

EXODUS

Today's Scripture Reading

Exodus 22:16-31

EXODUS

¹⁶ If a man seduces a virgin who is not betrothed and lies with her, he shall give the bride-price for her and make her his wife. ¹⁷ If her father utterly refuses to give her to him, he shall pay money equal to the bride-price for virgins. ¹⁸ You shall not permit a sorceress to live. ¹⁹ Whoever lies with an animal shall be put to death. ²⁰ Whoever sacrifices to any god, other than the Lord alone, shall be devoted to destruction. ²¹ “You shall not wrong a sojourner or oppress him, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt. ²² You shall not mistreat any widow or fatherless child. ²³ If you do mistreat them, and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry,

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²⁴ and my wrath will burn, and I will kill you with the sword, and your wives shall become widows and your children fatherless. ²⁵ If you lend money to any of my people with you who is poor, you shall not be like a moneylender to him, and you shall not exact interest from him. ²⁶ If ever you take your neighbor's cloak in pledge, you shall return it to him before the sun goes down, ²⁷ for that is his only covering, and it is his cloak for his body; in what else shall he sleep? And if he cries to me, I will hear, for I am compassionate. ²⁸ You shall not revile God, nor curse a ruler of your people. ²⁹ You shall not delay to offer from the fullness of your harvest and from the outflow of your presses.

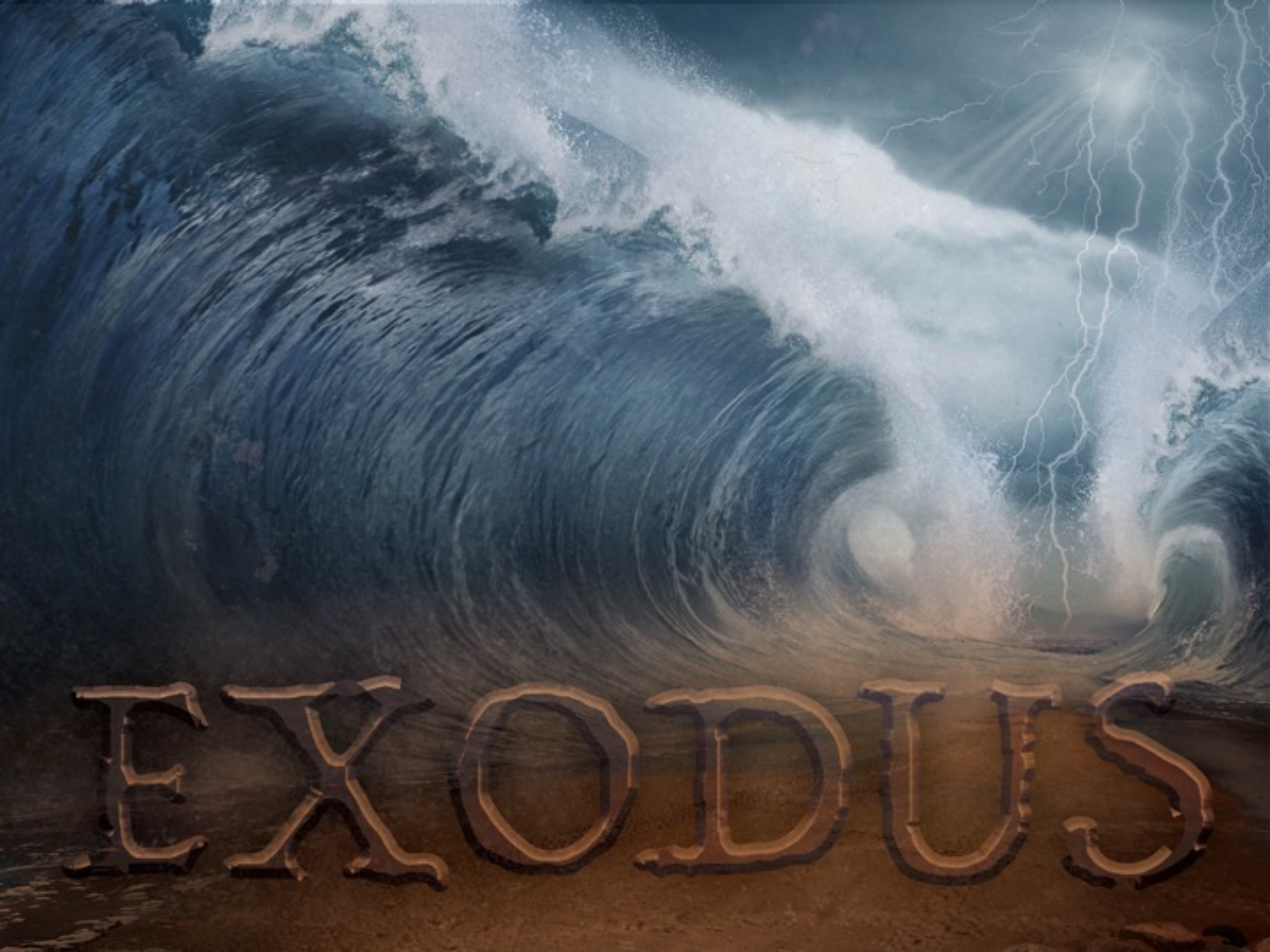
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The firstborn of your sons you shall give to me. ³⁰ You shall do the same with your oxen and with your sheep: seven days it shall be with its mother; on the eighth day you shall give it to me. ³¹ You shall be consecrated to me. Therefore you shall not eat any flesh that is torn by beasts in the field; you shall throw it to the dogs.

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EXODUS CURRENT OVERVIEW

- **1-2:** Israel Oppressed Moses is Born
- **3-4:** God reveals himself to Israel, Chooses Moses
- **5-7:** God Promises and Gives Deliverance to his people. Stand off with Pharaoh and God.
- **7-12:** Plagues
- **13-18:** Exodus (Pillar of Fire, Red Sea), bread from heaven, water from a rock
- **19-20:** God in Relationship, ten commandments
- **20:19-23:33:** Book of the Covenant

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22:16-31: *God's Concern for Community*

20:19-23:33: *The Covenant Code, or The Book of the Covenant*

THE BOOK OF COVENANT is distinct from **THE TEN COMMANDMENTS**

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LESSONS FROM THE LAWS

1. Accountability to God
2. Your neighbor matters
3. That holiness is private piety AND public morality

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7TH AND 8TH COMMANDMENT

Chastity - is sexual behavior of a man or woman that is acceptable to the moral standards and guidelines of their culture, civilization or religion.

Why is this law connected to cases of robbery?

God views this act of taking a woman virginity outside of marriage as stealing.

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1ST, 2ND AND 7TH COMMANDMENT

Sorcery - Never defined in the OT, means the purported ability to be in contact with and learn from the spirits of the dead.

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1ST, 2ND AND 7TH COMMANDMENT

- Sorcery is a challenge to the sovereignty and providence of God.
- Bestiality is a perversion and a denigration of the dignity of the image of God in man.
- Idolatry is a fundamental denial of our purpose for being.

Moses sees these as killing the soul

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Humanitarian vs. God's Command & Character

- What does usury mean? “interest”

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²⁸ You shall not revile God, nor curse a ruler of your people.

- *Acts 23:5*
- *Romans 13:1-7*

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Why does God require this?

³¹ You shall be consecrated to me. Therefore you shall not eat any flesh that is torn by beasts in the field; you shall throw it to the dogs.

- *God's standards are even reflected in the eating habits.*
- *Very basic principle for the Hebrew (Acts 15:20, 29; cf. 21:25).*

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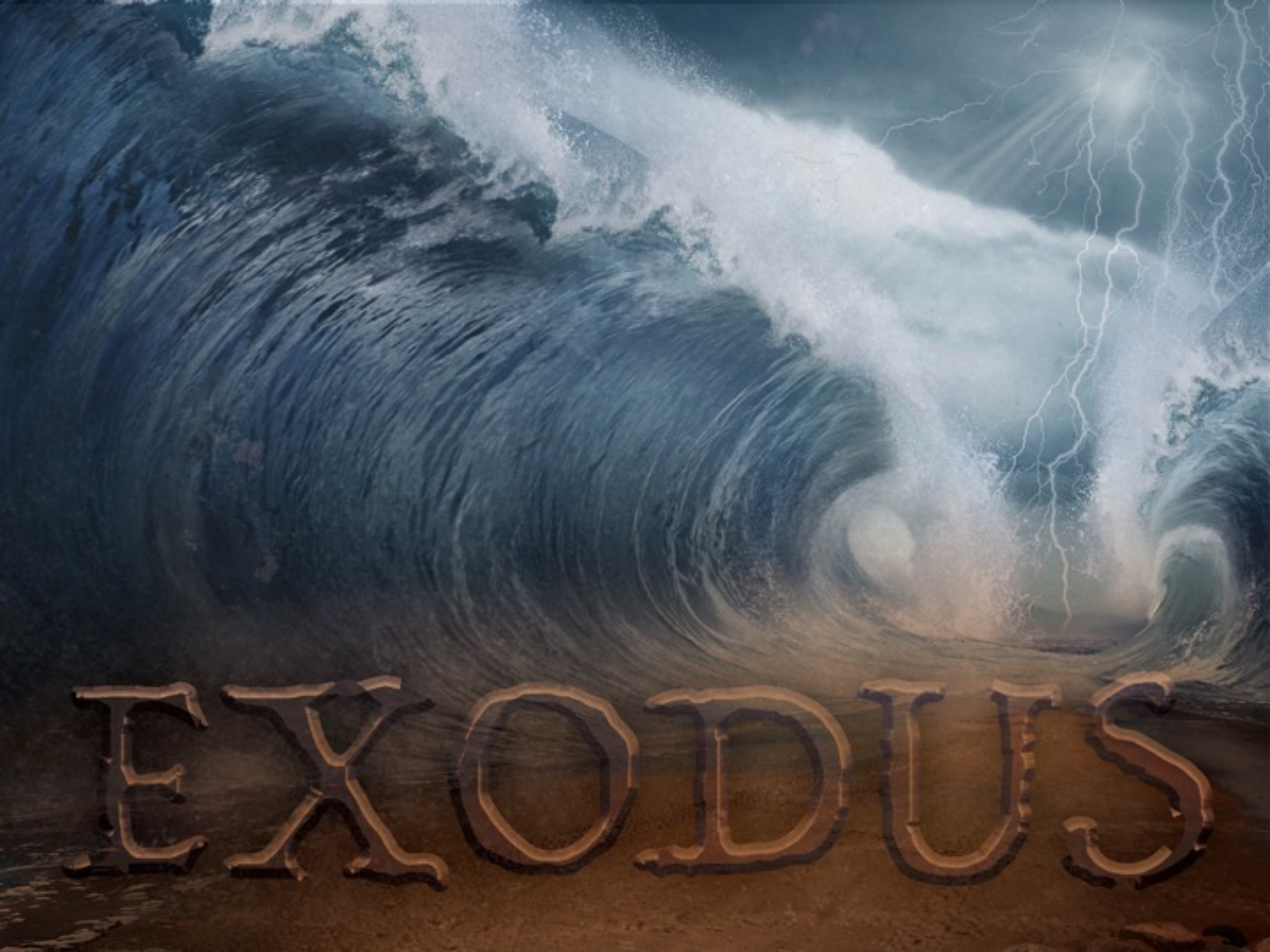
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THE MAIN THOUGHT FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

God's concern for the community is that we would represent Him well!

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