

Discussion Questions

- 1. Can you think of any comparisons between modern society and the line of Cain (and the tower builders) in their quest to make temporal life an eternal paradise (see pp. 7-16)?
- 2. How are the lives of Christians today similar to that of Abraham, especially in how the author of Hebrews describes God's people in Hebrews 11 (see chap. 2)?
- 3. Although God's glory was the goal of the exodus, his glory is also for the good of his people. Sometimes this means experiencing suffering in order to know more of him (see chap. 3, pp. 40-44). Can you list any examples of this in your own life?
- 4. Think of some ways in which Israel's sea crossing in Exodus 14 uses the language of creation and the flood in Genesis (see chap. 4, pp. 48-50; cf. Genesis 1:1–2:3; 7:1–9:17). What might be the significance of these allusions—what do they tell us about God and about his deliverance of his people?
- 5. The Lord is a dragon slayer (see pp. 62-65). Reflect on Christ's victory over Satan by reading Revelation 12:9 and 20:2. List, with joy and thanksgiving, as many evils as you can think of that will no longer persist in the new creation.
- 6. Imagine if the exodus plagues and deliverance out of Egypt never included the Passover event (see chap. 5). What would be missing in Israel's view of God?
- 7. Moses was a faithful servant of the Lord (see chap. 6), and he serves as a pattern for understanding the mediation of Jesus Christ. How does Jesus' role as mediator surpass that of Moses? (For one example, see John 1:17-18.)
- 8. The central sacrifice of Israel's worship was the whole burnt offering (pp. 92-96). How was Jesus' earthly life and ministry a fulfillment of the meaning of this sacrifice?
- 9. One of the elements marking the prophesied second exodus as greater than the first is the greater outpouring of the Holy Spirit (see pp. 119-131, 173-184). Why is this feature, the gift of the Holy Spirit, so crucial? What would have been the result of a second exodus without the gift of the Spirit? Can you think of any ways in which Israel's life after the return from Babylon demonstrated that the Spirit had not yet been given?
- 10. In what ways does the portrait of Jesus in the four Gospels resemble the suffering servant of Isaiah (see chaps. 10 and 11)?

- 11. What theological richness is added to our understanding of Jesus' death by presenting him as a Passover lamb in John's Gospel (see chap. 12)?
- 12. List five examples of life situations where a believer's sure hope is found in the resurrection. What problems or struggles will be resolved finally and everlastingly at the resurrection (see chap. 14)? Pray for fellow believers (and yourself) to be able to persevere through such hardships, while thanking God for Jesus' victorious resurrection.