

From Succoth to Etham (c. 16 Nisan [April] 1446 BC)

Exodus 13:17–22

Numbers 33:6

17 And when Pharaoh released the people, God did not lead them the way of the land of the Philistines, though it *was* nearer, because God said, “Lest the people change their mind when they see war and return to Egypt.”

18 So God led the people around *by* the way of the desert to the Red Sea, and the Israelites went up in battle array from the land of Egypt.

19 And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him because *Joseph* had made the Israelites solemnly swear an oath, saying, “God will surely attend to you, and you will take up my bones from here with you.”

20 And they set out from Succoth, and they encamped at Etham on the edge of the desert.

21 And Yahweh was going before them by day in a column of cloud to lead them *on* the way and *by* night in a column of fire to give light to them to go by day and night.

22 The column of cloud by day and the column of fire *by* night did not depart from before the people.

6 They journeyed from Succoth and camped in Etham, which *is* on the edge of the desert.

From Etham to Pi-hahiroth (c. 17 Nisan [April] 1446 BC)

Exodus 14:1–4; Numbers 33:7

Exod 14:1 And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying,

2 “Speak to the Israelites so that they turn and encamp before Pi-hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea; before Baal Zephon, *which is* opposite it, you will camp by the sea.

3 And Pharaoh will say of the Israelites, ‘They are wandering around in the land. The desert has closed in on them.’

4 And I will harden the heart of Pharaoh, and he will chase after them, and I will be glorified through Pharaoh and through all his army, and *the* Egyptians will know that I *am* Yahweh.” And they did so.

Num 33:7 Then they set out from Etham and returned to Pi-Hahiroth, which faces Baal Zephon, and they camped before Migdol.

The Crossing of the Red Sea (April 1446 BC)

Exodus 14:5–15:21

God Hardens Pharaoh’s Heart to Pursue the Israelites

14:5 And it was told to the king of Egypt that the people fled, and the heart of Pharaoh was changed and *that of* his servants toward the people, and they said, “What *is* this we have done, that we have released Israel from serving us!”

6 And he harnessed his chariot and took with him his people.

7 And he took six hundred select chariots and all the chariots of Egypt and officers over all of them.

8 And Yahweh hardened the heart of Pharaoh the king of Egypt, and he chased after the Israelites. (Now the Israelites *were* going out boldly.)

9 And *the* Egyptians chased after them, and they overtook them encamped at the sea—all the horses of the chariots of Pharaoh and his charioteers and his army—at Pi-hahiroth before Baal Zephon.

The Israelites Panic (Tested God #1)

10 And Pharaoh approached, and the Israelites lifted their eyes, and there were the Egyptians traveling after them! And they were very afraid, and the Israelites cried out to Yahweh.

11 And they said to Moses, “Because there are no graves in Egypt? Is that why you have taken us to die in the desert? What *is* this you have done to us by bringing us out from Egypt!

12 Isn’t this the word we spoke to you in Egypt, saying, ‘Leave us alone *so that* we can serve Egypt!’ because serving Egypt is better for us than our dying in the desert.”

13 And Moses said to the people, “You must not be afraid. Stand *still* and see the salvation of Yahweh, which he will accomplish for you today, because *the* Egyptians whom you see today you will see never again.

14 Yahweh will fight for you, and you must be quiet.”

15 And Yahweh said to Moses, “Why do you cry out to me? Speak to the Israelites *so that* they set out.

16 And you, lift up your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it *so that* the Israelites can go in the middle of the

sea on the dry land.

17 And as for me, look, I *am* about to harden the heart of *the* Egyptians *so that* they come after them, and I will display my glory through Pharaoh and through all of his army, through his chariots and through his charioteers.

18 And *the* Egyptians will know that I *am* Yahweh when I display my glory through Pharaoh, through his chariots, and through his charioteers.”

19 And the angel of God who was going before the camp of Israel set out and went behind them. And the column of cloud set out ahead of them, and it stood *still* behind them,

20 *so that* it came between the camp of Egypt and the camp of Israel. And it was a dark cloud, but it gave light *to* the night, *so that* neither approached the other all night.

The Crossing of the Red Sea

21 And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and Yahweh moved the sea with a strong east wind all night, and he made the sea *become* dry ground, and the waters were divided.

22 And the Israelites entered the middle of the sea on the dry land. The waters *were* a wall for them on their right and on their left. [[Heb 11:29](#)]

23 And *the* Egyptians gave chase and entered after them—all the horses of Pharaoh, his chariots, and his charioteers—into the middle of the sea.

24 And during the morning watch, Yahweh looked down to the Egyptian camp *from* in the column of fire and cloud, and he threw the Egyptian camp into a panic.

25 And he removed the wheels of their chariots *so that* they drove them with difficulty, and *the* Egyptians said, “We must flee away from Israel because Yahweh *is* fighting for them against Egypt.”

26 And Yahweh said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea, and let the waters return over *the* Egyptians, over their chariots, and over their charioteers.”

27 And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned at daybreak to its normal level, and *the* Egyptians *were* fleeing because of it, and Yahweh swept *the* Egyptians into the middle of the sea.

28 And the waters returned and covered the chariots and the charioteers—all the army of Pharaoh coming after them into the sea. Not even one survived among them.

29 But the Israelites walked on the dry land in the middle of the sea. The waters *were* a wall for them on their right and on their left.

30 And Yahweh saved Israel on that day from the hand of Egypt, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the shore of the sea.

31 And Israel saw the great hand that Yahweh displayed against Egypt, and the people feared Yahweh, and they believed in Yahweh and in Moses his servant.

A Song of Praise by the Sea

15:1 Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to Yahweh, and they said,

“Let me sing to Yahweh because he is highly exalted;
the horse and its rider he hurled into the sea.

2 Yah *is* my strength and song, and he has become my salvation;
this *is* my God, and I will praise him—the God of my father—and I will exalt him.

3 Yahweh *is* a man of war; Yahweh *is* his name.

4 The chariots of Pharaoh and his army he cast into the sea,
and his choice adjutants were sunk in the Red Sea.

5 The deep waters covered them;
they went down into the depths like a stone.

6 Yahweh, your right hand *is* glorious in power;
Yahweh, your right hand destroyed *the* enemy.

7 And in the greatness of your majesty you overthrew those standing up *to* you;
you released your fierce anger, and it consumed them like stubble.

8 And by the breath of your nostrils waters were piled up;
waves stood like a heap;
deep waters in the middle of the sea congealed.

9 *The* enemy said, ‘I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide plunder,
my desire will be full *of* them, I will draw my sword, my hand will destroy them.’

10 You blew with your breath; the sea covered them;
they dropped like lead in the mighty waters.

11 Who is like you among the gods, Yahweh?

Who is like you—glorious in holiness, awesome *in* praiseworthy actions, doing wonders?

12 You stretched out your right hand;

- the earth swallowed them.
- 13 In your loyal love you led *the* people whom you redeemed;
in your strength you guided *them* to the abode of your holiness.
- 14 Peoples heard; they trembled;
anguish seized the inhabitants of Philistia.
- 15 Then the chiefs of Edom were horrified; great distress seized the leaders of Moab;
all of the inhabitants of Canaan melted away.
- 16 Terror and dread fell on them;
at the greatness of your arm they became silent like the stone,
until your people passed by, Yahweh,
until *the* people whom you bought passed by.
- 17 You brought them and planted them on the mountain of your inheritance,
a place you made for yourself to inhabit, Yahweh,
a sanctuary, Lord, *that* your hands established.
- 18 Yahweh will reign as king forever and ever.”

19 When the horses of Pharaoh came into the sea with his chariots and with his charioteers, Yahweh brought back upon them the waters of the sea, and the Israelites traveled on dry ground through the middle of the sea.

20 And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took her tambourine in her hand, and all of the women went out after her with tambourines and with dances.

21 And Miriam answered, “Sing to Yahweh because he is highly exalted; *the* horse and its rider he hurled into the sea.”

From the Red Sea to Marah (April 1446 BC)

Exodus 15:22–23

Numbers 33:8

22 And Moses caused Israel to set out from the Red Sea, and they went out into the desert of Shur, and they traveled three days in the desert, and they did not find water.
23 And they came to Marah, and they were not able to drink water from Marah because it was bitter. Therefore it was named Marah.

8 They set out from Pi-Hahiroth and went through the midst of the sea into the desert; and they went a journey of three days into the desert of Etham and camped at Marah.

The Israelites Complain About the Bitter Water (April 1446 BC)

Exodus 15:24–26

The People Complain (Tested God #2)

24 And the people grumbled against Moses, saying, “What shall we drink?”

25 And he cried out to Yahweh, and Yahweh showed him *a piece of* wood, and he threw *it* into the water, and the water became sweet. There he made a rule and regulation for them, and there he tested them.

26 And he said, “If you carefully listen to the voice of Yahweh your God and you do *what is* right in his eyes and give heed to his commands and you keep all his rules, *then* I will not bring about on you any of the diseases that I brought about on Egypt, because I *am* Yahweh your healer.

From Marah to Elim to the Red Sea to the Wilderness of Sin (15 Iyyar [May] 1446 BC)

Exodus 15:27–16:1

Numbers 33:9–11

15:27 And they came to Elim, and twelve springs of water and seventy palm trees were there, and they encamped there at the water.
16:1 And they set out from Elim,

and all the community of the Israelites came to the desert of Sin, which *is* between Elim and Sinai, in the fifteenth day of the second month of their going out from the land of Egypt.

9 They set out from Marah and came to Elim, and in Elim *there were* twelve springs of water and seventy palm trees, and they camped there.

10 They set out from Elim, and they camped at the Red Sea.

11 They set out from the Red Sea and camped at the desert of Sin.

The Israelites Complain About the Lack of Food (May 1446 BC)

Exodus 16:2–36

The Israelites Grumble Against Moses and Aaron (Tested God #3)

2 And all the community of the Israelites grumbled against Moses and against Aaron in the desert.

3 And the Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of Yahweh in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat, when we ate bread until we were full, because you have brought us out to this desert to kill all of this assembly with hunger.”

God Tells Moses Privately That He Intends to Test the People

4 And Yahweh said to Moses, “Look, I am going to rain down for you bread from the heavens, and the people will go out and gather enough for the day on its day; in that way I will test them: Will they go according to my law or not?”

5 And then on the sixth day, they will prepare what they bring, and it will be twice over what they will gather every *other* day.”

Grumbling Against God’s Man is Grumbling Against God

6 And Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “*In the evening*, you will know that Yahweh has brought you out from the land of Egypt,

7 and *in the morning*, you will see the glory of Yahweh, for he hears your grumblings against Yahweh, and what *are* we that you grumble against us?”

8 And Moses said, “When in the evening Yahweh gives you meat to eat and bread in the morning to fill up on, for he hears your grumblings that you grumble against him—and what *are* we? Your grumblings *are* not against us but against Yahweh.”

Yahweh Answers the People’s Complaint

9 And Moses said to Aaron, “Say to all the community of the Israelites, ‘Come near before Yahweh because he has heard your grumblings.’”

10 And at the moment of Aaron’s speaking to all the community of the Israelites, they turned to the desert, and just then the glory of Yahweh appeared in the cloud.

11 And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying,

12 “I have heard the grumblings of the Israelites. Speak to them, saying, ‘At twilight you will eat meat, and in the morning you will be full *with* bread, and you will know that I *am* Yahweh your God.’”

God Provides Quail in the Evening and Manna in the Morning

13 And so it was, in the evening, the quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning, a layer of dew was all around the camp.

14 And the layer of dew came up, and there on the face of the desert was a fine granular substance, fine like frost on the ground.

15 And the Israelites saw, and they said to each other, “What *is* this?” because they did not know what it *was*. And Moses said to them, “That *is* the bread that Yahweh has given to you as food.

16 This *is* the word that Yahweh commanded, ‘Gather from it, each according to what he can eat, an omer per person *according to* the number of you. You each shall take *enough* for whoever *is* in his tent.’”

17 And the Israelites did so, and they gathered, some more and some less.

18 And *when* they measured with the omer, the one gathering more had no surplus, and the one gathering less had no lack; they gathered each according to what he could eat. [\[2 Cor 8:14–15\]](#)

The Israelites Disobey God’s Command (Tested God #4)

19 And Moses said to them, “Let no one leave any of it until morning.”

20 But they did not listen to Moses. Some people left *some* of it until morning, and it bred worms and stank. And Moses was angry with them.

21 And they gathered it morning by morning, each according to what he could eat, and it melted *when* the sun was hot.

22 And when it was the sixth day, they gathered twice *as much* bread, two omers for one *person*, and all the leaders of the community came and told Moses.

23 And he said to them, “This is what Yahweh has said. Tomorrow *is* a rest period, a holy Sabbath for Yahweh. Bake what you *want to* bake, and boil what you *want to* boil. Put aside all the surplus for yourselves for safekeeping until the morning.”

24 And they put it aside until the morning, as Moses had commanded, and it did not make a stench, and not a maggot was in it.

The Israelites Again Disobey God’s Command (Tested God #5)

25 And Moses said, “Eat it today, because today is a Sabbath for Yahweh. Today you will not find it in the field.

26 Six days you will gather it, but on the seventh day, *the* Sabbath, it will not be *present* on it.”

27 And on the seventh day *some* of the people went out to gather, and they did not find *any*.

28 And Yahweh said to Moses, “How long do you refuse to keep my commands and my laws?”

29 See, because Yahweh has given to you the Sabbath, therefore he is giving to you on the sixth day bread for two days. Stay, each in

his location; let no one go from his place on the seventh day.”

30 And the people rested on the seventh day.

Manna

31 And the house of Israel called its name “manna.” And it *was* like coriander seed, white, and its taste *was* like a wafer with honey.

32 And Moses said, “This is the word that Yahweh has commanded. ‘A full omer of it *is* for safekeeping for your generations so that they will see the bread that I fed you in the desert when I brought you from the land of Egypt.’”

33 And Moses said to Aaron, “Take one jar and put there a full omer of manna. Leave it before Yahweh for safekeeping for your generations.”

34 As Yahweh had commanded Moses, so Aaron left it before the testimony for safekeeping.

35 And the Israelites ate the manna forty years, until their coming to an inhabited land; they ate the manna until their coming to the border of the land of Canaan.

36 (And an omer *is* a tenth of an ephah.)

From the Wilderness of Sin to Dophkah to Alush to Rephidim (late May 1446 BC)

Exodus 17:1

Numbers 33:12–14

1 And all the community of the Israelites set out from the desert of Sin for their journeys according to the command of Yahweh, and they camped in Rephidim, and there was no water for the people to drink.

12 They set out from the desert of Sin and camped at Dophkah.
13 They set out from Dophkah and camped at Alush.
14 They set out from Alush and encamped at Rephidim; and it was there *that* the people had no water to drink.

The Israelites Complain About the Lack of Water (late May 1446 BC)

Exodus 17:2–7

The People Quarrel with Moses (Tested God #6)

2 And the people quarreled with Moses, and they said, “Give us water so that we can drink.” And Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test Yahweh?”

3 And the people thirsted for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, “Why ever did you bring us up from Egypt to kill me and my sons and my cattle with thirst?”

4 And Moses cried out to Yahweh, saying, “What will I do with this people? A little longer and they will stone me.”

5 And Yahweh said to Moses, “Go on before the people and take with you *some* from the elders of Israel, and the staff with which you struck the Nile take in your hand, and go.

6 Look, I *will be* standing before you there on the rock in Horeb, and you will strike the rock, and water will come out from it, and the people will drink.” And Moses did so before the eyes of the elders of Israel.

7 And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah because of the quarrel of the Israelites and because of their testing Yahweh *by* saying, “Is Yahweh in our midst or not?”

Battle With the Amalekites (late May 1446 BC)

Exodus 17:8–16

8 And Amalek came and fought with Israel at Rephidim.

9 And Moses said to Joshua, “Choose men for us, and go out, fight against Amalek tomorrow. I *will be* standing on the top of the hill, and the staff of God *will be* in my hand.”

10 And Joshua did as Moses had said to him to fight with Amalek. And Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up *to* the top of the hill.

11 And when Moses raised his hand, Israel would prevail, but when he rested his hand, Amalek would prevail.

12 But the hands of Moses *were* heavy, and they took a stone and placed it under him, and he sat on it; Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on each side, and his hands *were* steady until sundown.

13 And Joshua defeated Amalek and his people with *the* edge of the sword.

14 And Yahweh said to Moses, “Write this *as* a memorial in the scroll and recite it in the hearing of Joshua, because I will utterly blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under the heavens.”

15 And Moses built an altar, and he called its name Yahweh *Is* My Banner.

16 And he said, “Because a hand *was* against the throne of Yah, a war *will be* for Yahweh with Amalek from generation *to*

generation.”

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Chronological Notes

- 1) Numbers 33 contains a record of the journeys of Israel prior to their entrance into Canaan. This record has been harmonized with the narratives of Exodus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. Note that the names for the camps can refer to the region (Wilderness of Sin), the actual place (Succoth) or to an event that occurred at that particular camp (Marah).¹

Order	Region Name	Place Name	Camp/Event Name	Exodus	Numbers	Deuteronomy
1	Land of Rameses	Rameses		12:37	33:5	
2		Succoth		12:37	33:5	
3	Wilderness of Etham/Shur	Etham		13:20	33:6	
4	Red Sea	Pi-hahiroth		14:2	33:7	
5	Wilderness of Etham/Shur		Marah	15:22–23	33:8	
6		Elim		15:27	33:9	
7	Red Sea				33:10	
8	Wilderness of Sin			16:1	33:11	
9		Dophkah			33:12	
10		Alush			33:13	
11		Rephidim	Massah/Meribah	17:1	33:14	
12	Wilderness of Sinai/Horeb	Mount Sinai		19:1–2	33:15	1:6, 19
13		Kibroth-hattaavah	Taberah		10:33–36; 11:3; 33:16	
14		Hazereth			11:35; 33:17	
15	Wilderness of Paran/Zin	Kadesh-barnea			10:12b; 12:16	1:19
16		Rithmah			33:18	
17		Rimmon-perez			33:19	
18		Libnah			33:20	
19		Rissah			33:21	
20		Kehelathah			33:22	
21		Mount Shepher			33:23	
22		Haradah			33:24	
23		Makheloth			33:25	
24		Tahath			33:26	
25		Terah			33:27	
26		Mithkah			33:28	
27		Hashmonah			33:29	
28		Moseroth			33:30	10:6?
29		Bene-jaakan			33:31	10:6?
30		Hor-haggidgad			33:32	10:7?
31		Jotbathah			33:33	10:7?
32		Abronah			33:34	

¹ Most of the information in the table is sourced from R. Dennis Cole, “Numbers,” *The New American Commentary*, (Broadman & Holman Publishing, 2000), 517–528.

Order	Region Name	Place Name	Camp/Event Name	Exodus	Numbers	Deuteronomy
33		Ezion-geber			33:35	
34	Wilderness of Paran/Zin	Kadesh-barnea	Meribah		20:1a, 13; 27:14; 33:36	
35	Edge of the Land of Edom	Mount Hor			20:22–23; 33:37–39	2:1–3
36		Zalmonah			33:41	
37		Punon			33:42	
38		Oboth			21:10; 33:43	
39	Desert facing Moab	Iye-abarim			21:11; 33:44	
40	Valley of Zered	Iyim			21:12; 33:45	2:13–14
41	Wilderness of Kedemoth	Arnon River Valley			21:13	2:24
			Beer?		21:16	
			Mattanah?		21:18	
			Nahaliel?		21:19	
			Bamoth?		21:19	
42		Dibon-gad			33:45	
43		Almon-diblathaim			33:46	
44	Abarim Mountains	Mount Nebo			33:47	
45	Plains of Moab	Beth-jeshimoth to Abel-shittim			22:1; 33:48–49	3:29