



**CHURCHES TOGETHER  
IN CENTRAL BROMLEY**

# CTCB Lent Course 2022

## ***God's Big Picture***

### ***3: Exodus and Law***

To consider before we start...

If we are working on the basis that...

- The whole Bible *says the same things* about those themes
- The Bible's *metanarrative* (=overarching story) is the unfolding of God's Kingdom in the person of Jesus Christ (Luke 24:25-27, John 5:37-40)

...then what connections might we see between the life and death of Jesus and the story of Joseph and his brothers in the book of Genesis? The better you know the story, the more connections you should see! If you don't know the story then these verses from towards the end of the story might get you started:

**Genesis 50:15, 19-20**

*New International Version*

<sup>15</sup> When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, 'What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?' [...]

<sup>19</sup> But Joseph said to them, 'Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup> You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.'

As a clue, can you think of any New Testament parallels for...

- Joseph's experiences?
- The motives and actions of Joseph's brothers?
- The wide-ranging benefits which flowed from Joseph's suffering?

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**Exodus 3:4-10***New International Version*

<sup>4</sup> When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, 'Moses! Moses!' And Moses said, 'Here I am.'

<sup>5</sup> 'Do not come any closer,' God said. 'Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.' <sup>6</sup> Then he said, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

<sup>7</sup> The LORD said, 'I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. <sup>8</sup> So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey – the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. <sup>9</sup> And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. <sup>10</sup> So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.'

Read Exodus 3:4-10 and consider what we learn from this passage about:

1. God's power
2. God's priorities
3. God's promises

**Leviticus 16:15-16, 20-22***New International Version*

<sup>15</sup> 'Aaron shall then slaughter the goat for the sin offering for the people and take its blood behind the curtain; he shall sprinkle it on the atonement cover and in front of it. <sup>16</sup> In this way he will make atonement for the Most Holy Place because of the uncleanness and rebellion of the Israelites, whatever their sins have been. He is to do the same for the tent of meeting, which is among them in the midst of their uncleanness.

<sup>20</sup> 'When Aaron has finished making atonement for the Most Holy Place, the tent of meeting and the altar, he shall bring forward the live goat. <sup>21</sup> He is to lay both hands on the head of the live goat and confess over it all the wickedness and rebellion of the Israelites – all their sins – and put them on the goat's head. He shall send the goat away into the wilderness in the care of someone appointed for the task. <sup>22</sup> The goat will carry on itself all their sins to a remote place; and the man shall release it in the wilderness.

Questions to consider from Leviticus 16:

1. These verses describe the solution to the major problem of how a sinful people can live with a perfect God in their midst (verse 16). Why was this such a big problem for the Israelites? Is it still a problem for people today?
2. The solution is provided by two goats. What happens to them? How does this deal with the problem?
3. Whose sins were the problem? Whose sacrifice dealt with it in Leviticus 16? How is this fair? What is the alternative?
4. The goats were only a temporary solution to the problem. Can you think why that might be the case? *(If you have time, look up Hebrews 10:1-4 in the New Testament for some answers!)*

Simplified thematic outline of Bible history

| <b>THE KINGDOM OF GOD</b>         | <i>God's people</i>  | <i>God's place</i>                          | <i>God's rule &amp; blessing</i>               |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|--|
| <i>The pattern of the kingdom</i> | Adam and Eve   | The garden                                  | God's word<br>Perfect relationships            |
| <i>The perished kingdom</i>       | No-one   | Banished                                    | Disobedience<br>The curse                      |
| <i>The promised kingdom</i>       | Abraham's descendants  | Canaan                                      | Blessing to Israel and the nations             |
| <i>The partial kingdom</i>        | The Israelites   | Tent of Meeting / Temple                    | The law and the king                           |
| <i>The prophesied kingdom</i>     | Remnant of Israel<br>Inclusion of the nations                | New Temple<br>New Creation                  | New covenant<br>New king<br>Great blessing     |
| <i>The present kingdom</i>        | <i>Jesus Christ</i><br>New Adam<br>True Israel               | <i>Jesus Christ</i><br>True Temple          | <i>Jesus Christ</i><br>New covenant<br>Rest    |
| <i>The proclaimed kingdom</i>     | The new Israel: Jew and Gentile believers together in Christ | The individual believer<br>The church       | New covenant<br>Holy Spirit                    |
| <i>The perfected kingdom</i>      | Multinational family of God                                  | New Creation<br>New Jerusalem<br>New Temple | Throne of God and the Lamb<br>Perfect blessing |

*(after Goldsworthy)*

Closing prayer

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ  
and the Love of God  
and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with us all evermore. Amen.

## Fact File 1: The Exodus

### Rescued (Exodus 1-18)

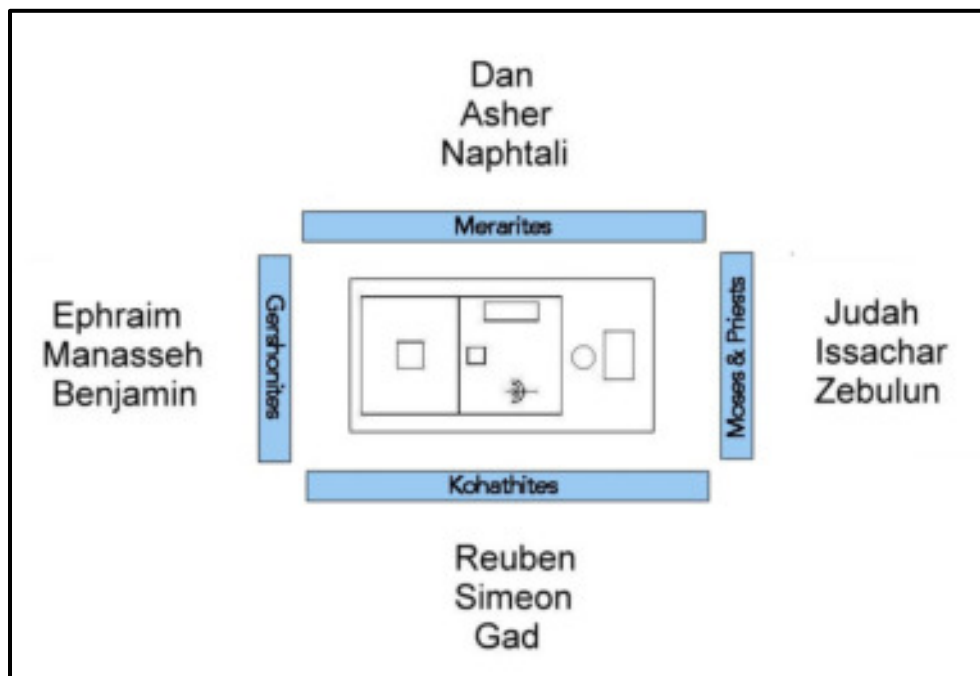
- Slavery
- Saviour
- Plagues
- Passover

## Fact File 2: The Law

### Set apart (Exodus 19-24)

- The giving of the Law
- Ten Commandments

***The arrangement of the camp of Israel in the wilderness (see Numbers 2)***



### God's presence (Exodus 25-40)

- The sacrificial system
- God's holiness and man's sinfulness
- God has provided a means of reconciliation

<sup>1</sup> The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming – not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship. <sup>2</sup> Otherwise, would they not have stopped being offered? For the worshippers would have been cleansed once for all, and would no longer have felt guilty for their sins. <sup>3</sup> But those sacrifices are an annual reminder of sins. <sup>4</sup> It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

Hebrews 10:1-4