

Exodus Chapter 14

A testimony of God's power, faithfulness, and love; a picture of victory.

V: 1-4 *“And the Lord spake unto Moses saying...”* – God is speaking to His people through His chosen vessel, giving them clear direction.

- Turn / go to Pihahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, near Baalzephon.
 - These were names and locations that were known in that day, but they are very uncertain today.
 - Many maps have dots indicating where these locations are, but when you get to doing research about them, each source will admit that the exact location is “uncertain”.
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Slide #1

- Bible Maps; [The Exodus route](#): Thomas Nelson, Broadman Holman, Zondervan, Cambridge – none show a “Biblical” portrayal of the actual Exodus route because none show the children of Israel crossing the Red Sea.
 - Matthew 8 / Luke 8 Demoniac @ Gadera – locating the exact site. The swine ran down a steep place and were drowned in the sea.
 - Examining the shoreline of the Sea of Galilee there is only one place that practically, physically matches the Biblical description, once found all the other pieces fall into place and they are now very certain where this event took place.
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Slide #2

- There are competing locations for Mt. Sinai. The traditional site is located in the midst of the Sinai peninsula and it appears in virtually all the maps in our Bibles.
- Another possible location for Mt. Sinai, is a mountain in Saudi Arabia, the ancient land of Midian known to the Bedouins as Jabal Musa; the Arabic name for Moses, it is also known as Jabal Al Lawz.

Exodus 12:51 *“And it came to pass the self-same day, that the Lord did bring the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their armies.”*

Exodus 13:3 *“And Moses said unto the people, remember this day, in which ye came out from Egypt, out of the house of bondage;...”*

Exodus 13:9 *“... for with a strong hand hath the Lord brought thee out of Egypt.”*

- The area of Sinai is still technically Egypt, controlled by Egypt, guarded by Egypt's armies. (67 / 6 day war, 72 Yom Kippur; even so today because Israel gave it back...).
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- Reed Sea, Bitter Lakes? Bible maps depict a reed sea, or marsh crossing, but not a Red Sea crossing.

Exodus 14:22 “And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground: and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.”

Exodus 15:4 “Pharaoh’s chariots and his host hath He cast into the sea: his chosen captains also are drowned in the Red Sea.”

Exodus 15:22 “So Moses brought Israel from the Red Sea...”

- When God inspired Moses to write “Yam Suph”: Red Sea, Red Sea, what do you suppose He meant? (Kings; Solomon’s navy based on Yom Suph)

V: 2 “... ye encamp by the sea.

V: 3 “... they are entangled in the land, the wilderness hath shut them in.”

Slide #3

- Google Earth: wide level area, button hook around the tip back to the North, then a dead end with the mountains on two sides and the Red Sea to the East. And Pharaoh’s army coming up from behind.

Slide #4

- Alternate route along trade route, then south, then crossing the Red Sea farther North.
- Transition onto sea bed, children of Israel, Pharaoh’s chariots.

Exodus 13:18 “But God led the people about, through the way of the wilderness of the Red Sea...”

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- Either way they are going to cross the Red Sea, that is what God’s word says in several different ways – and they will end up at Jabal Al Lawz.
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- Moses had spent 40 years as a shepherd, taking care of his father in laws sheep. His father in law, Jethro was called the Priest of Midian

Exodus 3:1-2 “¹Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb. ²And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush:...”

Exodus 4:19 “And the LORD said unto Moses in Midian, go, return unto Egypt...”

After crossing the Red Sea the Bible describes their path, and uses landmarks to do so:

Exodus 15:22b-23 “²²... they went three days in the wilderness, and found no water. ²³And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter: therefore the name of it was called Marah.”

Slide #5

Exodus 15:27 “And they came to Elim, where were twelve wells of water, and threescore and ten palm trees;...”

Rebellion @ Mt. Sinai:

Exodus 32:19 “And it came to pass, as soon as he came nigh unto the camp, that he saw the calf, and the dancing: and Moses’ anger waxed hot, and he cast the tables out of his hands, and brake them beneath the mount.”

Slide #6

- Researchers & explorers have found an altar to the Egyptian bull god “Apis” at the foot of Jabal Al Lawz 30’ high and 30’ across.
 - Featuring petro-graphs depicting bull worship / sacrifice.
 - Cattle are not indigenous to Arabia; this is goat and sheep country.
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Moses on Mt. Sinai, people encamped below, God’s warning:

Exodus 19:12 “¹²And thou shalt set bounds unto the people round about, saying, take heed to yourselves, that ye go not up into the mount, or touch the border of it: whosoever toucheth the mount shall be surely put to death:”

Exodus 19:23b “... set bounds about the mount, and sanctify it.”

Slide #7

- There are rock piles set up about every 40 yards apart in a 2 mile semi-circle at the base of Jabal Al Lawz – markers establishing the boundaries.
- Right in the place where people would naturally want to walk up.

Exodus 20:25 “²⁴And altar of earth thou shalt make unto Me, and shalt sacrifice thereon thy burnt offerings, and thy peace offerings, thy sheep, and thine oxen: in all places where I record My name I will come unto thee, and I will bless thee. ²⁵And if thou wilt make Me an altar of stone, thou shalt not build it of hewn stone: for if thou lift up thy tool upon it, thou hast polluted it.”

Slide #8

Exodus 24:4 “And Moses wrote all the words of the Lord, and rose up early in the morning, and builded an altar under the hill, and **twelve pillars**, according to the twelve tribes of Israel.”

- At the base of Jabal Al Lawz there are numerous carved marble columns that are in pieces scattered about in the area of the altar of sacrifice.

Slide #9-10

Water emergency:

Exodus 17:4-6 “⁴And Moses cried unto the Lord, saying, what shall I do unto this people? They be almost ready to stone me. ⁵And the Lord said unto Moses, go on before the people, and take thy rod, wherewith thou smotest the river, take in thine hand, and go. ⁶Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.”

Slide #11

- On the West side of Jabal Al Lawz, Jabal Musa there is a 40' tall rock out by itself with an 18" fissure down the middle of the rock. The “split rock” of Horeb.

Slide #12, 13, 14, 15

- Below the rock, the granite rocks appear to be worn smooth from massive amounts of water having passed over them – enough water for 2-3 million people.

Slide #16

- This part of the dessert receives ½ inch of rainfall every 10 years.

Cave:

1 Kings 19:8-9 “⁸And he arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God. ⁹And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the Lord came to him, and he said unto him, what doest thou here, Elijah?”

Slide #17

- On the West side / slope of Jabal Al Lawz there is a large cave, there are no caves whatsoever on the traditional Mt. Sinai location.

Exodus 19:18a “And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the Lord descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace,…”

Slide #18

- One of the most striking features of Jabal Al Lawz is the fact that it is the tallest mountain to be seen in the area and that it's summit is blackened, burned or scorched with the fire of a furnace. The granite rocks are thoroughly burned, blackened on the outside, but tan, light brown on the inside just like all the lower parts of the mountain and the surrounding mountains and landscape.

Slide #19-20

Slide #21

Revised map in Mike's Bible

V: 1-3 God leads the children of Israel to a place where they are trapped, Pharaoh is thinking that he's got them. “*Pharaoh will say...*”

- God is laying out His plan He is setting things up.
- Pi-hahiroth literally means “mouth of the gorges”

- Migdol means “tower”
- They’re in a place where they have high mountains to the North and the West. The Red Sea is on the East, Pharaoh is now coming in from the South. Hemmed in on every side.
- *The proverbial between the rock & hard place... Exactly where God usually meets with us.*
- Do you ever feel like your circumstances are insurmountable, the mountains on one side, the depth of the sea on the other, and the distant thunder of Pharaoh’s chariots.... Perhaps God has led us to that place of really needing Him, to that place of calling upon His name.

1 Corinthians 1:26-29 ²⁶For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: ²⁷But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; ²⁸And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: ²⁹That no flesh should glory in His presence.”

2 Chronicles 16:9 “For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him...”

V: 4 *“I will harden Pharaoh’s heart...”*

- One of the Hebrew words that we’re talking about is the word: “**kabad**”, the other word is “**chazaq**”.

There is a distinction between the two:

- Pharaoh “hardened” – (H3513) kabad, kaw-bad'; obstinate, dull, heavy, stubbornness, act of rebellion.
- God “hardened” – (H2388) chazaq, khaw-zak'; **confirm**, be constant, constrain, be established, fasten, force, fortify, make hard, harden, **hold fast**, maintain, retain.
- I will be honoured upon Pharaoh – God will be glorified through Pharaoh.

“.. that the Egyptians may know that I am the Lord...”

Exodus 5:2 “And Pharaoh said, who is the Lord, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the Lord, neither will I let Israel go.”

- The Egyptians will learn about God, but so will the children of Israel. They will learn of His great love for them, they will learn about His faithfulness, about His power, about His wisdom – they will learn to trust in Him.

V: 5-9 Pharaoh and his servant were anti-Semitic: Satanic.

- Why did we let them go? Short memory?
- Nile turned to blood, frogs, lice, boils, dead cattle, hail, fire, famine, death of the firstborn – all good reasons.
- Change in attitude: ☹ sad to have seen too many change their attitudes about God and their relationship. This change in attitude led to his death.

V: 6-7 600 Chariots + all the chariots + cavalry + foot soldiers.

- Chariots were the modern equivalent of tanks. (18th Dynasty / present).
- The Egyptian army was already the most powerful and impressive military force in the world, let alone the fact that they were going up against un-armed men, women, and children.

V: 8 The Lord Hardened Pharaoh's heart – "chazaq" – confirmed.

V: 9 Pharaoh catches up to the Children of Israel as they were encamping by the sea between Pihahiroth & Baalzephon.

Compound word:

- Baal-zephon: Baal is a Canaanite word for Lord; also used as the name for one of their pagan gods – to which they sacrificed their children, making them pass through the fire.
- Baal: Lord - zephon: watch over
- They were taken to the place where the Lord watches over – not a bad place to be.

Romans 8:31 "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?"

V: 10 The danger was / is real; but so is our God!

- They lifted up their eyes – but only far enough to see the problem, if they had looked a little higher, they would have seen the solution – focus is everything!

- They were suddenly in that place of crying out to God – a good thing.

Psalms 34:15 “The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and His ears are open unto their cry.”

Psalms 34:17 “The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.”

V: 11-12 The wind changes suddenly: - when in doubt kill the messenger...

- This is just the beginning for Moses – 40 years to go – and a lot of complaining.

God doesn't like complaining:

Philippians 2:14 “Do all things without murmurings and disputings:”

Numbers 11:1 “And when the people complained, it displeased the Lord: and the Lord heard it; and His anger was kindled; and the fire of the Lord burnt among them, and consumed them that were in the uttermost parts of the camp.”

- God is doing a work, setting things up and the people take it out on Moses.
- We're so apt to looking at other people instead of asking that question: “God what are you working out in my life through this? What do you want me to learn?”

Turn to:

Psalms 106:7-8 “⁷Our fathers understood not thy wonders in Egypt; they remembered not the multitude of thy mercies; but provoked Him at the sea, even at the Red Sea. ⁸Nevertheless He saved them for His name's sake, that He might make His mighty power to be known.”

Ecclesiastes 9:12 “For man also knoweth not his time: as the fishes that are taken in an evil net, and as the birds that are caught in the snare; so are the sons of men snared in an evil time, when it falleth suddenly upon them.”

- They don't yet know that it is actually Pharaoh who is in trouble, he is the one walking into a trap – God's perspective!

V: 13-14 Fear not – stand still – see the salvation of the Lord.

David exhorted Solomon:

1 Kings 2:2 “... be strong therefore, and shew thyself a man.”

Paul exhorts us:

Ephesians 6:10-11, 14 “¹⁰Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹⁴Stand therefore...”

- You're not going to fight this battle, the battle belongs to the Lord.

V: 15-18 Moses calms and re-assures the people, then he turns and begins to pray.

- God pretty much tells Moses; there's a time to pray – and there's a time for action - get going.

1 Samuel 10:7 “And let it be, when these signs are come unto thee, that thou do as occasion serve thee; for God is with thee.”

1 Samuel 10:7 (NKJV) “And let it be, when these signs come to you, that you do as the occasion demands; for God is with you.”

- Point of faith:

Philippians 2:13 “For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure.”

2 Corinthians 5:7 “For we walk by faith, not by sight.”

Hebrews 11:6 “But without faith it is impossible to please Him...”

Matthew 17:20 “And Jesus said unto them, because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, if ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.”

- Specific instruction: Lift up thy rod, stretch out thy hand over the sea, divide it
- God will be glorified through this.

V: 19-20 And the Angel of God – a Theophony or Christophony – pre-incarnate appearance of Jesus our Good Shepherd guarding; protecting His flock.

Psalms 34:7 “The Angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear Him, and delivereth them.”

Psalms 125:2 “As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the LORD is round about His people from henceforth even for ever.”

Isaiah 63:9 “In all their affliction He was afflicted, and the Angel of His presence saved them: in His love and in His pity He redeemed them; and He bare them, and carried them all the days of old.”

Exodus 13:21-22 ²¹“And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light to go by day and night: ²²He took not away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people.”

Malachi 3:1-2

Exodus 3:1-2 “The Angel of the Lord” – spoke to Moses from the burning bush.

- The Egyptians were in a cloud and in darkness – they couldn’t see each other or the Hebrews. The exact opposite effect on the children of Israel, to them it gave light.

Psalms 119:105 “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”

1 Corinthians 2:14 “But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.”

1 Corinthians 1:18 “For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.”

V: 21-22 Moses was obedient, the people were obedient; God was glorified!

- Miraculous: the waters were a wall on the right and a wall on the left.

V: 23-28 God confounded the Egyptians; even the Egyptians recognized this.

V: 26 God said unto Moses... God could have done it Himself, but He was determined to use a man for His purposes.

V: 29 “But” – contrast – but the children of Israel were preserved, they were kept safe.

V: 30-31 Israel is saved, the Egyptians are destroyed, Israel believes, the Lord is glorified!

¹⁵The Lord said: the Word of God.

²¹The Lord caused...

²⁴The Lord looked....

²⁴The Lord troubled...

²⁵The Lord fighteth...

²⁶The Lord said: the Word of God.

²⁷The Lord overthrew...

³⁰The Lord Saved...

Psalms 106:8-12 ⁸Nevertheless He saved them for His name’s sake, that He might make His mighty power to be known. ⁹He rebuked the red sea also, and it was dried, up: so He led them through the depths, as through the wilderness. ¹⁰And He saved them from the hand of him that hated them, and redeemed them from the hand of the enemy. ¹¹And the waters covered their enemies: there was not one of them left. ¹²Then believed they His words; they sang His praise.”