



Our Plight (Exodus 1:8-13; Colossians 1:13-14)
Welcome to the Story pt. 1
Pastor Tim Peck

THE BIG IDEA

In Israel's plight in Egypt, we see the human problem: we are held captive by our own sins, oppressed by the tyranny of evil, and enslaved by the inevitability of death.

OPENING

- What storylines from movies or books did you most identify with as a child?
- What answers to the question, "What is the human problem" do you hear most often?

DIGGING DEEPER

- Bible scholar N. T. Wright suggests that Colossians 1:13-14 evokes the Exodus story.¹ How was Pharaoh's Egypt in Exodus 1:8-13 a "domain of darkness"?
- Colossians 1:14 uses the word "redemption." At its root, this word refers to paying a price to purchase a slave's freedom. Most often in the Bible, this word is looking back at the Exodus story. How does Exodus 6:6 support this idea? How is this idea used in Ephesians 1:7?
- Pastor Tim talked about an unseen realm of evil that opposes God and what God wants. What does Ephesians 6:11-17 teach about this unseen realm? How should Christians respond to it?

¹N. T. Wright, *Colossians and Philemon*, Tyndale New Testament Commentary (InterVarsity, 2008), p. 65.

- How does the sacrament of baptism illustrate death and resurrection in Romans 6:3-4?

PUTTING IT TO WORK

- Take time this week to ask God to search you and show you the areas he wants to help you grow in during the season of Lent. Write down what God reveals.

- As a thought experiment, imagine watching your own funeral. What would you hope people would say about you? Imagine your family, your friends, your coworkers, and your church family speaking. Write down what you'd hope others would say about you and where you need to grow to become that kind of person.

PRAYER REQUESTS