

Departure from Sinai (20 Iyyar [May] 1445 BC)

Numbers 10:11, 12a, 13

11 And it happened, in the second year, in the second month, on *the* twentieth of the month the cloud was lifted from upon the tabernacle of the testimony.

12a And the Israelites set out for their journey from the desert of Sinai,

13 They set out for the first time on the command of Yahweh in the hand of Moses.

The Leadership of Yahweh (20 Iyyar [May] 1445 BC)

Exodus 40:36–37

Numbers 9:17–23

36 And when the cloud was lifted from the tabernacle, the Israelites set out on all their journeys.

37 But if the cloud was not lifted, they did not set out until the day of its being lifted.

17 *Whenever* the cloud lifted up from on the tent, after that the Israelites would set out, and in the place where the cloud dwelled, there the Israelites camped.

18 On the command of Yahweh the Israelites would set out, and on the command of Yahweh they encamped; all the days that the cloud dwelled on the tabernacle they encamped.

19 And when the cloud prolonged on the tabernacle many days the Israelites kept the kept requirement of Yahweh and did not set out.

20 When the cloud remained a number of days on the tabernacle, on the command of Yahweh they encamped; and on the command of Yahweh they set out.

21 When the cloud remained from evening until morning, and the cloud lifted up in the morning, they would set out, or *if it remained* in the daytime and *at* night, *when* the cloud lifted up they set out.

22 When *it was* two days, a month, or a year that the cloud prolonged to dwell on the tabernacle, the Israelites encamped, and they did not set out; when it lifted up they set out.

23 On the command of Yahweh they encamped, and on the command of Yahweh they set out. They kept the requirement of Yahweh, on the command of Yahweh in the hand of Moses.

Canaan Bound (20 Iyyar [May] 1445 BC)

Numbers 10:14–32

Marching Order of the Tribes

14 The standard of the camp of the descendants of Judah set out for the first time according to their divisions, with Nahshon son of Amminadab over its division.

15 And Nathanel son of Zuar *was* over the division of the descendants of Issachar;

16 Eliab son of Helon *was* over the division of the tribe of the descendants of Zebulun.

17 The tabernacle was taken down, and the sons of Gershon and the sons of Merari, the bearers of the tabernacle, set out.

18 And the standard of the camp of Reuben according to their divisions; Elizur son of Shedeur *was* over their division.

19 Shelumiel son of Zurishaddai *was* over the division of the sons of the tribe of Simeon.

20 Eliasaph son of Deuel *was* over the division of the tribe of the descendants of Gad.

21 The Kohathites, the bearers of the sanctuary, set out, and they set up the tabernacle before they arrived.

22 And the stand of the camp of the descendants of Ephraim set out according to their divisions; Elishama son of Ammihud *was* over its division.

23 Gamaliel son of Pedahzur *was* over the division of the tribe of the descendants of Manasseh.

24 Abidan son of Gideon *was* over the division of the tribe of the descendants of Benjamin.

25 Then the standard of the camp of the descendants of Dan, who formed a rear guard for all the camps, set out according to their divisions; Ahiezer son of Ammishaddai *was* over its division.

26 Pagiel son of Ocran *was* over the division of the tribe of the descendants of Asher.

27 Ahira son of Enan *was* over the division of the tribe of the descendants of Naphtali.

28 These *were* the departures of the Israelites according to their divisions; and so they set out.

Moses Asks His Brother-in-law Hobab to Join Them

29 Moses said to Hobab son of Reuel the Midianite, the father-in-law of Moses, “We *are* setting out to the place that Yahweh said, ‘I will give it to you’; go with us, and we will treat you well because Yahweh promised good concerning Israel.”

30 But he said to him, “I will not go. I will only go to my land and to my family.”

31 He said, “Please, do not abandon us because you know our encampment in the desert, and you should be our guide.

32 Moreover, if you go with us, the good that Yahweh will do to us we will do to you.”

From Sinai to Kibroth-hattaavah/Taberah (20–22 Iyyar [May] 1445 BC)

Numbers 10:33–36

Numbers 33:16

33 And so they set out from the mountain of Yahweh a journey of three days, with the ark of the covenant of Yahweh setting out ahead of them three days’ journey to search out a resting place for them;

34 and the cloud of Yahweh *was* over them by day when they set out from the camp.

35 And whenever the ark was setting out Moses would say, “Rise up, Yahweh! May your enemies be scattered; may the ones that hate you flee from your presence.”

36 And when it rested he would say, “Return, Yahweh, to the countless thousands of Israel.”

16 The set out from the desert of Sinai

and camped at Kibroth Hattaavah.

First Rebellion—General Grumbling (23 Iyyar [May/June] 1445 BC)

Numbers 11:1–3

1 And it happened, the people were like those who complain of hardship in the hearing of Yahweh, and Yahweh became angry, and the fire of Yahweh burned among them, and it consumed the edge of the camp.

2 Then the people cried out to Moses, and Moses prayed to Yahweh, and the fire died down.

3 And he called the name of that place Taberah because the fire of Yahweh burned among them.

Second Rebellion—The People Demand Meat (c. 24–26 Iyyar [May/June] 1445 BC)

Numbers 11:4–34

The People Complain—They are Tired of Eating Manna and Crave Meat

4 The riff-raff that *were* in their midst had a strong desire; and the Israelites turned back and also wept, and they said, “Who will feed us meat?

5 We remember the fish that we ate in Egypt for nothing, the cucumber, melon, leek, the onions, and the garlic.

6 But now our strength is dried up; there is nothing whatsoever except for the manna before us.” [[1 Cor 10:1–6](#)]

7 Now the manna *was* like coriander seed, and its outward appearance was like that of bdellium-gum.

8 The people went about and gathered *it*, and they ground *it* with mills or crushed *it* with mortar. Then they boiled *it* in a pot and made *it into* bread-cakes; and it tasted like olive oil cakes.

9 When the dew came down on the camp *at* night, the manna came down *with* it.

Moses Complains—He Asks God to Kill Him Instead of Burdening Him with the People

10 Moses heard the people weeping according to their clans, each at the doorway of their tents. Then Yahweh became very angry, and in the eyes of Moses it was bad.

11 And Moses said to Yahweh, “Why have you brought trouble to your servant? Why have I not found favor in your eyes, that the burdens of all these people have been placed on me?”

12 Did I conceive all these people? If I have fathered them, that you could say to me, ‘Carry them in your lap, just as a foster-father carries the suckling on the land that you swore an oath to their ancestors?’

13 From where do I have meat to give all these people? They weep before me, saying, ‘Give us meat and let us eat!’

14 I am not able to carry all these people along alone; they are too heavy for me.

15 If this is how you *are* going to treat me, please kill me immediately if I find favor in your eyes, and do not let me see my misery.”

Yahweh Speaks—Assemble Seventy Elders and Prepare to Eat Meat!

16 And Yahweh said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy men from the elders of Israel whom you know *are* elders of the people and their officials; take them to the tent of assembly, and they will stand there with you.

17 I will come down and speak with you there; I will take away from the spirit that *is* on you, and I will place *it* on them; and they will bear the burdens of the people with you; you will not bear it alone.

18 And you will say to the people, ‘Sanctify yourselves tomorrow, for you will eat meat because you have wept in the ears of Yahweh, saying, “Who will feed us good meat? *It was* good for us in Egypt.” Yahweh will give to you meat, and you will eat.

19 You will eat, not one day, or two days, or five days, or ten days, or twenty days,

20 but for a whole month, until it comes out from your nose and becomes as nausea to you; because you have rejected Yahweh, who *is* in your midst, and you wept before his presence, saying, “Why did we ever leave Egypt?” ”

Moses Expresses Disbelief to Yahweh

21 But Moses said, “*There are* six hundred thousand on foot, among whom I *am* in the midst, and you yourself said, ‘I will give meat to them, and they will eat for a whole month.’

22 Should flocks and cattle be slaughtered for them? Should all the fish of the sea be gathered together for them, to be enough for them?”

Yahweh Speaks—“Is my hand shortened?”

23 And Yahweh said to Moses, “Is Yahweh’s power limited? Now you will see if my word will happen or not.”

Yahweh Sends His Spirit Upon the Seventy Elders

24 So Moses went out, and he spoke the words of Yahweh to the people, and he gathered *together* seventy men from the elders of the people, and he made them stand all around the tent.

25 Then Yahweh went down in the cloud and spoke to him, and he took away the spirit that *was* on him, and he put it on the seventy elders. And as soon as the spirit was resting on them they prophesied, but they did not do it again.

26 But two men were left in the camp; the name of one *was* Eldad, and the name of the second *was* Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those who were written *down*, but they did not go out to the tent, so they prophesied in the camp.

27 So a boy ran and told Moses and said, “Eldad and Medad *are* prophesying in the camp.”

28 And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses from time of his youth, answered, “Moses, my lord, stop them.”

29 But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that he give all Yahweh’s people prophets, that Yahweh put his spirit on them!”

30 Then Moses and the elders of Israel were gathered to the camp.

Yahweh Covers the Earth with Meat (more than 400 square miles of quail)

31 Then a wind set out from Yahweh, and it drove quails from the west, and he spread *them* out on the camp about a day’s journey on one side and about a day’s journey on the other, all around the camp, about two cubits on the surface of the land.

32 And so the people worked all day and all night and all the next day, and they gathered the quail (the least of the ones collecting gathered ten homers).

Yahweh Strikes the People With a Great Plague

33 While the meat *was* still between their teeth, before it was consumed, Yahweh was angry with the people, and Yahweh struck a very great plague among the people.

34 And he called the name of that place Kibroth Hattaavah because they buried the people that were greedy.

From Kibroth-hattaavah/Taberah to Hazeroth (c. 27–30 Iyyar [May/June] 1445 BC)

Numbers 11:35

35 From Kibroth Hattaavah the people set out to Hazeroth; and they stayed in Hazeroth.

Numbers 33:17

17 They set out from Kibroth Hattaavah and camped at Hazeroth.

Miriam and Aaron Challenge Moses’s Authority (c. 1–7 Sivan [May/June] 1445 BC)

Numbers 12:1–15

Miriam and Aaron Speak Against Moses

1 And Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Cushite woman whom he took (because he took a Cushite wife);

2 and they said, “Has Yahweh spoken only through Moses? Has not Yahweh also spoken through us?” And Yahweh heard it.

3 Now the man, Moses, *was* more humble than any other person on the face of the earth,

Yahweh Speaks—“Why were you not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?”

4 and Yahweh said suddenly to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam, “Go out, you three, to the tent of assembly.” So the three of them when out.

5 And Yahweh went down in a column of cloud and stood *at* the doorway of the tent, and he called Aaron and Miriam, and the two of them went,
 6 and he said, “Please hear my words: If there is a prophet among you, I, Yahweh, will make myself known to him in a vision. I will speak to him in a dream.
 7 Not so with my servant Moses; in all my house he *is* faithful. [[Heb 3:1–6](#)]
 8 I will speak to him mouth to mouth, *in* clearness, not in riddles; and he will look at the form of Yahweh. Why were you not afraid to speak against my servant, against Moses?”

The Judgment Against Miriam

9 And Yahweh became very angry with them, and he went *away*.
 10 And the cloud departed from on the tent, and behold, Miriam *was* infected with a skin disease white like snow; when Aaron turned toward Miriam, behold, *she was* afflicted with a skin disease.
 11 So Aaron said to Moses, “Please, my lord, please do not put on us *this* sin *in* which we were foolish and *in* which we have sinned.
 12 Please do not let her be like the dead, whose flesh is half consumed when coming out from the womb of its mother.”
 13 And Moses cried to Yahweh, saying, “God, please heal her!”

Yahweh Has Mercy on Miriam

14 But Yahweh said to Moses, “*If* her father had surely spit in her face, would she not bear her shame for seven days? Let her be confined for seven days to an outside place of the camp, and afterward she may be gathered.”
 15 So Miriam was confined to the outside place of the camp seven days, and the people did not set out until Miriam was gathered.

From Hazeroth to the Wilderness of Paran/Kadesh-barnea (c. mid June 1445 BC)

| Numbers 12:16 | Num 10:12b |
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| 16 And afterward the people set out from Hazeroth, and they encamped in the desert of Paran. | 10:12b and the cloud dwelled in the desert of Paran. |

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