



From Paradise to Prison

Exodus 1:1-22

#1 in a series on Exodus

June 8, 2025

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From clan to nation.

1. Getting up to speed from Genesis. (chapters 37-50)
2. "The land was filled with them." (7)

From blessing to suffering.

1. Regime change in Egypt. (8-10)
2. The plans to deal with the Israelites. (11-22)

From history to principles.

1. God always keeps His word.
2. God's blessings do not *put us on easy street*.
3. God rewards faithfulness.
4. God's promises are seen more clearly looking back than when watching them unfold.

In My Life This Week

As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.

Monday. Read Exodus 1:1-22. Remember that Exodus picks up the story from the end of Genesis. Think through the highlights of Joseph's life and how the people of Israel came to be in Egypt (Genesis 37-50). Zero in on verse 7. God blessed Israel, taking them from a clan to a nation. God was faithful. God is faithful. God will be faithful to you. Thank Him.

Tuesday. Israel enjoyed special status and prime real estate in Egypt because of Joseph. But when a regime change took place, their situation went from *paradise to prison*, from *blessing to suffering*. Review the Pharaoh's various plans of ethnic cleansing or genocide toward the Israelites in 1:11-22. What evidences do you see of God protecting the people during this?

Wednesday. Today we turn from history to principles. The first principle is that God always keeps His word. One of Jesus' names is "Faithful and True" (Revelation 19:11). God always keeps His word ... to you. The second principle is that God's blessings do not *put us on easy street*. God blesses His people today in our real world. Check your perspective on what His blessings mean as you thank Him.

Thursday. The third principle is that God rewards faithfulness. The midwives "feared God" (17). God blessed them for preserving lives (20). God will enable you to be faithful and will reward you for your faithfulness. Then there is the principle that God's promises are seen more clearly looking back than when watching them unfold. Ask God to help you see and be encouraged by the promises He has fulfilled to you in the past.

Friday/Saturday. Sunday is Father's Day. We plan to look at *A Man's Man* from 2 Samuel 22 and Psalm 18. Read and think through these passages as you prepare for our time together.