or touching these abominations have on a person (11:24-47)?

4. What happened on the eighth day of a male child’s life (12:1-8)?

5. What disease demanded that God produce legislation to stem its spread (13:1-14:57)?

6. What does chapter 15 concern (15:1-33)?

7. What did the scapegoat symbolize (16:1-22)?

8. What were the people to do on this day (16:23-34)? How often was this event to take place?

9. Where does God say the life of the flesh is located (17:1-15)?

   - verses 6-18:
   - verse 19:
   - verse 20:
   - verse 21:
   - verse 22:
   - verse 23:
11. How were the Hebrews to provide for the poor and the stranger (19:1-19)? Is rebuke necessarily an expression of hatred? Is vengeance and grudge-holding permissible?

12. What are divination, soothsaying and mediums (19:20-37)?

13. Who was Molech (20:1-27; cf. First Kings 11:5-8, Second Kings 23:10)?


15. List the seven holy convocations under the Old Covenant (23:1-44).
   1. verse 3:
   2. verses 5-8:
   3. verses 9-14:
   4. verses 15-22:
   5. verses 23-25:
   6. verses 26-32:
   7. verses 33-36:

16. What happened to the Hebrew who blasphemed God’s name (24:1-23)?

17. To whom did all things continue to belong (25:1-55)?

18. How would life be if the Hebrews obeyed God (26:1-46)?

Lesson 9: Leaving Sinai for Canaan
Numbers 1-10

1. How does this book get its name (Numbers 1:1-16)?

2. What were the qualifications for being counted? How many were there total (1:17-46)?

3. What tribe was left out (1:47-54)? Why?

4. How was Israel to organize itself (2:1-34)? With what symbols?

5. God had always taken the firstborn as a blood sacrifice, but not among humans and certainly not among the Hebrews (3:1-51). What did he take instead?

6. What was the age limitation placed on numbering the Levites (4:1-49)? How many were there?

7. Who was to be put out of the camp (5:1-4)? Why?

8. How could adultery be discovered if a husband was suspicious (5:5-31)?
9. What was required of a Nazirite (6:1-27)?

10. How was the tabernacle furnished (7:1-89)?

11. What was the Levites’ tabernacle retirement age (8:1-26)?

12. What event did God want them to mark in the first month of the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt (9:1-14)?

13. Why were some men not prepared to mark this event? Is God’s allowance in this passage extended to those who disregard worship for laziness or recreation? To whom is it extended?

14. Who was to lead Israel on their long pilgrimage (9:15-23)?

15. Why did God tell them to make trumpets (10:1-10)?

16. What caused the Israelites to start moving (10:11-36)?
Lesson 10: Loyalty and Disloyalty En Route
Numbers 11-21

1. Why were the people complaining (Numbers 11:1-9)? How did God respond?

2. How was Moses handling the pressure of leadership (11:10-23)?

3. God has two plans in mind to help Moses and the people’s hunger. What are they?

4. To what did God’s people yield (11:24-35)?

5. How did Miriam and Aaron criticize Moses (12:1-16)? How did God respond?

6. How many spies did Moses send out toward the land of promise (13:1-25)? How long did they labor in spying?

7. What kind of report did they bring back (13:26-33)? What did Caleb want to do about it?

8. Upon hearing this dangerous report, what did the congregation desire to do (14:1-19)? Only four men expressed courage to follow God. List them.
9. Why didn’t God consume the rest of Israel that day (14:20-45)? How did he decide to punish the cowards?

10. What was the blue thread in the tassel to mean (15:1-40)?

11. How did Korah and his followers accuse Moses and Aaron (16:1-27)?

12. What happened to Korah and his rebels (16:28-50)?

13. Why did Aaron’s rod blossom (17:1-13)?

14. What duty did God give the Levites of Aaron’s family (18:1-32)?

15. What was the significance of the death being outside the camp (19:1-22; see also Hebrews 13:10-16)?

16. What was Moses’ and Aaron’s sin (20:1-13, 22-29)? What was their punishment?

17. Who was the father of the Edomites (20:14-21; see Genesis 36:1)? How did his descendants treat the descendants of Jacob here?

18. How did Moses save the people from the serpents (21:1-9)? Could they be saved without obeying the command (see also John 3:14-17)?

19. How was Israel able to defeat all these mighty peoples (21:10-35)?
Lesson 11: Balaam and Balak
Numbers 22-36

1. Who was Balak (Numbers 22:1-12)? What did he fear?

2. Why did he call Balaam? How did he hope to secure the prophet’s services? What did God tell Balaam?

3. Because the prophet really wanted to go to do the work and make the money, God told him to go (22:13-41). What happened along the way to rebuke Balaam? What did Balaam promise to preach?

4. Did Balaam serve God or Balak (23:1-30)? How?

5. What did Balaam see in the future of Israel (24:1-25)?

6. How did the Hebrews find themselves cursed by the Moabites anyway (25:1-16)? How did Phinehas save them from themselves?

7. What was the purpose of this census (26:1-65)?

8. What did God tell Moses to see (27:1-23)? Why? Who would succeed Moses?
9. What was the theme of chapters twenty-eight and twenty-nine?

10. What was God’s law on taking oaths (30:1-16)?

11. What mistake did the Hebrews make as they conquered Midian (31:1-54)? Why did they have this command in the first place? What did Balaam earn for his labors?

12. What were the terms of the deal that Reuben and Gad made with Moses and the rest of Israel (32:1-39)?

13. What would happen to Israel if she failed to drive out the Canaanites (33:1-56)?

14. What was the purpose of chapter 34?

15. What was the purpose of the cities of refuge (35:1-15)?

16. What was the penalty for intentional murder (35:16-34)?

17. Where were the Israelites while all this was going on (36:1-13)?
Lesson 12: Moses’s Review
Deuteronomy 1-4

1. How long was the journey supposed to have taken (Deuteronomy 1:1-4)? How long did it take? Why (Numbers 14:33-34)?

2. What had been Moses’s problem (Deuteronomy 1:5-25)? How did he solve it?

3. Why did the people want spies to go into the land first?

4. How did the spies discourage the people (1:26-46)? How did Moses try to encourage them?

5. Who would actually enter the land after this rebellion? What did the people want to do when they heard this news?

6. In reality, what did the Israelites lack during their pilgrimage (2:1-25)?

7. Why did God make them wander so long?
8. Whom did Israel battle after their peace offer was rejected (2:26-37)?

9. Who was next delivered into Israel’s hands (3:1-11)?

10. What did God tell Joshua to encourage him to carry on (3:12-22)?

11. Why did God only let Moses look at Canaan, but not enter it (3:23-29)?

12. What command does Moses give about respect for God’s law (4:1-4)?

13. What would make the other nations praise the wisdom and understanding of Israel (4:5-10)?

14. What warning did Moses give Israel because she had never actually seen her God’s form (4:11-24)?

15. Was God’s promise of this homeland conditional or unconditional (4:25-49)? If conditional, what were the requirements?
1. When were the ten commandments first given (Deuteronomy 5:1-22)?

When the people had crossed the Red Sea, God gave the commandments.

2. What was God’s hope for the people (5:23-33)?

God wished they would have a heart to always fear and obey him that it might be well.

3. What is the “great commandment” (6:1-25)?

Love God with all your heart, soul and strength.

4. How were the Hebrews to treat the people they were displacing from Canaan (7:1-26)?

They were to conquer them without mercy and destroy all their idolatry.

5. What was the warning of Deuteronomy 8:20? Did they heed it?

God warned them that if they became like the pagans, they would die like them. They did not heed the warning and were cut off in the end.

6. Had they earned the promised land (9:1-29)? Is it a gift, then, of God’s grace?

No, they could not earn it, for it was a gift from God.

7. What does God require of men (10:1-22)?

To fear him, walk in his ways, love him and to serve him and keep his commandments.

8. What would bring a curse upon Israel (11:1-32)?

Going after other gods or rejecting God’s commands.
9. What is the wrong standard for worship (12:1-32)? What was the punishment for idolatry or tempting another to commit idolatry?

10. What is the point of this long passage (13:1-27:26)?

11. Of whom did Moses speak when he talked of a Prophet to come (18:15-19)? What was the test of any prophet (18:20-22)?

12. What condition did God put upon his blessing of Israel (28:1-68)?

13. What should be the extent of our investigation of the things God keeps secret from man (29:1-29)?

14. Why should Israel have clung to God (30:1-20)?

15. Why was Joshua chosen to lead Israel (31:1-13)?

16. Explain whether God foreknew that Israel would fall away and be destroyed (31:14-29)?

17. Where and when did Moses die (31:30-34:12)?