



The Essentials: Exodus

Session 4

Exodus 11:1 – 12:14

Opening Collect

Together: Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Watch Video

Read: Exodus 11:1 – 12:14

Discussion:

1. Throughout the early portions of Exodus God describes how he will stand against Pharaoh. Reflect on all that Pharaoh has done to Israel (think back to session 1). Why do you think God seems so intent on defeating Pharaoh and his armies?
2. The litany of plagues that come before our passage are certainly challenging to read—especially this last plague! However, what do these plagues say about God's commitment to his people?
3. Amidst all the rich symbolism in the Passover meal, what are the details that stand out to you?
4. The redemption of the Israelites from slavery also reflects God's redemption of our own lives. How do you think the Passover meal reflects God's redemptive work in our lives even now?
5. Where do you find hope in this passage?

Check in and Closing Prayer

Exodus 11:1 – 12:14

The LORD said to Moses, “I will bring one more plague upon Pharaoh and upon Egypt; afterward he will let you go from here; indeed, when he lets you go, he will drive you away.”² Tell the people that every man is to ask his neighbor and every woman is to ask her neighbor for objects of silver and gold.”³ The LORD gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians. Moreover, Moses himself was a man of great importance in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh’s officials and in the sight of the people.

⁴ Moses said, “Thus says the LORD, ‘About midnight I will go out through Egypt.’⁵ Every firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sits on his throne to the firstborn of the female slave who is behind the handmill and all the firstborn of the livestock.⁶ Then there will be a loud cry throughout the whole land of Egypt, such as has never been or will ever be again.⁷ But not a dog shall growl at any of the Israelites—not at people, not at animals—so that you may know that the LORD makes a distinction between Egypt and Israel.’⁸ Then all these officials of yours shall come down to me and bow low to me, saying, ‘Leave us, you and all the people who follow you.’ After that I will leave.” And in hot anger he left Pharaoh.

⁹ The LORD said to Moses, “Pharaoh will not listen to you, in order that my wonders may be multiplied in the land of Egypt.”¹⁰ Moses and Aaron performed all these wonders before Pharaoh, but the LORD hardened Pharaoh’s heart, and he would not let the Israelites go out of his land.

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt,² “This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you.³ Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household.⁴ If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it.⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats.⁶ You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight.⁷ They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it.⁸ They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.⁹ Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs.¹⁰ You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn with fire.¹¹ This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand, and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the Passover of the LORD.¹² I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, from human to animal, and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD.¹³ The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴ “This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.