



THE BIBLE IN VERSE

... by Alvy E. Ford

EXODUS

CHAPTERS 1 TO 40

Chapter 1

Children of Israel grow and wax strong.
Pharaoh is fearful that things may go wrong,
Makes all the Hebrews with work to abound,
Orders all babies, if boys, to be drowned.

Chapter 2

Moses is born, on the water does float.
Pharaoh's own girl takes him out of the boat.
Moses when grown kills a man and takes flight.
God is concerned about Israel's plight.

Chapter 3

Bush is long burning, and yet is not burned.
Moses observes and his thoughts are there turned.
Moses at Horeb is given a charge.
He is to set all the Hebrews at large.

Chapter 4

Moses gets signs to convince he is true,
Also gets Aaron his speaking to do,
Shows to the Hebrews the sign of the rod;
People believe and give honor to God.

Chapter 5

Moses seeks Pharaoh's permission to leave.
Pharaoh gives orders that cause them to grieve.
Taskmasters stoop to ingenious tricks,
Firmly refusing them straw for their bricks.

Chapter 6

God again promises blessed relief.
They shall be freed from their bondage and grief.
He will deliver the people by force,
Lineage of Moses is stated by course.

Chapter 7

Now Aaron's rod to a serpent is changed.
Plagues are begun as the Lord has arranged.
Waters are blood; there is nothing to drink.
Pharaoh rebels though the waters do stink.

Chapter 8

Frogs venture forth upon people and land,
Promptly are slain at Jehovah's command.
Then comes the lice, and the populace cries.
Pharaoh rebels and the Lord sends the flies.

Chapter 9

Horrible murrain, the cattle are slain.
Ashes of furnace, a torturing blain.
Elements thunder and multitudes die.
Fire on the ground and the hail from the sky.

Chapter 10

Pharaoh rebels so the locusts are sent;
Yet he is stubborn, too hard to relent.
Three days of darkness, so dark it is felt.
Pharaoh has Moses abruptly expelled.

Chapter 11

Yet one more plague will cause Pharaoh to grieve;
Then he will hurriedly ask them to leave.
Then will the people be torn in their hearts.
Moses in anger from Pharaoh departs.

Chapter 12

Passover now is ordained for the host.
Blood shall be struck on the lintel and post.
Firstborn is slain in each house in the land.
Israelites journey at Pharaoh's command.

Chapter 13

Firstborn are all set apart or redeemed.
This day shall always be highly esteemed.
God leads the way as a visible sight,
Cloud in the daytime and fire by night.

Chapter 14

Children of Israel come to the sea,
Hemmed in by mountains, with no place to flee.
Sea is divided; they cross on dry ground.
Pharaoh pursues, is encompassed and drowned.

Chapter 15

People now join in the singing of praise,
Thanking the Lord for His glorious ways.
Waters of Marah are healed with a tree.
God tells them there that He, healing, will be.

Chapter 16

People complain against Moses for bread.
God sends them manna and quail instead.
Morning it's manna, and evening it's quail
Never in forty long years does it fail.

Chapter 17

People at Rephidim thirst and are bad.
Rock is then smitten and water is had.
Amalek comes against Moses to fight.
Joshua puts the attackers to flight.

Chapter 18

Jethro, the priest, now brings Moses his wife,
Hears his good fortune and gives him advice;
Tells him to not use himself as a drudge,
Rather, choose elders to help him to judge.

Chapter 19

People to Sinai are now gathered near;
There they assemble with quaking and fear.
Moses ascends, to be taught of the Lord.
People stand back lest they suffer His sword.

Chapter 20

Moses is given the law on the mount.
People ask Moses to hear and recount.
They are afraid of the signs in the sky.
Standing afar lest God speak and they die.

Chapter 21

Judgments are given, which they must observe,
Treatment of Hebrews they purchase to serve,
Law of the hand and the tooth and the eye.
He who kills willfully surely must die.

Chapter 22

Judgments continued: of livestock and thief;
Loss as by fire of a vineyard or sheaf;
Vexing a stranger; enticing a maid;
Lending and usurey; pledges not paid.

Chapter 23

Judgments continued: the neighborly deed;
Telling the truth; being subject to greed;
Keeping the Sabbath for men and for beasts;
Worshipping idols and keeping of feasts.

Chapter 24

Moses gives all of the people this word.
People agree to the things they have heard.
Moses records all these things in a book.
Elders go up on the mountain to look.

Chapter 25

God for an offering brings His request:
Riches and spices and goods to be dressed.
Ark and a table are first to be made,
Built of fine wood and with gold overlaid.

Chapter 26

Curtains of linen, of scarlet and blue.
Covering shelter of badgers' skins too.
Tenons and sockets and taches and rings.
Veil and cherubim, splendor of kings.

Chapter 27

Altar of shittim wood, brass overlaid.
All of its vessels of brass, shall be made.
Courtyard, and curtains of linen fine-twined.
Oil for the light shall be pure and refined.

Chapter 28

These things by Aaron the priest shall be worn:
Glorious robes to enhance and adorn;
Ephod and girdle with beautiful tones;
Mitre and breastplate with wonderful stones.

Chapter 29

Aaron the priest shall be hallowed with care,
Washing and donning the garments so fair,
Making an offering waving the bread,
Having the blood and the oil on his head.

Chapter 30

Altar of incense of wood shall be made,
Foursquare with horns and with gold overlaid.
Aaron thereon shall burn incense each day.
Ointment and perfume are mixed their own way.

Chapter 31

God calls by name two young men for His crew,
Giving them skill in the things they must do,
Mentions the Sabbath, its standing alone,
Then gives to Moses two tables of stone.

Chapter 32

God talks of slaying the people in wrath.
They in their folly have molded a calf.
Moses prevails, then shatters the stones,
Goes to the Lord for their sin and atones.

Chapter 33

Moses is told to depart from this place.
God as a friend comes to talk face to face.
Moses then asks Him His favor to give.
No man may look on Jehovah and live.

Chapter 34

Moses hews stones and goes back to the mount;
There on the tables the Lord does recount.
Moses there witnesses glory divine,
Comes to the camp with a face that does shine.

Chapter 35

People now offer their stuff for the works,
Everyone willingly, nobody shirks,
Riches, and spices, and linen, and oil;
Two men are gifted to manage the toil.

Chapter 36

People give willingly, more than enough;
Then they are cautioned to hold back their stuff.
Then do the workers proceed with their task,
Doing whatever the leader may ask.

Chapter 37

Now Bezaleel starts working with gold,
Making the things of which Moses was told:
Ark and the mercy seat, cherubims too,
Altar of incense, and staves to slide through.

Chapter 38

Now is the altar of offering made,
Fashioned of wood and with brass overlaid.
Also Aholiab offers his skill.
Here is the stuff that was sent with good will.

Chapter 39

Now is the work of the building complete,
Richly adorned and with splendor replete.
All this equipment to Moses is brought.
He finds it perfect, the way he was taught.

Chapter 40

Moses gets everything fixed into place,
Each piece of furniture right in its space.
Then the bright cloud and the Glory appears.
Thus are they led in the following years..