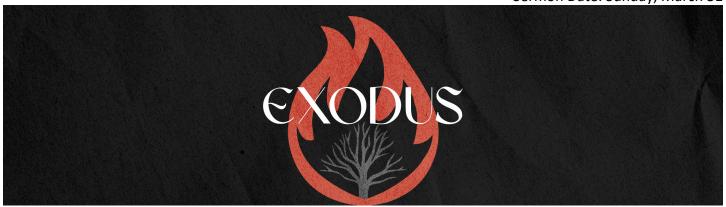
Sermon Date: Sunday, March 31



The Israelites have been in slavery to the Egyptians for just over 400 years. They are miserable under the rule of the Egyptians. Meanwhile, Moses has a miraculous upbringing in the home of Pharoah, and through a series of events, he ends up a man on the run and ends up living in a remote place called Midian, where he starts life over. Everything changed when God met Moses in the wilderness and laid a call upon his life to go back to Egypt, face-to-face with Pharaoh, and help free God's people from slavery. Over a series of chapters, we see God pour out His wrath and judgment upon Pharaoh and the Egyptians through a series of plagues. Last week, we ended with Moses telling Pharaoh what the final plague would be – the worst of all – the firstborn of all of Egypt, of every family, would die. The news of this final plague is devastating, and where we pick up the story.

Key Passage: Exodus 12

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Considering all the plagues Israel had seen God pour out in Egypt, how would you have responded, as an Israelite, upon hearing about the final plague God would soon carry out?
- 2. How does the concept of God's wrath, as seen in Exodus 12, challenge many modern perceptions of God's character?
- 3. In what ways does the symbolism of the Passover lamb foreshadow Jesus as the sacrificial Lamb of God? What significance do you find in the instructions for applying the blood of the lamb to the doorposts in Exodus 12?
- 4. In what sense can we understand the Passover event as both a moment of judgment and salvation? What parallels do you see between the plight of the Israelites in Egypt and the human condition concerning sin?
- 5. How does understanding God's wrath and love shape your perspective on Easter? How might the imagery of the Passover lamb and the blood applied to the doorposts deepen our appreciation of Jesus' sacrifice and resurrection?
- 6. How did faith and works both play a role in today's passage? Discuss the idea that repentance and faith are necessary for experiencing the salvation symbolized in the Passover and fulfilled in Jesus Christ.
- 7. What's one personal takeaway from today's study you can focus on this week?