

# EXODUS: GOD'S WAY FORWARD

## Fire and Cloud

<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. (Exodus 3:7,8)

**EXIT = step away and step toward**

### Exodus 1, 2 . . . The Old Testament's Christmas story

- Foreign domination
- Unfulfilled hopes
- Slaughtered children
- Unusual birth

<sup>1</sup>Now a man of the tribe of Levi married a Levite woman, <sup>2</sup>and she became pregnant and gave birth to a son. When she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him for three months. . . <sup>10</sup>When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, "I drew him out of the water." (Exodus 2:1,2,10)

### Exodus 3 . . . God's delivering fire

<sup>2</sup>There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. <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." (Exodus 3:2,4)

## Exodus 33 . . . God's \_holy\_ \_cloud\_

<sup>7</sup>Now Moses used to take a tent and pitch it outside the camp some distance away, calling it the “tent of meeting.” Anyone inquiring of the Lord would go to the tent of meeting outside the camp. <sup>9</sup>As Moses went into the tent, the pillar of cloud would come down and stay at the entrance, while the Lord spoke with Moses. (Exodus 33:7,9)

- God's proposition: You can have my \_promise\_ but not my \_presence\_
- Moses's bottom line:

<sup>15</sup>Then Moses said to him, **“If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here.** <sup>16</sup>How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?” (Exodus 33:15,16)

<sup>18</sup>Then Moses said, **“Now show me your glory.”** (Exodus 33:18)

## Exodus 40 . . . Our 2019 \_hunger\_ and \_hope\_

<sup>34</sup>Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. <sup>35</sup>Moses could not enter the tent of meeting because the cloud had settled on it, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.

<sup>36</sup>In all the travels of the Israelites, whenever the cloud lifted from above the tabernacle, they would set out; <sup>37</sup>but if the cloud did not lift, they did not set out—until the day it lifted. <sup>38</sup>So the cloud of the Lord was over the tabernacle by day, and fire was in the cloud by night, in the sight of all the Israelites during all their travels. (Exodus 40:34-38)

- Lord, help us let go of whatever \_holds\_ us back \_spiritually\_
- Lord, keep us \_hungry\_ for your \_presence\_
- Lord, lead us \_sovereignly\_ and \_supernaturally\_ forward