5. Lessons in the Wilderness

Ex 1:7-8
Rom 8:28
28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Birth of Moses
Ex. 2:1-10
Heb 11:24-25
24 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;
25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

Moses made a decision that would affect his life forever. He had everything a man could want. He had the best clothes, ate the best food and slept in the palace. Moses however, decided to choose certain things, and refuse other things. And in our walk with God, we sometimes have to make tough decisions. We must say, “I will do this, and I will not do that.”

God calls Moses
Ex 3:1-5
God did not begin to speak to Moses, until Moses turned aside. We must be careful that we do not get so involved in what we are doing that we miss what God is saying to us. It is at that point in our lives we decide to turn aside from what we have going on so that God will speak to us. In every service, assume that God is speaking directly to you and when you turn aside, He will speak.

Plagues of Egypt
Ex 7:14
Ex 11:10
The last plague on the Egyptians was that the firstborn of every house would die, but God had made a way that the people of Israel could survive. It was the blood.

Passover
Ex. 12:1-36; 41-51
John 1:29 …Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

Heb 9:22 …without shedding of blood is no remission.

Even if you were an Israelite, but did not have the blood applied to the doorpost, the firstborn in that house would die. It was the blood of an innocent lamb that caused the death angel to pass over that House. And it is the same way in our lives. It does not matter how much we proclaim to be a Christian, we must have the blood of Jesus applied to our life.

Ex. 3:21-22
It is God’s desire to deliver you from the things that have you bound. And when you come out on the other side, the devil is going to be empty-handed but you will have the blessings of Lord in your life.
Crossing the Red Sea
Ex. 14:1-31

1 Cor 10:1-2
10:1 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea;
2 And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;

For the first time, Israel stood as a redeemed nation, completely separated from Egypt. The apostle Paul compared it to water baptism. In order to be separated from the Old World you must be baptized and your sin's washed away, calling on the name of Lord Jesus Christ.

God will provide

They received manna from heaven, water out of a rock, clothing and shoes that never wore out, and a pillar of fire led them by night and a cloud by day. God will provide for you if you will learn to follow him. It didn't matter what they were doing. When the cloud moved, they moved. It didn’t matter if they were sleeping in the middle of the night, when the pillar of Fire moved they moved. It doesn’t matter if you’re at home or at church, if you want the blessings of God, when God moves you move!

Fifth Dispensation - “LAW”

Ten Commandments
Exodus 34:28-29

Moses got much more from God than the Ten Commandments, but these ten were the basis of all the Law. Four commandments relate to our attitude toward God. The other six deal with our attitudes toward other people. Jesus condensed them into two commandments:

Luke 10:27 And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.

A holy people, separated onto God
Leviticus 10:10

Some of the other laws Moses received from God in the mountain.

- Teach children to worship one God
- Tabernacle—the place of worship
- Priests offer sacrifices and interpret law
- Sacrificial offerings
- The Sabbath—a Jewish day of rest and joy
- Special feast days
- Moral laws
- Dietary laws
- Customs and ceremonies

God dwells with his covenant people
Ex 25:8

Every tent door faced the Tabernacle! What if enemy neighbors sneak attacked? How could the Israelites defend themselves? Such an arrangement contradicts military strategy. Here was God’s message: “If you will put Me in the center of your life, I will care for you!”

To tabernacle means to dwell with. To dwell with means to tabernacle with! In both the Old and New Testaments, God wanted to dwell with His people!
A New Way of Worship

Heb 8:5 Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.

- Brazen Altar
  The Priest first came to the place of death and bloodshed to cover the sin.
- Brazen Laver
  A washing was required before the Priest could enter the Tabernacle.
- Table of Shewbread
- Altar of Incense
- Golden Candlestick
  The Priest enterd first into the Holy place. A place of prayer, revelation, thanksgiving and worship unto God.
- Ark of the Covenant; Ex 25:22
  Lastly, only the high priest could enter into the Holy of Holies, behind the veil. This is where the purest connection to God was.

This was the place that God dwelt, where the people’s sin was rolled back from them. It was the most important place to the people of God.

Good things to Come!
Hebrews 9:1-12; 24

As a whole, the Tabernacle typifies the Man, Jesus Christ. Our first glimpse of the “good news” about Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection is seen in Moses’ writings. Although the sacrificial blood of lambs, goats, and oxen could never erase or dismiss sin, it provided a temporary remedy. It pointed towards the blood of God’s “Lamb” Who would “redeem” or purchase man’s freedom from sin.