

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

Exodus 13:17–22

Numbers 33:6

17 When Pharaoh released the people, God did not lead them by the way to the land of the Philistines, although that was nearby, for God said, “Lest the people change their minds and return to Egypt when they experience war.”

18 So God brought the people around by the way of the desert to the Red Sea, and the Israelites went up from the land of Egypt prepared for battle.

19 Moses took the bones of Joseph with him, for Joseph had made the Israelites solemnly swear, “God will surely attend to you, and you will carry my bones up from this place with you.”

20 They journeyed from Succoth and camped in Etham, on the edge of the desert.

21 Now the LORD was going before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them in the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel day or night.

22 He did not remove the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of fire by night from before the people.

6 They traveled from Succoth, and camped in Etham, which is on the edge of the wilderness.

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

Exodus 14:1–4; Numbers 33:7

Exod 14:1 The LORD spoke to Moses:

2 “Tell the Israelites that they must turn and camp before Pi-hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea; you are to camp by the sea before Baal Zephon opposite it.

3 Pharaoh will think regarding the Israelites, ‘They are wandering around confused in the land– the desert has closed in on them.’

4 I will harden Pharaoh’s heart, and he will chase after them. I will gain honor because of Pharaoh and because of all his army, and the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD.” So this is what they did.

Num 33:7 They traveled from Etham, and turned again to Pi-hahiroth, which is before Baal-Zephon; and they camped before Migdal.

### 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 When it was reported to the king of Egypt that the people had fled, the heart of Pharaoh and his servants was turned against the people, and the king and his servants said, “What in the world have we done? For we have released the people of Israel from serving us!”

6 Then he prepared his chariots and took his army with him.

7 He took six hundred select chariots, and all the rest of the chariots of Egypt, and officers on all of them.

8 But the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he chased after the Israelites. Now the Israelites were going out defiantly.

9 The Egyptians chased after them, and all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh and his horsemen and his army overtook them camping by the sea, beside Pi-hahiroth, before Baal-Zephon.

#### The Israelites Panic (Tested God #1)

10 When Pharaoh got closer, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians marching after them, and they were terrified. The Israelites cried out to the LORD,

11 and they said to Moses, “Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the desert? What in the world have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt?”

12 Isn’t this what we told you in Egypt, ‘Leave us alone so that we can serve the Egyptians, because it is better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!’”

13 Moses said to the people, “Do not fear! Stand firm and see the salvation of the LORD that he will provide for you today; for the Egyptians that you see today you will never, ever see again.

14 The LORD will fight for you, and you can be still.”

15 The LORD said to Moses, “Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to move on.

16 And as for you, lift up your staff and extend your hand toward the sea and divide it, so that the Israelites may go through the

middle of the sea on dry ground.

17 And as for me, I am going to harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will come after them, that I may be honored because of Pharaoh and his army and his chariots and his horsemen.

18 And the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD when I have gained my honor because of Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen.”

19 The angel of God, who was going before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them.

20 It came between the Egyptian camp and the Israelite camp; it was a dark cloud and it lit up the night so that one camp did not come near the other the whole night.

### **The Crossing of the Red Sea**

21 Moses stretched out his hand toward the sea, and the LORD drove the sea apart by a strong east wind all that night, and he made the sea into dry land, and the water was divided.

22 So the Israelites went through the middle of the sea on dry ground, the water forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. [[Heb 11:29](#)]

23 The Egyptians chased them and followed them into the middle of the sea—all the horses of Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen.

24 In the morning watch the LORD looked down on the Egyptian army through the pillar of fire and cloud, and he threw the Egyptian army into a panic.

25 He jammed the wheels of their chariots so that they had difficulty driving, and the Egyptians said, “Let’s flee from Israel, for the LORD fights for them against Egypt!”

26 The LORD said to Moses, “Extend your hand toward the sea, so that the waters may flow back on the Egyptians, on their chariots, and on their horsemen!”

27 So Moses extended his hand toward the sea, and the sea returned to its normal state when the sun began to rise. Now the Egyptians were fleeing before it, but the LORD overthrew the Egyptians in the middle of the sea.

28 The water returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen and all the army of Pharaoh that was coming after the Israelites into the sea—not so much as one of them survived!

29 But the Israelites walked on dry ground in the middle of the sea, the water forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

30 So the LORD saved Israel on that day from the power of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the shore of the sea.

31 When Israel saw the great power that the LORD had exercised over the Egyptians, they feared the LORD, and they believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

### **A Song of Praise by the Sea**

15:1 Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD. They said,

“I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously,  
the horse and its rider he has thrown into the sea.

2 The LORD is my strength and my song,  
and he has become my salvation.  
This is my God, and I will praise him,  
my father’s God, and I will exalt him.

3 The LORD is a warrior,  
the LORD is his name.

4 The chariots of Pharaoh and his army he has thrown into the sea,  
and his chosen officers were drowned in the Red Sea.

5 The depths have covered them,  
they went down to the bottom like a stone.

6 Your right hand, O LORD, was majestic in power,  
your right hand, O LORD, shattered the enemy.

7 In the abundance of your majesty you have overthrown  
those who rise up against you.  
You sent forth your wrath;  
it consumed them like stubble.

8 By the blast of your nostrils the waters were piled up,  
the flowing water stood upright like a heap,  
and the deep waters were solidified in the heart of the sea.

9 The enemy said, ‘I will chase, I will overtake,  
I will divide the spoil;

my desire will be satisfied on them.  
I will draw my sword, my hand will destroy them.'

10 But you blew with your breath, and the sea covered them.  
They sank like lead in the mighty waters.

11 Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods?  
Who is like you?—majestic in holiness, fearful in praises, working wonders?

12 You stretched out your right hand,  
the earth swallowed them.

13 By your loyal love you will lead the people whom you have redeemed;  
you will guide them by your strength to your holy dwelling place.

14 The nations will hear and tremble;  
anguish will seize the inhabitants of Philistia.

15 Then the chiefs of Edom will be terrified,  
trembling will seize the leaders of Moab,  
and the inhabitants of Canaan will shake.

16 Fear and dread will fall on them;  
by the greatness of your arm they will be as still as stone  
until your people pass by, O LORD,  
until the people whom you have bought pass by.

17 You will bring them in and plant them in the mountain of your inheritance,  
in the place you made for your residence, O Lord,  
the sanctuary, O LORD, that your hands have established.

18 The LORD will reign forever and ever!

19 For the horses of Pharaoh came with his chariots and his footmen into the sea,  
and the LORD brought back the waters of the sea on them,  
but the Israelites walked on dry land in the middle of the sea.”

20 Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a hand-drum in her hand, and all the women went out after her with hand-drums and with dances.

21 Miriam sang in response to them,

“Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;  
the horse and its rider he has thrown into the sea.”

### From the Red Sea to Marah (April 1446 BC)

Exodus 15:22–23	Numbers 33:8
<p>22 Then Moses led Israel to journey away from the Red Sea.</p> <p>They went out to the Desert of Shur, walked for three days into the desert, and found no water.</p> <p>23 Then they came to Marah, but they were not able to drink the waters of Marah, because they were bitter. (That is why its name was Marah.)</p>	<p>8 They traveled from Pi-hahiroth, and passed through the middle of the sea into the wilderness, and went three days' journey in the wilderness of Etham, and camped in Marah.</p>

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

Exodus 15:24–26

#### The People Complain (Tested God #2)

24 So the people murmured against Moses, saying, “What can we drink?”

25 He cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a tree. When Moses threw it into the water, the water became safe to drink. There the Lord made for them a binding ordinance, and there he tested them.

26 He said, “If you will diligently obey the LORD your God, and do what is right in his sight, and pay attention to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, then all the diseases that I brought on the Egyptians I will not bring on you, for I, the LORD, am 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

15:27 Then they came to Elim,  
where there were twelve wells of water and seventy palm  
trees, and they camped there by the water.  
16:1 When they journeyed from Elim,

the entire company of Israelites came to the Desert of Sin,  
which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the  
second month after their exodus from the land of Egypt.

Numbers 33:9–11

9 They traveled from Marah  
and came to Elim;  
in Elim there are twelve fountains of water and seventy palm  
trees, so they camped there.  
10 They traveled from Elim,  
and camped by the Red Sea.  
11 They traveled from the Red Sea  
and camped in the wilderness of Zin.

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

Exodus 16:2–36

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

2 The entire company of Israelites murmured against Moses and Aaron in the desert.  
3 The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat,  
when we ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this desert to kill this whole assembly with hunger!”

### **God Tells Moses Privately That He Intends to Test the People**

4 Then the LORD said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people will go out and gather the amount for  
each day, so that I may test them. Will they will walk in my law or not?  
5 On the sixth day they will prepare what they bring in, and it will be twice as much as they gather every other day.”

### **Grumbling Against God’s Man is Grumbling Against God**

6 Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you will know that the LORD has brought you out of the land of Egypt,  
7 and in the morning you will see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your murmurings against the LORD. As for us, what are  
we, that you should murmur against us?”  
8 Moses said, “You will know this when the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and bread in the morning to satisfy you,  
because the LORD has heard your murmurings that you are murmuring against him. As for us, what are we? Your murmurings are not  
against us, but against the LORD.”

### **Yahweh Answers the People’s Complaint**

9 Then Moses said to Aaron, “Tell the whole community of the Israelites, ‘Come before the LORD, because he has heard your  
murmurings.’”  
10 As Aaron spoke to the whole community of the Israelites and they looked toward the desert, there the glory of the LORD appeared  
in the cloud,  
11 and the LORD spoke to Moses:  
12 “I have heard the murmurings of the Israelites. Tell them, ‘During the evening you will eat meat, and in the morning you will be  
satisfied with bread, so that you may know that I am the LORD your God.’”

### **God Provides Quail in the Evening and Manna in the Morning**

13 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 When the layer of dew had evaporated, there on the surface of the desert was a thin flaky substance, thin like frost on the earth.  
15 When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” because they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It  
is the bread that the LORD has given you for food.  
16 “This is what the LORD has commanded: ‘Each person is to gather from it what he can eat, an omer per person according to the  
number of your people; each one will pick it up for whoever lives in his tent.’”  
17 The Israelites did so, and they gathered—some more, some less.  
18 When they measured with an omer, the one who gathered much had nothing left over, and the one who gathered little lacked  
nothing; each one had gathered what he could eat. [\[2 Cor 8:14–15\]](#)

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

19 Moses said to them, “No one is to keep any of it until morning.”  
20 But they did not listen to Moses; some kept part of it until morning, and it was full of worms and began to stink, and Moses was  
angry with them.

- 21 So they gathered it each morning, each person according to what he could eat, and when the sun got hot, it would melt.  
 22 And on the sixth day they gathered twice as much food, two omers per person; and all the leaders of the community came and told Moses.  
 23 He said to them, "This is what the LORD has said: 'Tomorrow is a time of cessation from work, a holy Sabbath to the LORD. Whatever you want to bake, bake today; whatever you want to boil, boil today; whatever is left put aside for yourselves to be kept until morning.'"  
 24 So they put it aside until the morning, just as Moses had commanded, and it did not stink, nor were there any worms in it.

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

- 25 Moses said, "Eat it today, for today is a Sabbath to the LORD; today you will not find it in the area.  
 26 Six days you will gather it, but on the seventh day, the Sabbath, there will not be any."  
 27 On the seventh day some of the people went out to gather it, but they found nothing.  
 28 So the LORD said to Moses, "How long do you refuse to obey my commandments and my instructions?  
 29 See, because the LORD has given you the Sabbath, that is why he is giving you food for two days on the sixth day. Each of you stay where you are; let no one go out of his place on the seventh day."  
 30 So the people rested on the seventh day.

#### **Manna**

- 31 The house of Israel called its name "manna." It was like coriander seed and was white, and it tasted like wafers with honey.  
 32 Moses said, "This is what the LORD has commanded: 'Fill an omer with it to be kept for generations to come, so that they may see the food I fed you in the desert when I brought you out from the land of Egypt.'"  
 33 Moses said to Aaron, "Take a jar and put in it an omer full of manna, and place it before the LORD to be kept for generations to come."  
 34 Just as the LORD commanded Moses, so Aaron placed it before the Testimony for safekeeping.  
 35 Now the Israelites ate manna forty years, until they came to a land that was inhabited; they ate manna until they came to the border of the land of Canaan.  
 36 (Now an omer is one 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
<p>1 The whole community of the Israelites traveled on their journey from the Desert of Sin according to the LORD's instruction,</p> <p>and they pitched camp in Rephidim.            Now there was no water for the people to drink.</p>	<p>12 They traveled from the wilderness of Zin and camped in Dophkah.            13 And they traveled from Dophkah, and camped in Alush.            14 They traveled from Alush and camped at Rephidim, where there was no water for the people to drink.</p>

### **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 So the people contended with Moses, and they said, "Give us water to drink!" Moses said to them, "Why do you contend with me? Why do you test the LORD?"  
 3 But the people were very thirsty there for water, and they murmured against Moses and said, "Why in the world did you bring us up out of Egypt—to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?"  
 4 Then Moses cried out to the LORD, "What will I do with this people?—a little more and they will stone me!"  
 5 The LORD said to Moses, "Go over before the people; take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand your staff with which you struck the Nile and go.  
 6 I will be standing before you there on the rock in Horeb, and you will strike the rock, and water will come out of it so that the people may drink." And Moses did so in plain view of the elders of Israel.  
 7 He called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the contending of the Israelites and because of their testing the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

**Battle With the Amalekites (late May 1446 BC)**

Exodus 17:8–16

8 Amalek came and attacked Israel in Rephidim.

9 So Moses said to Joshua, “Choose some of our men and go out, fight against Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on top of the hill with the staff of God in my hand.”

10 So Joshua fought against Amalek just as Moses had instructed him; and Moses and Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill.

11 Whenever Moses would raise his hands, then Israel prevailed, but whenever he would rest his hands, then Amalek prevailed.

12 When the hands of Moses became heavy, they took a stone and put it under him, and Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on one side and one on the other, and so his hands were steady until the sun went down.

13 So Joshua destroyed Amalek and his army with the sword.

14 The LORD said to Moses, “Write this as a memorial in the book, and rehearse it in Joshua’s hearing; for I will surely wipe out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven.

15 Moses built an altar, and he called it “The LORD is my Banner,”

16 for he said, “For a hand was lifted up to the throne of the LORD—that the LORD will have war 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).<sup>1</sup>

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	

<sup>1</sup> 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
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	
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