

Exodus 13

Chapter 13 of 40 · 22 Verses · Authorized King James Version

Consecration of the Firstborn

- ¹ And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,
- ² Sanctify unto me all the firstborn, whatsoever openeth the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and of beast: it is mine.
- ³ And Moses said unto the people, Remember this day, in which ye came out from Egypt, out of the house of bondage; for by strength of hand the LORD brought you out from this place: there shall no leavened bread be eaten.
- ⁴ This day came ye out in the month Abib.
- ⁵ And it shall be when the LORD shall bring thee into the land of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, which he swore unto thy fathers to give thee, a land flowing with milk and honey, that thou shalt keep this service in this month.
- ⁶ Seven days thou shalt eat unleavened bread, and in the seventh day shall be a feast to the LORD.
- ⁷ Unleavened bread shall be eaten seven days; and there shall no leavened bread be seen with thee, neither shall there be leaven seen with thee in all thy quarters.
- ⁸ And thou shalt shew thy son in that day, saying, This is done because of that which the LORD did unto me when I came forth out of Egypt.
- ⁹ And it shall be for a sign unto thee upon thine hand, and for a memorial between thine eyes, that the LORD'S law may be in thy mouth: for with a strong hand hath the LORD brought thee out of Egypt.
- ¹⁰ Thou shalt therefore keep this ordinance in his season from year to year.

11 And it shall be when the LORD shall bring thee into the land of the Canaanites, as he sware unto thee and to thy fathers, and shall give it thee,

12 That thou shalt set apart unto the LORD all that openeth the matrix, and every firstling that cometh of a beast which thou hast; the males shall be the LORD'S.

13 And every firstling of an ass thou shalt redeem with a lamb; and if thou wilt not redeem it, then thou shalt break his neck: and all the firstborn of man among thy children shalt thou redeem.

14 And it shall be when thy son asketh thee in time to come, saying, What is this? that thou shalt say unto him, By strength of hand the LORD brought us out from Egypt, from the house of bondage:

15 And it came to pass, when Pharaoh would hardly let us go, that the LORD slew all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man, and the firstborn of beast: therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all that openeth the matrix, being males; but all the firstborn of my children I redeem.

16 And it shall be for a token upon thine hand, and for frontlets between thine eyes: for by strength of hand the LORD brought us forth out of Egypt.

The Pillar of Cloud and Fire

17 And it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God led them not through the way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said, Lest peradventure the people repent when they see war, and they return to Egypt:

18 But God led the people about, through the way of the wilderness of the Red sea: and the children of Israel went up harnessed out of the land of Egypt.

19 And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him: for he had straitly sworn the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you; and ye shall carry up my bones away hence with you.

20 And they took their journey from Succoth, and encamped in Etham, in the edge of the wilderness.

21 And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night:

22 He took not away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

God — אֱלֹהִים (Elohim)

God (plural of majesty)

The Hebrew **Elohim** (אֱלֹהִים) is a plural form denoting majesty and fullness of deity. Though grammatically plural, it takes singular verbs when referring to the one true God, suggesting the Trinity's plurality within unity.

Lamb — כֶּבֶשׂ / שֶׁה (Seh / Kebes)

Lamb, young sheep

The Hebrew **seh** (שֶׁה) denotes a lamb—central to Israel's sacrificial system. The Passover lamb's blood protected Israel from judgment (Exodus 12), and Isaiah prophesied the Servant would be 'brought as a lamb to the slaughter' (Isaiah 53:7).

Law — תּוֹרָה (Torah)

Law, instruction

The Hebrew **Torah** (תּוֹרָה) means law or instruction—God's revealed will for His people. The Law includes moral, civil, and ceremonial commandments, revealing God's character and humanity's need for a Savior.

Lord — אֲדֹנָי / יְהוָה (YHWH / Adonai)

The LORD / Lord

When 'LORD' appears in small capitals, it represents the Tetragrammaton **YHWH** (יְהוָה), God's personal covenant name meaning 'I AM.' When 'Lord' appears normally, it's **Adonai** (אֲדֹנָי), meaning 'my Lord,' emphasizing sovereignty.

Redeem — גָּאַל (Gaal)

To redeem, act as kinsman-redeemer

The Hebrew **gaal** (גָּאַל) means to redeem or act as kinsman-redeemer (go'el)—buying back family property or relatives. It foreshadows Christ redeeming His people through His blood.

Repent — שׁוּב / נָחַם (Shuv / Nacham)

To turn back, relent

The Hebrew **shuv** (שׁוּב) means to turn or return—a physical turning that represents spiritual redirection back to God. **Nacham** (נָחַם) conveys grief or relenting, often used of God 'repenting' of judgment.

Sanctify — **קִדַּשׁ** (Qadash)

To set apart, make holy

The Hebrew **qadash** (קִדַּשׁ) means to set apart or consecrate—separating something for God's sacred purposes. God sanctified the seventh day (Genesis 2:3) and calls His people to 'be holy; for I am holy' (Leviticus 11:44).

CROSS REFERENCES

Exodus 13:2 **Parallel theme:** Exodus 23:19; Leviticus 27:26; Numbers 18:15; Deuteronomy 15:19; Luke 2:23; Hebrews 12:23. **References Israel:** Exodus 4:22; Numbers 3:13

Exodus 13:3

References Lord: Exodus 13:14; 20:2; Deuteronomy 5:6; 5:15; 6:12; 8:14; 15:15; 24:18.

References Egypt: Deuteronomy 16:3; 16:12

Exodus 13:4 **Parallel theme:** Exodus 12:2; 23:15; 34:18

Exodus 13:5 **Parallel theme:** Exodus 3:8; 3:17; 34:11; Joshua 24:11. **References Lord:** Exodus 6:8; Deuteronomy 26:1

Exodus 13:7 **Parallel theme:** Exodus 12:19

Exodus 13:8 **References Lord:** Exodus 13:14. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 44:1

Exodus 13:9 **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 6:8; Matthew 23:5. **References Lord:** Exodus 12:14; 13:3; 13:16. **Word:** Numbers 15:39; Deuteronomy 30:14; Isaiah 59:21; Romans 10:8

Exodus 13:10 **Parallel theme:** Exodus 12:14

Exodus 13:11 **References Lord:** Exodus 13:5

Exodus 13:12 **References Lord:** Leviticus 27:26; Numbers 18:15; Deuteronomy 15:19. **Parallel theme:** Exodus 13:2; 22:29; 34:19; Numbers 3:12; 8:17; Ezekiel 44:30

Exodus 13:13 **Redemption:** Exodus 34:20

Exodus 13:14 **References Lord:** Exodus 13:3. **Parallel theme:** Joshua 4:6; Psalms 145:4

Exodus 13:15 **References Lord:** Exodus 12:29

Exodus 13:16 **References Lord:** Exodus 13:9; 13:14. **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 11:18

Exodus 13:17 **References God:** Nehemiah 9:17. **Repentance:** 1 Kings 8:47. **References Egypt:** Deuteronomy 17:16; Acts 7:39. **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 20:8; Acts 15:38

Exodus 13:18 **References Israel:** Exodus 14:2. **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 32:10

Exodus 13:19

References Israel: Joshua 24:32. **Parallel theme:** Acts 7:16. **References God:** Genesis 48:21

Exodus 13:21 **Light:** Nehemiah 9:12; 9:19; Psalms 78:14; 105:39. **Parallel theme:** Deuteronomy 1:33; Psalms 99:7. **References Lord:** Numbers 10:34; 14:14

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