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**Thank you very much!**

**Scripture reading:**

Exodus 3:7-12 English Standard Version (ESV)

7 Then the Lord said, "I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, 8 and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. 9 And now, behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. 10 Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." 11 But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" 12 He said, "But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

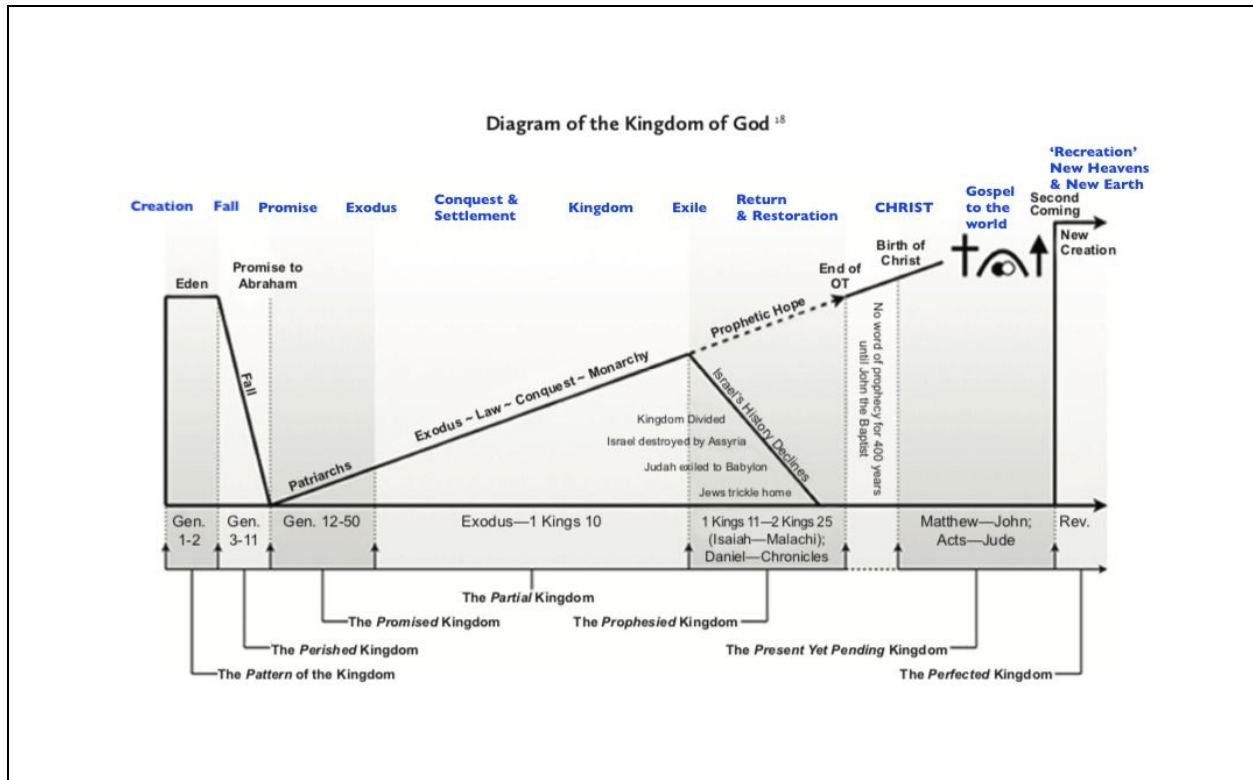
**Deuteronomy 6:21-24 English Standard Version (ESV)**

**21** We were Pharaoh's slaves in Egypt. And the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand. **22** And the Lord showed signs and wonders, great and grievous, against Egypt and against Pharaoh and all his household, before our eyes. **23** And he brought us out from there, that he might bring us in and give us the land that he swore to give to our fathers. **24** And the Lord commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as we are this day.

**Outline:**

- Introduction: where is Exodus in the Big Picture

Slide (Do you have a high-resolution version of the pic? And i need to quote the source):



We are now in the special series of sermons on the Big Picture of the Bible. Pastor Shannon has preached on the Creation, the Fall and the Promise, and today we'll look into the Exodus.

Slide:

Exodus (出埃及記):

- the 2nd book in the Bible
- **a magical book**  
because “睇舊約出極都出唔到埃及” “you always got stuck in Egypt (Exodus) every time you wished to complete the OT”

I think you all know Exodus is the second book in the Bible. But do you know the Book of Exodus is a magical book? In Chinese, the Book of Exodus is translated as “出埃及記”, literally it means “Going out of Egypt”. So why it's a magical book? In Hong Kong, we have a famous saying, “睇舊約出極都出唔到埃及”, which means that you always got stuck in Egypt (meaning the book of Exodus) every time you wished to complete the OT.

Slide:

The Exodus: the LORD delivered the Israelites, His chosen people, from slavery in Egypt and led them into the promised land flowing with milk and honey.

The Exodus in the Big Picture refers to the event in which the LORD delivered the Israelites, His chosen people, from slavery in Egypt and led them into the promised land flowing with milk and honey.

The Israelites went to Egypt because the sons of Jacob sold their brother Joseph to Egypt, and later God used Joseph to save Jacob and all his family from famine by bringing them all to Egypt.

Slide:

It all started from the Promise!

**Genesis 15:13-14,16** “Know for certain that **your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own, and they will be enslaved and mistreated four hundred years. But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great possessions. ... In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here**, for the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure.”

But actually, the story of the Exodus didn't start from Joseph being sold into Egypt, but it started much earlier in the Promise God gave to Abraham:

In Genesis 15, when God repeated His promise to Abraham, He also said to Abraham, “Know for certain that **your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own, and they will be enslaved and mistreated four hundred years. But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great possessions. ... In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here ...**”

So as early as in Genesis 15 we already see God's plan, that the people of Israel would be enslaved in Egypt, and that God would deliver them out of Egypt and bring them back to the land He had promised to give to Abraham.

Slide:

The Exodus was God's fulfilment to **the Promise** (last Sunday)!

- **People: “if anyone could count the dust, then your offspring could be counted” [Genesis 13:16]**

-**Land: “All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring” [Genesis 13:15]**

But what about **“through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed” [Genesis 22:18]**?

Through the Exodus, God also started to fulfil His promise, which Pastor Shannon preached last Sunday. First, in just 400 years, Israel had miraculously multiplied from only 70 people to a few million. This had partially fulfilled **Genesis 13:16 “if anyone could count the dust, then your offspring could be counted”**. Second, God brought them back to the land of Canaan, fulfilling **Genesis 13:15 “All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring”**. But **Genesis 22:18 “through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed”** had not been fulfilled by the Exodus.

Slide (to those who do not know Jesus or Exodus):

**The Second Exodus:** fulfilling God's promise "all nations will be blessed through the offspring of Abraham"[Genesis 22:18]

**The Gospel: THE Good News to all of us** (listen now if you do not know Jesus or Exodus, & talk to us after the sermon)

**The Fall** (the bad news: we are all born sinners as sin entered the world through Adam)

=> **The Promise** (God promised, with an oath, that He would send a Savior)

=> **The First Exodus** (God sent Moses to save His people Israel, but Moses is NOT THE offspring)

=> **The Second Exodus** (God sent Jesus to save His people from all nations)

But we're going to see today, that there is a **second, much much much greater Exodus, that God would perform to fulfil His promise "all nations will be blessed through the offspring of Abraham"**. So today's message is a Gospel message. The Fall brought the bad news: we are all born sinners as sin entered the world through Adam. Then, through the Promise, God said He would send a Savior - the offspring. Then God started to progressively fulfill His promise. He first sent Moses to save His people Israel in the first Exodus. But Moses is not the offspring mentioned in the Promise. As many of you already know, THE offspring is Jesus, and He will save people from all nations. And this is the good news for all of us, and I hope you can stay and talk to us afterwards if some of you here today do not know Jesus and His Gospel.

- An overview of the Exodus

Slide (animation):

400 years in Egypt => from 70 to an estimated >2.4M people => slavery => God appeared to Moses => Moses struck Egypt with plagues: *blood, frogs, gnats, flies, killing all livestock, boils, hail, locust, darkness, killing all firstborn*) => all Egypt begged the Israelites to leave => dividing the Red Sea => giving the Law and establishing the Old Covenant on Mount Sinai/Horeb

**Before I introduce the second Exodus.** Let me first give you an overview of the first Exodus, just in case some of you do not know what happened. After 400 years in Egypt, the Israelites multiplied greatly and their number started to threaten Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. So he started to enslave the Israelites, putting them in hard labor. Then God appeared to a Levite, called Moses, telling him that the time had come for God to bring His people up out of Egypt, the land of slavery, and bring them into a land flowing with milk and honey. And God appointed Moses to do this job. Apparently the king of Egypt would not let his slaves to leave his country freely. So God gave Moses the power to strike Egypt with 10 unprecedented plagues. In normal circumstances, any single one of these disasters would be more than enough to overcome the strongest man so that he would agree with whatever you request, but God hardened Pharaoh's heart so that **God might show His power and that His name might be proclaimed in all the earth [Exodus 9:16; Romans 9:17]**. It was until the last plague, which killed all the firstborn of Egypt, then the whole nation of Egypt urged the Israelites to quickly leave Egypt. The night that the LORD passed over all the Israelites but killed all the firstborn of Egypt was commemorated as **the Passover**, which was to be kept by Israel for generations to come.

After leaving Egypt, God hardened the heart of Pharaoh once again, so that Pharaoh took the best of his army and pursued the Israelites all the way to the Red Sea, where God divided the sea to let the Israelites pass through on dry land, while He buried the whole army of Pharaoh in the deep. He did this to show His power and glory again, so that His people might fear Him and put their trust in Him [Exodus 14:31].

Slide:

The Old Covenant:

**Lev 26:3-13** “If you follow my decrees and are careful to obey my commands, I will ... (bless you with all the blessings I promised to Abraham)”

**Lev 26:14-39** “But if you will not listen to me and carry out all these commands, and if you reject my decrees and abhor my laws and fail to carry out all my commands and so violate my covenant, then I will ... (curse you with all the curses worse than the plagues of Egypt)”

After crossing the Red Sea, God led the Israelites to Mount Sinai, also called Mount Horeb, where God first appeared to Moses. There on the mountain God gave Moses and the people of Israel the Law, and established His covenant with them:

**Lev 26:3-13** “If you follow my decrees and are careful to obey my commands, I will ... (bless you with all the blessings I promised to Abraham)”

**Lev 26:14-39** “But if you will not listen to me and carry out all these commands, and if you reject my decrees and abhor my laws and fail to carry out all my commands and so violate my covenant, then I will ... (curse you with all the curses worse than the plagues of Egypt)”

And the Israelites faithfully obeyed God and kept all His commandments ... No! That didn't happen! Instead, they were quick to create idols for themselves and grumbled to go back to Egypt again and again, even after seeing God's presence with them day and night, and miraculously providing them with their needs out of nowhere. Their unfaithfulness and rebellion continued even after their spies confirmed that the promised land was exceedingly good, indeed flowing with milk and honey. They did not trust God's power even after seeing how God totally destroyed Egypt to bring them out. So God swore that the whole generation of adults, except Joshua and Caleb, would wander in the desert for 40 years until they all died, because of their unbelief. In fact, even Moses was not allowed to go into the promised land, and it was Joshua who led the children of the current generation into the promised land after 40 years. But God kept His promise, even though the Israelites failed again and again to keep the covenant with God.

- Why is the Exodus so important?

So that's what happened in the Exodus. But why is the Exodus so important? Why do we need to preach it? The Exodus was extremely important because in the Exodus:

Slide (read):

1. God announced to the world, loudly with many powerful supernatural acts, that Israel was His chosen people
2. Israel officially became a free nation, and God gave them a land flowing with milk and honey
3. God gave the Israelites the Law and set up the Levitical priesthood, promising His special presence with them

1. God announced to the world, loudly with many powerful supernatural acts, that Israel was His chosen people
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[The Big Picture again] Now if you do not see how these points are important, then you have not yet understood the meaning of the Fall and the importance of the Promise, which Pastor Shannon preached in the previous two weeks. You have missed the Big Picture! So let's start all over again!

For since the Fall, the whole world was condemned, like Paul said in **Ephesians 2:12** we were all **"foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world"** and **Ephesians 2:3** **"by nature objects of wrath"**. But among all the peoples, God singled out the Israelites. So for the first time in human history since the Fall, there was a nation and a people who had hope, who received the covenant of the Promise, and who had God's special presence with them.

My point is that, if you lived at the time, and if you're not among the Israelites, you had no hope at all, you're heading straight to Hell! We do not see why the Exodus is important because we have taken all these three points for granted today!

- How is the Exodus relevant to us
  - Shadow to reality

Now that's really confusing! How are these three points related to us? We are not Israel, we did not participate in the Exodus! And the Levitical priesthood was all about bloody animal sacrifices, we have nothing to do with it! No no no, we definitely need all of these, the Exodus is as important to us as it was to the Israelites! But one thing is true, **we did not participate in the first Exodus, but we participate in the second Exodus!**

What is the second Exodus then? When did it happen? Let me explain.

Slide:

**The first Exodus is a shadow of the second Exodus.**

**Colossians 2:17** These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.

Pastor Shannon already emphasized in his sermons that, when we read the Old Testament, we should always try to see how it is related to Jesus. As **Colossians 2:17** points out, **many things in the OT are a shadow of the reality found in the NT, in Jesus Christ our Lord**. A shadow is something that has the shape of the reality but it's far from the reality. Now let's see why the Exodus is a shadow, and what is the corresponding reality.

Slide:

	<b>The first Exodus: the shadow</b>	<b>The second Exodus: the reality</b>
The event	The exodus from slavery in Egypt	The exodus from slavery to sin
The people	The Israelites	Christians
The leader	Moses	Jesus
The land	The land of Canaan	The heavenly city of God
The Law	Written on stone tablets	Written on our hearts
The Covenant	Bi-directional, conditional: if you obey/disobey me, I will bless/curse you	Uni-directional, unconditional: I will bless you
The Law keeper	No one can keep the Law	Jesus kept the whole Law for all of us
The priest	Sinful Levitical priests who left office when they died	Sinless Christ Who keeps His office forever to intercede with the Father for us
The sacrifice	Repeated animal sacrifices showing their ineffectiveness	Jesus Himself who took away our sins once for all
The presence of God	In the physical tabernacle, only the high priest could access once a year	The Holy Spirit dwells in every Christian

The first thing we need to understand is that **the exodus from slavery in Egypt is a shadow of the exodus from slavery to sin, our slavery to sin!** As we can see in this table, the people, the leader, the promised land, the Law, the covenant, the priest, the sacrifice and the presence of God in the first Exodus all have a corresponding reality in the second exodus.

Why do we have such a long list? Because the Exodus is not just going out of Egypt, and then, period! But God also set up the Law, the Covenant, the priesthood, and led the Israelites by hand into the promised land. As I've introduced earlier, the first Exodus was a partial fulfilment of God's promise. But apparently this partial fulfilment also revealed all kinds of problems due to the total depravity of men's nature since the Fall, that no one was able to keep the Law, and the priesthood and animal sacrifices could not really take away the sins of the people. And therefore a better solution, a perfect solution is needed. In fact, the shadow was designed to lead men to the reality, which is the second Exodus led by another leader, Jesus, in Him is the complete fulfilment of God's promise. Of course, as we understand that the second Exodus is still ongoing as more people are to be delivered from slavery to sin until Christ comes again to lead us all into the Promised Land, the Heavenly City of God!

- Admonition
  - Do not go back to Egypt

Slide:

Why the shadow? Why not the reality directly?

- For His glory: **Romans 9:17 (also Exodus 9:16) For the Scripture says to Pharaoh: "I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display my power in you and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth."**

- For us: **Hebrews 4:11 "Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall by following their example of disobedience."**

But if the first Exodus was not a complete fulfilment of God's promise, then why did God still do it in the first place? Why didn't God simply start the second Exodus directly? Well, my simplest answer is, God did it in this way for His own glory.

**Romans 9:17 (also Exodus 9:16) For the Scripture says to Pharaoh: "I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display my power in you and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth."**

And of course it's also extremely important and special to Israel, the first Exodus demonstrated God's special love for Israel as we listed in the three points earlier on. But it's also for us, as **Hebrews 4:11** urges us: **"Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall by following their example of disobedience."** What is their example of disobedience? **Hebrews 3:9-11** tells us this: the Israelites **tested and tried God, and for forty years saw what God Did, but their hearts were always going astray, and they had not known His ways. Therefore God declared on oath in His anger, "They shall never enter my rest."**

Therefore, the first Exodus is also for us today, so that we may not fall by following their example of disobedience. You see, history repeats itself, whether it's the Israelites in the first Exodus thousands of years ago, or it's us Christians today, we all have the same tendency to disobey God.



Slide:

	<b>The first Exodus</b>	<b>The second Exodus</b>
Our worship	The Israelites worshiped the golden calf, etc.	We worshiped money, social status, sex ...
Our desire	The Israelites longed to go back to Egypt	We longed to go back to our past sinful life

First, we are all idol worshipers. The Israelites worshiped the golden calf, and we worshiped money, social status, sex, and the list goes on. The Israelites longed to go back to Egypt, and we longed to go back to our past sinful life. Let's take a look!

Slide:

1. Oh I miss the old days that **I did not need to follow the Bible reading plan and pray every day**, I could just go to work when I got up or go to bed when I got tired!
2. Oh I miss the old days that **I did not need to give a tenth of my salary to the church**, I could have used the money for my mortgage payment, car and travels!
3. Oh I miss the old days that **I did not need to serve in the church.**
4. Oh I miss the old days that ...
5. Oh I miss the old days that ...
6. Oh I miss the old days that ...
7. Oh I miss the old days that ...

1. Oh I miss the old days that **I did not need to follow the Bible reading plan and pray every day**, I could just go to work when I got up or go to bed when I got tired!
2. Oh I miss the old days that **I did not need to give a tenth of my salary to the church**, I could have used the money for my mortgage payment, car and travels!
3. Oh I miss the old days that **I did not need to serve in the church.**

And the list goes on, and I think you can easily fill in one of your own. You do not agree with me? That's not you? Well I understand the "Oh I miss ..." part is a bit embarrassing to say, but that's not my worry. My worry is that some of you don't even have any of these problems!

You don't have the problem of following the Bible reading plan because you don't even have a plan! Well, of course, come on, James, the Bible is as thick as a dictionary, and most parts of it are irrelevant! Let's use it more effectively! You know how to use a dictionary, don't you? When you need to find the meaning of something, the meaning of your life, you search the Bible to find the answer! Yes, the meaning of your life --- your life defined by your needs!

And you don't have the problem of giving a tenth of your salary because you never believe the Bible requires you to offer a tenth of your salary. The New Testament says God loves a cheerful giver, and so you cheerfully give 500, 1000, whatever the amount that you feel you can cheerfully give. And of course the Bible doesn't say that we should cheerfully give a tenth of our salary! That's a lot of money, who would cheerfully give that! I have a friend who told me that he's going to a trip with his family. And I said, "Good! You probably haven't had a family vacation for years, right?" He said, "Yes, couldn't afford it, and this trip is actually a donation." And he continued, "To be honest, James, I'd rather they give me the money for my kids' education! It's a lot of expense!" To those of you who have the same financial difficulty as my friend, I totally agree that it requires a great amount of faith to give faithfully as my friend does. But to the rest, and to all of us: do not let money become our Egypt!

Slide:

**Everyone has his own Egypt: money, time, fame, job ... anything that is not Jesus!**

**What is God to you? An insurance??**

Draw a picture of a balance with heavy loads (big bold letters) of **my money, time, fame, job** ... on the one side, and light load of small *my God* on the other side

So you see, everyone has his own Egypt, whether it's money, or time, or fame, or job, whatever that is not Jesus! But **what is God to you?** Why do you come to the church? Sadly, today many church attendees treat God as an insurance, they spend a minimal amount of time and money in the church to buy an insurance just in case hell does exist, or when they need a miracle when they're sick, or when they need a job, or any difficult situation.

**God is not your insurance!** He demands your time, your money, your heart and your love. When you say, "I love God!" What exactly do you mean? You know love can actually be measured. Ask yourselves how much time you spend with your loved ones, and how much time you spend with God, reading the Bible and trying to know Him more! How much money you spend on your loved ones and how much money you put into that offertory bag! How much you talk to your loved ones and how much you talk to God in prayers!

Slide:

**How much do you desire the things of God?**

**How much do you desire the things of Egypt?**

**How much do you desire the things of God?**

**How much do you desire the things of Egypt?**

Slide:

First Exodus	God delivered the Israelites from slavery in Egypt through Moses
Second Exodus	God delivered Christians from slavery to sin through Jesus

In the first Exodus, God delivered the Israelites from slavery in Egypt through Moses, but the Israelites kept looking back to Egypt. Eventually the whole generation wandered in the desert for 40 years until they all died. And God declared on oath that they shall never enter His rest, meaning heaven.

In the second Exodus, God delivered Christians from slavery to sin through Jesus, and He urges us to make every effort to enter His rest, that is heaven, and do not fall by following the example of disobedience in the first Exodus!

Slide:

**DO NOT LOOK BACK TO EGYPT!**

So **DO NOT LOOK BACK TO EGYPT!** Do not be like the Israelites when they came out of Egypt, showing so little desire for the things of God. Change, show your desire for God, take time to read His word, take time to speak to Him in prayers, make it regular, make it your priority... change, and change now!

Slide:

**Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts! [Hebrews 3:7-8]**  
**Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts! [Hebrews 3:15]**  
**Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts! [Hebrews 4:7]**

**Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts! [Hebrews 3:7-8]**

**Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts! [Hebrews 3:15]**

**Today, if you hear His voice, please do not harden your hearts! [Hebrews 4:7]**

I hope that's loud enough.

Slide:

**Will you look back to Egypt?**  
**Will you go back to Egypt?**

I will not look back to Egypt. Will you? Will you look back to Egypt? I hope your answer is an affirmative NO! But I do not believe you, I have zero confidence in any of you! We are all rebellious people, idol worshipers from the root!

- The power of God
- Put our confidence in our leader Jesus

Slide:

Today's message is **NOT "The Exodus: do not look back to Egypt"**  
Today's message is **"The Exodus: the POWER of GOD to save"**

But fortunately, today's message is not "The Exodus: do not look back to Egypt". Today's message is: "The Exodus: the POWER of GOD to save"!

Slide:

	<b>The first Exodus: the shadow</b>	<b>The second Exodus: the reality</b>
	The event, the people, the leader, the promised land, the Law, the Covenant, the Law keeper, the priest, the sacrifice, the presence of God ...	
<b>The miracles</b>	<b>Most intensified supernatural acts in human history (performed by Moses) to destroy</b>	<b>Most intensified supernatural acts in human history (performed by Jesus) to heal</b>
<b>The firstborn</b>	<b>The deciding factor to the first Exodus was the death of the firstborn of Egypt</b>	<b>The deciding factor to the second Exodus was the death of the firstborn of God</b>
<b>The power &amp; The proclamation</b>	<b>God displayed His power and proclaimed His Name in all the earth through the miracles He performed in the first Exodus</b>	<b>A much bigger power!  A much more wonderful proclamation to all nations!</b>

There are actually more from shadow to reality. First, Moses performed the most intensified supernatural acts in human history that aimed **to destroy and terrify**. Correspondingly, Jesus performed most miracles aiming **to heal**. Second, the deciding factor to the first Exodus was the death of the firstborn of Egypt. Correspondingly, the deciding factor to the delivery of God's people from slavery to sin was **the death of Jesus, the firstborn of God, on the cross**.

In the first Exodus God displayed His power and proclaimed His Name in all the earth. But through the second Exodus God proclaims something much more wonderful:

Slide:

**A much more wonderful proclamation: THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST!**

The final fulfilment of the Promise: **"through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed"**  
**[Genesis 22:18]?**

That is, **the Gospel of Jesus Christ!** The first Exodus is not the final solution to the problem of the Fall, the second Exodus through Jesus is the final solution, the perfect solution, the complete fulfilment of the Promise: **“through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed”!**

And I want you to understand this: this proclamation comes with great power. It may appear that the supernatural acts performed by Moses in the first Exodus were of a much greater scale and much greater power than those miracles performed by Jesus. But I’m going to tell you one key difference between the first Exodus and the second Exodus, that is, there is a magical power involved in the second Exodus!

Slide:

The second Exodus:

- Part 1: delivering God’s people from slavery to sin

**Eph 2:4-5 God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions.**

**Eph 1:19-20 ... His incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of His mighty strength, which He exerted in Christ when He raised Him from the dead ...**

- Part 2: leading them into the heavenly city of God

**Phi 1:6 He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.**

The second Exodus refers to delivering God’s people from slavery to sin and leading them into the heavenly city of God. For the first part, God says in Ephesians:

**Eph 2:4-5 God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions.**

**Eph 1:19-20 ... His incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of His mighty strength, which He exerted in Christ when He raised Him from the dead ...**

From these verses we can see that our delivery from slavery to sin is worked out by the **SAME POWER** that God raised Jesus from the dead! Can you imagine that?? What does this mean to you? What would you do after knowing this now? I hope you will embrace this power to transform yourselves for God’s glory.

Slide:

The second Exodus:

- Part 1: delivering God’s people from slavery to sin

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Eph 1:19-20 ... His incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of His mighty strength, which He exerted in Christ when He raised Him from the dead ...

- Part 2: leading them into the heavenly city of God

**Phi 1:6 He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.**

But that's only Part 1 of the **incomparably great power for us who believe!** Here's Part 2:

**Phi 1:6 He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.**

God started it, and God will complete it. He delivered you from slavery to sin and He will lead you into His heavenly city. **Our God is a promise keeper!**

Slide:

Great! God will do it, let's relax and let God then!

**Romans 6:2 We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?**

**John 10:16 My sheep will listen to my voice.**

Now do not ever think: ok, then I can just relax and let God do the work! Because **Romans 6:2** says "**We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?**" and In **John 10:16, Jesus said, "My sheep will listen to my voice."** So if you have indeed been delivered from slavery to sin, born again by the Spirit, then you will listen and you have God's power working in you and you will use that power to change for God.

Slide:

1. Make a plan to read the Bible EVERY DAY
2. Study the Bible regularly
3. Pray regularly
4. Serve the church
5. Give generously
6. Join a small group (to those who're doing well, you have a duty to help your brothers and sisters [Luke 22:32])

Here're some practical suggestions for you:

1. Make a plan to read the Bible EVERY DAY, read at least 1 chapter each day
2. Study the Bible regularly
3. Pray regularly, I will suggest you to pray according to what you read in the Bible daily

4. Talk to the Pastor how you may serve the church better
5. Give generously
6. Join a small group, so that you may help others and others may help you (to those who're doing well, you have a duty to help your brothers and sisters [Luke 22:32])

I think I should stop here. In fact, if you follow the first three points, you should be able to already learn from the Bible what you need to do. And I think actually you all know what you should do, the question is, will you do it? And I hope, and I pray, now that **after knowing the power of God for our Exodus, the same power that He raised Jesus from the dead**, you will also **by this power** do all these listed here and live for His glory!

Let's pray! **O God, may you equip us with everything good for doing your will, and may you work in us what is pleasing to you, through Jesus Christ, to you be glory for ever and ever. Amen!**

### **Benediction**

**Hebrews 13:20-21** Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.