

## CONTENTS

---

<i>List of Illustrations</i>	xī
<i>Foreword</i>	xv
INTRODUCTION	1
PART ONE   GENERAL FOUNDATIONS	
CHAPTER ONE	
<i>Theme and Structure of the Book of Exodus</i>	11
Exodus (Chapters 1–15)	11
<i>God Reveals His Name—God Reveals His Power</i>	
Sinai—Calling, Covenant, and Law (Chapters 15–24)	20
<i>The Way to Sinai—God Reveals the Covenant</i>	
Divine Presence (Chapters 25–40)	25
<i>God Reveals the Tabernacle—Revelation of the Divine Being:     Breach and Reconciliation—The Tabernacle Is Built—The     Revelation Concludes: God’s Permanent Presence</i>	
CHAPTER TWO	
<i>The Historical Background: Event and Remembrance</i>	32
Memories	34
<i>The Hyksos—Amarna—Habiru/‘apiru—Waves of Migration,     Sea Peoples—Theocracy</i>	
Experiences	47
<i>Miraculous Redemption from Mortal Danger—The “Secession     of the Northern Tribes”: The First Occasion for Remembering     the Exodus?—Israel Refounded: The Principal Occasion for     Remembering the Exodus</i>	

## CHAPTER THREE

<i>Textual History and the History of Meaning</i>	55
Redaction as "Cultivation of Meaning": Textual Layering in the Bible	55
From Myth to Canon and Back	74
The "Mosaic Distinctions" and the Monotheism of Loyalty	79

## PART TWO | THE EXODUS

## CHAPTER FOUR

<i>The Tribulations of the Israelites and the Birth of the Savior</i>	93
Bondage in Egypt	93
The Birth of the Child	106
Moses's Childhood and Upbringing	114

## CHAPTER FIVE

<i>God Reveals His Name: Moses at the Burning Bush</i>	117
Moses Is Called	117
God Renews His Promise	123
Excursus I: The Burning Bush in Schoenberg's Opera <i>Moses und Aron</i>	126
I Am That I Am	131

## CHAPTER SIX

<i>Signs and Wonders: God Reveals His Power</i>	138
The Plagues of Egypt	138
The Egyptian-Hellenistic Tradition	154
The Institution of the Passover Feast and the Passover Haggadah	161
Excursus II: Moses's Song of Thanksgiving and Handel's Oratorio <i>Israel in Egypt</i>	173

## PART THREE | THE COVENANT

## CHAPTER SEVEN

<i>The Calling of the People</i>	181
Holy People and Portable Fatherland	181
The Torah as Memory	191
The Development of the Covenant Idea: Bridal and Filial Metaphors	196

## CHAPTER EIGHT

*Treaty and Law* 204

- The Deconstruction of Kingship: Treaty and Law as the  
Constitution of God's People 204
- The Ten Commandments 209
- The Covenant Code and the Solemnization of the Covenant 224
- Excursus III: "Excarnation" and Theologization of the Law 236
- Excursus IV: The Decalogue and Egyptian Norms for Judging  
the Dead 240

## CHAPTER NINE

*Resistance: Moses and the Violent Fate of the Prophets* 253

- Murmuring in the Desert 253
- The Murder of Moses? 271
- The Violent Fate of the Prophets 276

## CHAPTER TEN

*The Institutionalization of Divine Presence* 287

- YHWH Comes to Dwell among His People 287
- The Golden Calf: The Original Sin against the Covenant 302
- Excursus V: The Golden Calf in Schoenberg's Opera *Moses und Aron* 317
- A "Book of the Temple"? 322

## CONCLUSION 327

- Narrative, Historical, and Performative Truth 327
- Revelation 329
- Out of Egypt 332
- Exodus as Political Myth 334
- Exodus and Monotheism 335

*Notes* 339

*Bibliography* 365

*Illustration Credits* 383

*Index* 385