Exod 12:29-32

12:29 And it came to pass, that at midnight the LORD smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne unto the firstborn of the captive that was in the dungeon; and all the firstborn of cattle. 30 And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he, and all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt; for there was not a house where there was not one dead.

31 And he called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, Rise up, and get you forth from among my people, both ye and the children of Israel; and go, serve the LORD, as ye have said. 32 Also take your flocks and your herds, as ye have said, and be gone; and bless me also.

		12:1-28	12:29-42	12:43-50	12:51	13:1-16	(13:17ff)
Legislation	The Lord's Instructions to Moses	:1-20 • :1-13 **Passover** • :14-20 **Unleavened Bread**		:43-49 **Passover**		:1-2 **Firstborn**	
	Moses' Repetition to the People	:21-27a **Passover**				:3-16 • :3-10 **Unleavened Bread** • :11-16 **Firstborn**	
	People's Response	:27b-28		:50			
History			• :29-39 Detail • :40-42 Summary		:51		(13:17ff)

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For Discussion

- Why is there such close verbal alignment between 12:29-31 and Moses' last message for Pharaoh in 11:4-8?
- Does 12:31a contradict 10:28?
- What is ironic about Pharaoh's repeated command to Israel in 12:31-32 to "go"?
- What precedent is there for Moses to bless Pharaoh?
- How does this blessing reflect God's covenant with Abraham?
- How does Isaiah pick up this theme of God's blessing on Egypt?
- What is the function of the chiastic organization of 12:33-39?
- What features of the Exodus does this chiasm highlight?
- What broader mission for Israel does the presence of the mixed multitude anticipate?

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12:29-30, Death of the Firstborn

Moses' Warning to Pharaoh	The Fulfillment
11:4 And Moses said, Thus saith the LORD, About **midnight** will **I** go out into the midst of Egypt:	12:29 And it came to pass, that **at midnight the LORD**
11:5 And **all the firstborn in the land of Egypt** shall die,	smote **all the firstborn in the land of Egypt,**
from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sitteth upon his throne,	**from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne**
even unto the firstborn of the **maidservant** that is behind the mill;	unto the firstborn of the **captive** that was in the dungeon;
and **all the firstborn of beasts H929.**	and **all the firstborn of cattle H929.**
	30 And Pharaoh rose up **in the night**, he, and all his servants, and all the Egyptians;
6 And there shall be **a great cry** throughout all the land of **Egypt**,	and there was **a great cry in Egypt;**
such as there **was none** like it, **nor shall be** like it any more. [temporally unparalleled]	for there **was not a house** where there was not one dead. [spatially universal]

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12:31-32, Released

Warning	Fulfillment
11:8 And all these **thy servants shall come down** unto me,	12:31 And **he called for Moses and Aaron** by night, and said,
and **bow down themselves** unto me,	**Rise up**,
saying, **Get thee out**,	and **get you forth** from among my people,
and **all the people** that follow thee:	both ye and **the children of Israel**;

Exo 10:28 And Pharaoh said unto him, **Get thee (הלך halak H3212)** from me, take heed to thyself, see my face no more; for in that day thou seest my face thou shalt die. 29 And Moses said, Thou hast spoken well, I will see thy face again no more.

Exod 12:32b and **go (H3212), serve** the LORD, as ye have said. 32 Also **take your flocks and your herds**, as ye have said, **and be gone (H3212)**; and **bless me** also.

31b go, serve

Ex. 5:4 … Wherefore do ye, Moses and Aaron, let the people from their works? **get you** unto your burdens.

Ex. 5:11 **Go ye**, get you straw where ye can find it:

Ex. 5:18 **Go** therefore now, and work [**go, serve**]; for there shall no straw be given you,

32 take … and be gone

Ex. 8:25 … **Go ye**, sacrifice to your God in the land.

Ex. 10:8 … **Go**, serve the LORD your God: but who are they that shall go? … 11 … **go** now ye that are men, …

Ex. 10:24 … **Go ye**, serve the LORD; only let your flocks and your herds be stayed: let your little ones also go with you.

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12:32 Bless Me Also

Gen 47:7 And Joseph brought in Jacob his father, and set him before Pharaoh: and **Jacob blessed Pharaoh.** … 10 And **Jacob blessed Pharaoh**, and went out from before Pharaoh.

Gen 12:3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and **in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.**

Isaiah's Burdens (13-24)

Babylon (13:1)
Assyria (13:24)
Philistia (14:28)
Moab (15:1)
Damascus (17:1)
Egypt (19:1)
Dumah (21:11)
Arabia (21:13)
Tyre (23:1)

\+ desert (21:1), valley (22:1)

Isa 19:18 **In that day** shall five cities in the land of Egypt speak the language of Canaan, and swear to the LORD of hosts; one shall be called, The city of destruction.

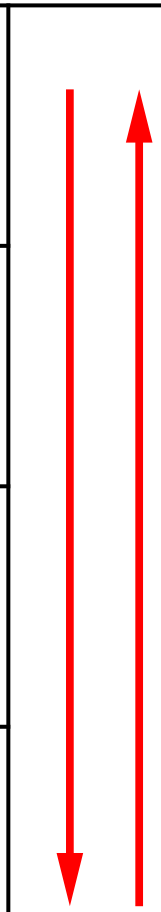
19 **In that day** shall there be an altar to the LORD in the midst of the land of Egypt, and a pillar at the border thereof to the LORD. 20 And it shall be for a sign and for a witness unto the LORD of hosts in the land of Egypt: for they shall cry unto the LORD because of the oppressors, and he shall send them a saviour, and a great one, and he shall deliver them. 21 And the LORD shall be known to Egypt, and **the Egyptians shall know the LORD in that day**, and shall do sacrifice and oblation; yea, they shall vow a vow unto the LORD, and perform it. 22 And the LORD shall smite Egypt: he shall smite and heal it: and they shall return even to the LORD, and he shall be intreated of them, and shall heal them.

23 **In that day** shall there be a highway out of Egypt to Assyria, and the Assyrian shall come into Egypt, and the Egyptian into Assyria, and the Egyptians shall serve with the Assyrians.

24 **In that day** shall Israel be the third with Egypt and with Assyria, even a blessing in the midst of the land: 25 Whom the LORD of hosts shall bless, saying, **Blessed be Egypt my people, and Assyria the work of my hands, and Israel mine inheritance.**

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12:33-39 Leaving Egypt

33 And the Egyptians were **urgent** upon the people, that they might send them out of the land **in haste**; for they said, We be all dead men.		because they were **thrust out** of Egypt, and **could not tarry**, neither had they prepared for themselves any victual.
34 And the people took their dough **before it was leavened**, their kneadingtroughs being bound up in their clothes upon their shoulders.		39 And they baked unleavened cakes of the dough which they brought forth out of Egypt, **for it was not leavened;**
35 And the children of Israel did according to the word of Moses; and they borrowed of the Egyptians **jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment:**		and **flocks, and herds, even very much cattle.**
36 And the LORD **gave the people favour** in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they lent unto them such things as they required. And they spoiled the Egyptians.		38 And **a mixed multitude went up also with them;**
37 And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand on foot that were men, beside children.		

Exo 11:1 Yet will I bring one plague more upon Pharaoh, and upon Egypt; afterwards he will let you go hence: when he shall let you go, **he shall surely thrust you out** hence altogether.

Exo 9:20 He that feared the word of the LORD among the servants of Pharaoh made his servants and his cattle flee into the houses: 21 And he that regarded not the word of the LORD left his servants and his cattle in the field.

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God's Servant as a Light to the Nations

Israel as God's Servant

Isa 41:8 But thou, **Israel, art my servant**, **Jacob** whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend.

Isa 44:1 Yet now hear, **O Jacob my servant; and Israel, whom I have chosen**:

Isa 49:3 And said unto me, Thou art **my servant, O Israel**, in whom I will be glorified.

Servant as Light to Unbelievers

Isa 42:1 Behold **my servant**, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall **bring forth judgment to the Gentiles**. … 6 I the LORD have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, **for a light of the Gentiles**;

Isa 49:6 And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be **my servant** to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for **a light to the Gentiles**, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth.

Applied to the Lord Jesus …

Luk 2:28 Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said, 29 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: 30 For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, 31 Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; 32 **A light to lighten the Gentiles**, and the glory of thy people Israel.

… and to Believers

Act 13:46 Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles. 47 For **so hath the Lord commanded us,** saying, **I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles**, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth. [Isa 49:6]

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Leaving Egypt

Exo 12:37 And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand on foot that were men, beside children.

Features to note:

- Line of lakes from Gulf of Suez to Mediterranean
- All activity so far is west of this line
- “Way of the land of the Philistines,” 13:17 “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:”
- Eventually they cross the “Red Sea” and stay east of the line.



J. Hoffmeier, *Ancient Israel in Sinai*, Oxford, 2005, Figure 1

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