

Wk 7 Ses 7: Egypt and Exodus: Part 2 (Color is Red representing the division of the Red Sea)

Wk 8 Readings: Num 1-24; Deut 8; Matt 4:1-4; CCC 1897-1900

1. After 400 yrs in Egyptian captivity, God is going to give them identity-form them into a kingdom of priests as His firstborn among the nations (Ex 19); enter into a **covenant** relationship (the 4th Covenant of 6 made w/Man) with 10 Commandments, Ex 24, as *terms of the covenant*-Ex 19-20 (a go-between God and others to bring Good News; they are to become example of God's presence in the world).

2. God gives them

His laws - *the 10 Commandments* (Chapter 20) – 3rd Pillar of the Catholic Church; universal moral law
Gift of the Sabbath. (After 400 yrs as humiliated slaves working constantly, the gift of a day of REST)

Tabernacle (He will live among them; unlike other gods who live in clouds and makes sport of humans)

3. **Torah** (root word: *Yarah* = to throw or to cast – archers term used to describe hitting the mark) = Our mark - to be in glory/presence of God; to be with God – Sin is *missing* the mark

NOTE: The LAW must be understood in context of **Covenant** and **Relationship**

4. Process of *relationship*: 1. Dating w/o rules 2. Relationship deepens 3. Commitment (engagement) – rules; responsibilities to each other and relationship 4. Marriage: becomes *Covenant relationship* – gladly follow rules

5. Story of the watch: “You can turn your watch to whatever time you want (do as you please and make excuses) but one day you will stand before God and you will be judged not by *your* watch but by His”; it is our choice to either “obey” or “disobey” His laws

6. 1st Commandment –Ex 20:3-4: “...no other gods.”(CCC2085) – **means our #1 vocation is to manifest the presence of God to the world** (other “gods” include obsession with money, power, position, pornography, consulting horoscopes, astrology, palm reading, etc.) – even done in fun or entertainment is still wrong
Graven images: CCC paragraph 2130 & 2131) – because did not know what God looked like – Incarnation changed that when God was manifested in Jesus – they are permitted to make an image that focuses on salvation

QUESTION: Do you TRUST God? Don't rely on anything else to harness the future

7. Exodus 21, 22, 23 = **Book of the COVENANT** = Israel's first Catechism (grew up in abusive environment; needed to know how God's wants them to behave; their commitment to follow His laws was concluded with *covenant ceremony* – They now become a **One Holy Nation**

8. Their identity as a nation and their trust in God is centered around liturgical (formal) worship and the tabernacle – one big problem: they are **addicted** to the Egyptian ways of worship and create Golden Calf to worship – liken to alcoholic or drug addict: when going gets tough, may revert back to addicted behaviors and Moses wasn't there - Aaron allowed this. God was angry and wanted to destroy them but Moses debated with God; first by appealing to God's reputation and foremost, appealed to God's covenant, His *sworn oath* to Himself made with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob

9. Ex 32: big change – because of their idolatry, no longer *nation* of priests; God chooses one tribe: Tribe of Levi (like deacons and come from Aaron's family); source of **Book of Leviticus** – two parts: Lev 1-16 = priestly code and chapter 17= holiness code

10: MARKER: Israel has received a new form of *priesthood*, a *liturgy* in the Tabernacle, *the LAW* and now a **LITURGICAL YEAR**, a way of revisiting the great moment of salvation history beginning w/Sabbath (every 7th day), Sabbatical Year (every 7th year), Year of Jubilee (every 7 x 7 yrs), 3 major feasts (Pilgrimage feasts, Feast of Unleavened Bread, Passover) Also Feasts of Tabernacle and others)

11. Catholic Church has Liturgical Calendar (Advent – preparing for the King, Christmas- the birth of the King, ordinary time with teachings of the King, Lent-preparing for death, burial, and resurrection of the king; then Easter, ordinary time culminated by Feast of Christ the King

12. God's *Presence* among the people sets them apart from all others; without God among them, they do not have an identity/mission – In Catholic Church today, God dwells among us in the real **PRESENCE** – God's *Word* made Flesh (Tabernacle, Eucharist); - why we cross ourselves when passing in front of a Catholic Church; recognize His Presence

13. Contents of Ark of Covenant: Bowl of Manna (Bread from Heaven), staff of Aaron (signifies priestly authority) and 10 Commandments Tablets

14. Many relationships between construction of tabernacle and story of creation; the tabernacle is like a *microcosm* OF CREATION
15. The Tabernacle is taking the *Presence of God* from Mt Sinai and making Him present in the Holy of Holies to be among Israel; makes them unique among nations – their God dwells and travels with them
16. Israel spends one year at Mt Sinai (see also Book of Numbers)
 17. Israel had all the miraculous signs – The Presence of God; the fire, the cloud, the Ark of the Covenant, a priesthood, Moses but did they trust Him?
18. We have Eucharist, Bible, Catechism, Blessed Mother, saints, Trinity, tradition, 24 Hr Devotion – Do you trust God? Could we be in Israel's position (after 2,000 years)?
19. Israel is now ready to pull up camp and go North but will have more struggles as they wander in the desert; ***complacency leads to trouble.***

Significance of certain numbers in the Bible

#	MEANING	#	MEANING
1	Unity; New beginnings	30	Dedication; Blood of Christ
2	Union; Division, Witnessing	31	Offspring
3	Divine completeness and perfection	32	Covenant
4	Creation; World	33	Promise
5	God's goodness; Grace; Pentateuch (First Five Books)	34	Naming of a son
6	Weakness of man; Manifestation of sin; Satan	35	Hope
7	Resurrection; Spiritual completeness	36	Enemy
8	New beginnings	37	Word of our Father
9	Divine completeness from the Father; Fruit of Spirit	38	Slavery
0	Testimony; Law and responsibility	39	Disease
11	Disorder and judgment	40	Probation; Trials; Testing
12	Governmental perfection	42	First advent; Israel's oppression
13	Apostasy; depravity and rebellion	44	Judgment of the World
14	Salvation; Deliverance	49	Preservation
15	Rest	50	Holy Spirit; Pentecost
16	Love	60	Pride
17	Victory	66	Idol Worship
18	Bondage	70	Punishment/restoration of Israel
19	Faith	100	Children of the Promise; Election
20	Redemption	119	Spiritual perfection/victory
21	Exceeding sinfulness of sin	120	Divine period of probation
22	Light	144	The Spirit Guided Life
23	Death	200	Insufficiency
24	The Priesthood	600	Warfare
25	Forgiveness of sins; Repentance	666	Antichrist
26	Gospel of Christ	777	Christ
27	Preaching the Gospel	888	Holy Spirit; the sum of Tree of Life
28	Eternal Life	1000	Divine Completeness; Father's Glory
29	Departure		