





## I. Exodus 12:37-39

The Israelites journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about **six hundred thousand men** (gbr) on foot, besides children. A mixed crowd also went up with them, and livestock in great numbers, both flocks and herds. They baked unleavened cakes of the dough that they had brought out of Egypt; it was not leavened, because they were driven out of Egypt and could not wait, nor had they prepared any provisions for themselves.



## 2. Interlude : Statutes (Exodus 12:43 - 13:16)

### 1. Passover Statute (Exodus 12:43-51)

‘No uncircumcised person shall eat of the Passover.’

### 2. Firstborn Statute (Exodus 13:1-2)

‘Israel is my firstborn son’(Exodus 4:22)}

‘Yahweh said to Moses: Consecrate to me all the firstborn; whatever is the first to open the womb among the Israelites, of human beings and animals, is mine.



## Luke 2:22-23

They brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”).



- 3. The Israelites continue their journey (Exodus 13:17-19)
- ‘When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was nearer; for God thought, “If the people face war, they may change their minds and return to Egypt.” So God led the people by the roundabout way of the wilderness toward the Red Sea. The Israelites went up out of the land of Egypt prepared for battle. And Moses took with him the bones of Joseph who had required a solemn oath of the Israelites, saying, “God will surely take notice of you, and then you must carry my bones with you from here.” [= Genesis 50:25]



#### 4. Exodus 13:20-22

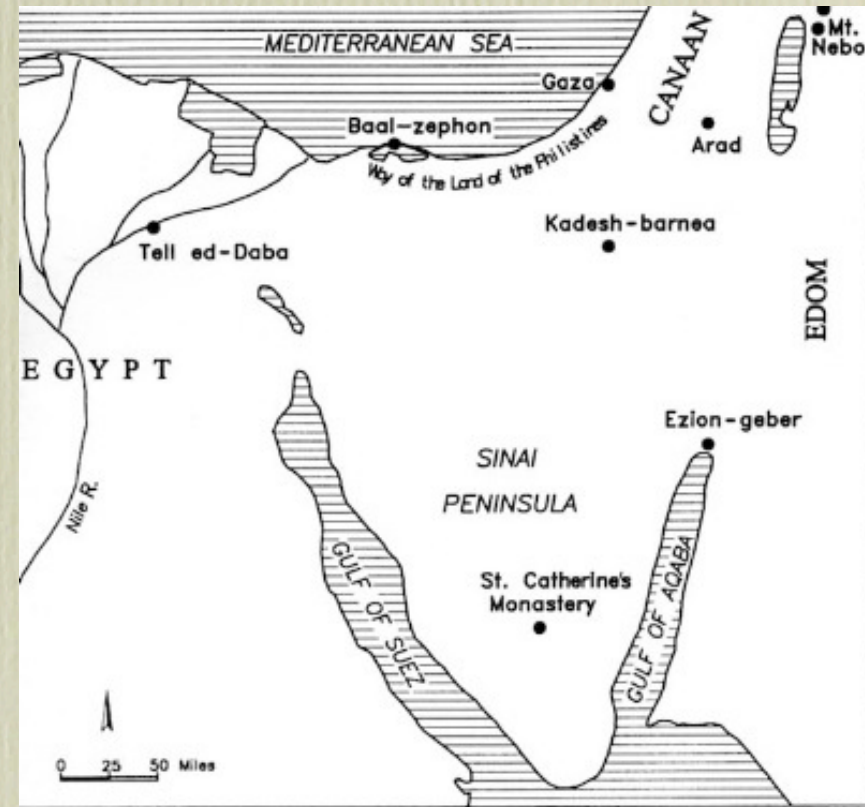
- They set out from Succoth, and camped at Etham, on the edge of the wilderness. YHWH went in front of them in a pillar of cloud by day, to lead them along the way, and in a pillar of fire by night, to give them light, so that they might travel by day and by night. Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of fire by night left its place in front of the people.'
- YHWH's Presence (Exodus 33:7-11; Numbers 11:24-25)
- to protect (Exodus 14:19-20) to guide (Numbers 10:10-11)



- 5. Exodus 14:5-9
- ‘When the king of Egypt was told that the people had fled ... he had his chariot made ready, and took his army with him; he took six hundred picked chariots and all the other chariots of Egypt with officers over all of them ... They overtook them camped by the sea, by Pi-hahiroth, in front of Baal-zephon.’

**Baal-zephon** at least 3 shrines in Egypt:

: on lake Sirbonis? separated by a narrow strip of sand from the Mediterranean.





- 6. The Israelites call out in fear (Exodus 14:10-12)
- ‘As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to YHWH. They said to Moses, “Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, ‘Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians’? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.”



- 7. Exodus 14:13-14
- But Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that YHWH will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. YHWH will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.”
- ‘YHWH, fight against those who fight against me!’(Psalm 35:1).
- ‘Be still and know that I am God’(Psalm 46:10)



Matthew 8:26

Jesus said to them, “Why are you afraid, you of little faith?” Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a dead calm.

Luke 1:30

The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God.

Luke 12:32

Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.



John 14:27

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

Acts 18:9

One night the Lord said to Paul in a vision,  
“Do not be afraid, but speak and do not be silent.

Hebrews 13:6

We can say with confidence, “The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?”



## 8. Exodus 14:19-20

- The Israelites separated from the Egyptian army
- The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.



## 9. Exodus 14:21-23

- The Israelites cross the water
- Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. YHWH drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers.



## 10. Exodus 14:24-25

- The Egyptian attempt to escape
- At the morning watch YHWH in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, “Let us flee from the Israelites, for YHWH is fighting for them against Egypt.”



## II. Exodus 14:26-27

- The Egyptian army is destroyed
- Then YHWH said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.” So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, Yahweh tossed the Egyptians into the sea.

## Psalm 78:53

‘God led them in safety, so that they were not afraid;  
but the sea overwhelmed their enemies.’



## 12. Exodus 14:28-29

- The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

## Isaiah 51:10

‘Was it not you who dried up the sea, the waters of the great deep; who made the depths of the sea a way for the redeemed to cross over?’



## Matthew 14:22-27

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”



## Matthew 14:28-33

Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” Jesus said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”



## 1 Corinthians 10:1-2, 11-13

- ‘I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptised into Moses in the cloud and in the sea ... These things happened to them to serve as an example ... So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall ... God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out.’



## Nehemiah 9:9-12

- ‘You saw the distress of our ancestors in Egypt and heard their cry at the Red Sea. You performed signs and wonders against Pharaoh and all his servants and all the people of his land, for you knew that they acted insolently against our ancestors. You made a name for yourself, which remains to this day. You divided the sea before them, so that they passed through the sea on dry land, but you threw their pursuers into the depths, like a stone into mighty waters. Moreover, you led them by day with a pillar of cloud, and by night with a pillar of fire, to give them light on the way in which they should go.’



## Wisdom 10:18-19

‘Wisdom brought them over the Red Sea, and led them through deep waters; but she drowned their enemies, and cast them up from the depth of the sea.’



### 13. Exodus 15:1-21

A Victory Hymn : archaic vocabulary, obsolete verb forms, and pre-classical spelling point to parts of this psalm being quite ancient.

#### Exodus 15:13

‘In your steadfast love you led the people whom you redeemed

redeem = liberate a slave (Exodus 6:6; Psalm 77:16; Isaiah 52:9).



The Book of Revelation was written to encourage Christians facing persecution. The third and final sign revealed at the sounding of the seventh trumpet is concerned with ‘God’s judgment’(14:7). The hymn of praise that rises up from the redeemed echoes the song of Moses, for it celebrates the eternal redemption effected by Christ.

Revelation 15:3

‘They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb.’



Paul's sermon at Antioch begins by referring to the Exodus:

‘The God of this people Israel chose our ancestors ... with uplifted arms he led them out of Egypt’(Acts 13:17).

The sermon concludes:

‘Through Jesus release from sins is being proclaimed to you, in regard to everything from which you could not be justified under the law of Moses. In him every believer is justified’(Acts 13:38-39).



## 14. Exodus 15:22 - 18:27 - Difficulties of the journey towards the establishment of a new social order

There are three main kinds of difficulties. Note original situation, and also the situation in pre-monarchic Israel in which the stories took shape.

1. Armed attack by enemies: a: In Sinai desert. b: in peasant revolt and later in anti-Philistine defence of high country.
2. Want and deprivation: a: In Sinai desert. b: before clearing of hill country and establishment of cisterns / canals
3. Problems of building a new social order that was open to divine guidance and not based on established political systems. a: In Sinai desert. b: In the confederacy.



- These difficulties led to counter-revolutionary protest, and attempts to go back to the security provided by an unjust social system:
- a: In Sinai desert [go back to Egypt]
- b: In the high country of Canaan [reproduce the Egyptian system: wanting a monarch].



1. God's providential care & obedience (Exodus 15:22-25)

1. need They went three days in the wilderness and found no water. When they came to Marah, they could not drink the water of Marah because it was bitter ...

2. complaint The people complained against Moses, saying, "What shall we drink?"

3. cry to God He cried out to YHWH; and YHWH showed him a piece of wood; he threw it into the water, and the water became sweet.



## Exodus 15:26-27

4. must obey There YHWH made for them a statute and an ordinance and there he put them to the test. He said, “If you will listen carefully to the voice of YHWH your God, and do what is right in his sight, and give heed to his commandments and keep all his statutes, I will not bring upon you any of the diseases that I brought upon the Egyptians; for I am YHWH who heals you.”

5. God cares Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve springs of water and seventy palm trees; and they camped there by the water.



God meets the people's need through the action of Moses

Sirach 38:4-8

‘YHWH created medicines out of the earth,  
and the sensible will not despise them.  
Was not water made sweet with a tree  
in order that its power might be known?  
And he gave skill to human beings  
that he might be glorified in his marvellous works.  
By them the physician heals and takes away pain;  
the pharmacist makes a mixture from them.  
God's works will never be finished;  
and from him health spreads over all the earth.’



## God's care despite rebellious grumbling (Exodus 16:1-3)

- The whole congregation of the Israelites set out from Elim; and came to the wilderness of Sin, between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had departed from the land of Egypt.



## God's care despite rebellious grumbling (Exodus 16:1-3)

- Failure of faith expressed in complaining  
The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of YHWH in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”



- Exodus 16:4
- God will meet their need while testing their obedience Then YHWH said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not.



- Instructions – Exodus 16:5-11
- Exodus 16:12
- “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am YHWH your God.’”



- Quails and Manna (Exodus 16:13-15; compare Numbers 11:1-35)
- In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?”[man hu] Moses said to them, “It is the bread that YHWH has given you to eat.



Exodus 16:29-31, 35

- See! YHWH has given you the sabbath [first mention], therefore on the sixth day he gives you food for two days; each of you stay where you are; do not leave your place on the seventh day.” So the people rested on the seventh day. The house of Israel called it manna; it was like coriander seed, white, and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey [a sugary secretion from an insect that lives on the sap of the tamarisk bush]. ... The Israelites ate manna 40 years, until they came to a habitable land; they ate manna, until they came to the border of the land of Canaan.



## Psalm 78:18-23

They tested God in their heart by demanding the food they craved. They spoke against God, saying, “Can God spread a table in the wilderness? Even though he struck the rock so that water gushed out and torrents overflowed, can he also give bread, or provide meat for his people?”

Therefore, when YHWH heard, he was full of rage; a fire was kindled against Jacob, his anger mounted against Israel, because they had no faith in God, and did not trust his saving power. Yet he commanded the skies above, and opened the doors of heaven.



## Psalm 78:24-29

He rained down on them manna to eat,  
and gave them the grain of heaven.

Mortals ate of the bread of angels;  
he sent them food in abundance.

He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens,  
and by his power he led out the south wind;  
he rained flesh upon them like dust,  
winged birds like the sand of the seas;  
he let them fall within their camp,  
all around their dwellings.

And they ate and were well filled,  
for he gave them what they craved.



## Mark 6:39-43

- ‘In the wilderness Jesus ordered the disciples to get all the people to sit down in groups on the green grass. So they sat down in groups of hundreds and of fifties. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to his disciples to set before the people; and he divided the two fish among them all. And all ate and were filled; and they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish.’



## John 6:27, 31-33

Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal ... Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”



## John 6:35, 48-51

Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. ... I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”



## John 6:55-58

“My flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me.

This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.”



1Corinthians 10:3

‘All ate the same spiritual food.’

Revelation 2:17

‘To everyone who conquers I will give  
of the hidden manna.’