

# EXODUS

ORDER IN OLD TESTAMENT

2

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

40

TYPE

HISTORY/PENTATEUCH



## OVERVIEW

Exodus records the return of the nation of Israel to the Promised Land, having spent nearly 400 years in Egypt as slaves. The people cried out to God, who reminded them that the Israelites are a chosen people and He would help them return to the Promised Land. The book contains the first laws of Israel which Moses recorded, as well as many well-known stories of miracles.



WRITTEN  
Around 1400 BC



TIME PERIOD COVERED  
1525-1400 BC



AUTHOR  
Moses

1

HEBREW HISTORY  
AND MOSES'  
BACKGROUND

EXODUS 1-3

After over 400 years of the Israelites living in Egypt, a new Pharaoh comes into power and enslaves the Hebrews. Moses is born, sent down the river in a basket by his loving mother, saved by the Pharaoh's daughter from death, and later called by God at the burning bush to deliver the people of Israel out of Egypt.

2

MOSES LEADS  
THE PEOPLE TO  
FREEDOM

EXODUS 4-14

Moses returns to Egypt and repeatedly asks the Pharaoh to free the Israelites. The Pharaoh refuses, and God sends ten plagues upon Egypt. The Israelites are protected against the plagues, and after the tenth plague the Pharaoh allows them to go. He changes his mind and sends his army to recapture the slaves, but they escape when Moses parts the Red Sea. Moses and his people pass through, the sea falls back, and the Egyptian army perishes.

3

WANDERING IN  
THE WILDERNESS

EXODUS 15-19

The Israelites travel in the desert, constantly watched over by God, who provides them with manna (bread from heaven), quail, and water. They often complain about their hardships. Moses ascends Mount Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments from God.

4

LAWS GIVEN TO  
THE PEOPLE

EXODUS 20-31

Moses teaches the Israelites God's laws, including the Ten Commandments. Following that, Moses records social and moral laws, instructions for festivals, and explicit instructions for designing the Tabernacle.

5

GOLDEN CALF  
IDOL AND  
REPENTANCE

EXODUS 32-34

Israelites make a golden idol in the shape of a calf and Moses, in anger, breaks the stone tablets that contain the Commandments. The Israelites repent and are forgiven. Moses returns to Mount Sinai, sees God's glory, and receives new stone tablets.

6

CONSTRUCTING  
THE TABERNACLE

EXODUS 35-40

The Tabernacle is built, including the Ark of the Covenant, and rules are given that govern its use. The book does not end with the death of Moses (covered in Deuteronomy).

# THE EXODUS, 1500 BC

## AT-A-GLANCE

### BIBLE CHARACTERS INVOLVED

Moses, his older brother Aaron, his older sister Miriam, Pharaoh, the Israelites

### SCRIPTURES COVERING

Book of Exodus thru Joshua 1

### MIRACLES THAT OCCURRED & OTHER IMPORTANT FACTS

The Burning Bush

(Exodus 3)

Ten Plagues of Egypt

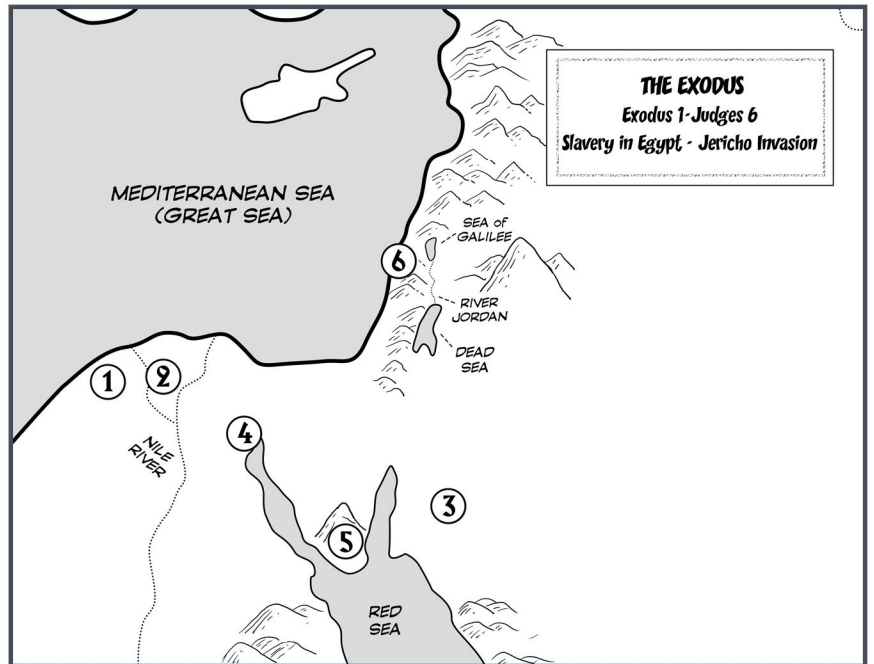
(Exodus 7-11)

Parting of the Red Sea

(Exodus 14)

Receiving the Ten Commandments

(Exodus 19-20)



Creation

Years Covered: 1500-1400 BC

Birth of Jesus

2000's AD

## FAMOUS VERSE:

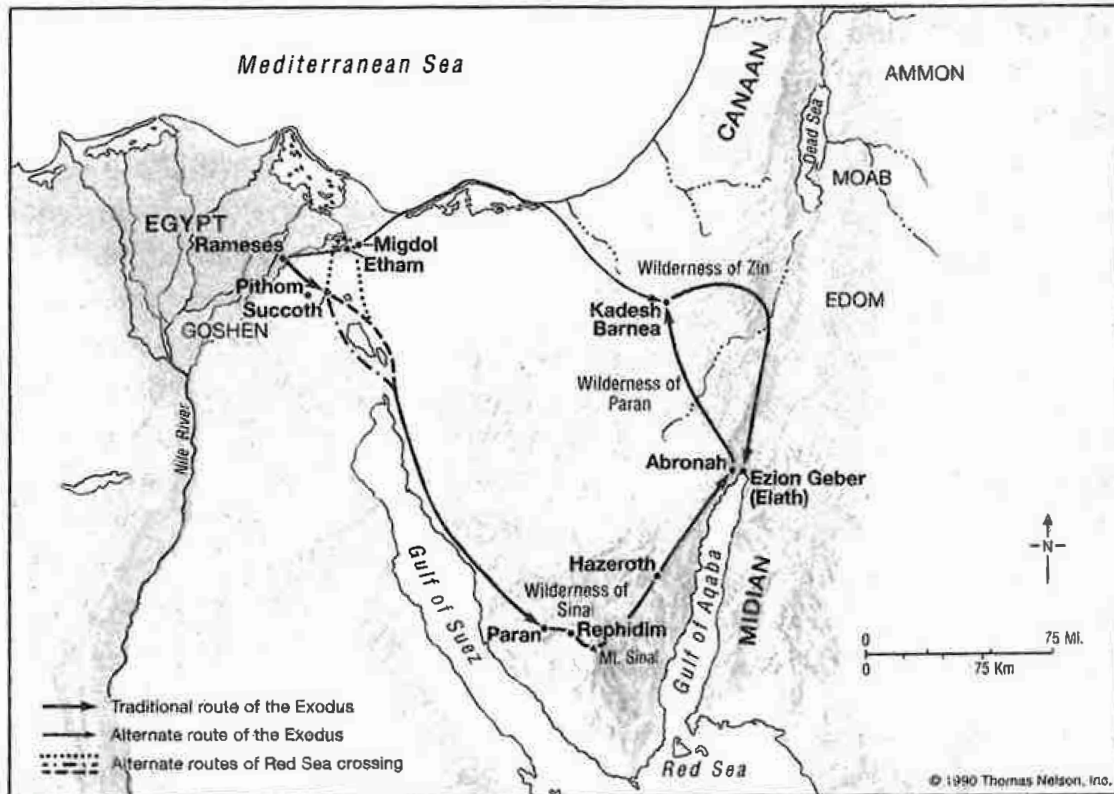
God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.'" *Exodus 3:14*

## WHAT HAPPENED:

- Abraham's great-grandson Joseph was sold into slavery in Egypt by his 10 older brothers (They were at point #6. Joseph wound up at point #2). Genesis ends with him forgiving them and welcoming them during a famine. They stayed, had more generations there, and that is how the Hebrews wound up in Egypt instead of Israel at the beginning of Exodus. The Egyptians had been jealous of their blessings and enslaved them a hundred years after Joseph died.
- Moses was born by the Nile River in Egypt and was raised by one of Pharaoh's daughters (see point #1). He fled to the Midian farm country after killing an Egyptian (see point #3).
- Moses heard the voice of God at the burning bush in Midian, where he had fled.
- He returned to Egypt to tell Pharaoh to let the people go as God had ordered him. When Pharaoh refused, God sent the Ten Plagues (we're not back at point #1).
- Moses led the people out through the Red Sea, which God parted overnight (see point #4).
- Three months later, Moses got the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai (see point #5).
- The people wound up living 40 years in the desert instead of just a few, because they were complaining and showing no faith.
- Moses died 40 years after the start of the Exodus. Joshua led the invasion of Jericho as Israel's first conquest (Moses had brought them to point #6, but on the eastern side of the Jordan).

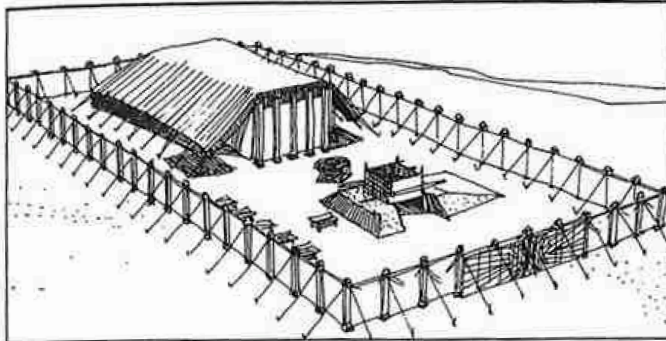
# The Exodus from Egypt

The precise route taken by the Israelites to Mt. Sinai after their departure from Egypt is uncertain. As the map indicates, scholars have proposed both northern and southern routes, with the southern path the most likely. It took approximately two months to reach Sinai, where the Israelites encamped for roughly ten months during the period of divine revelation.

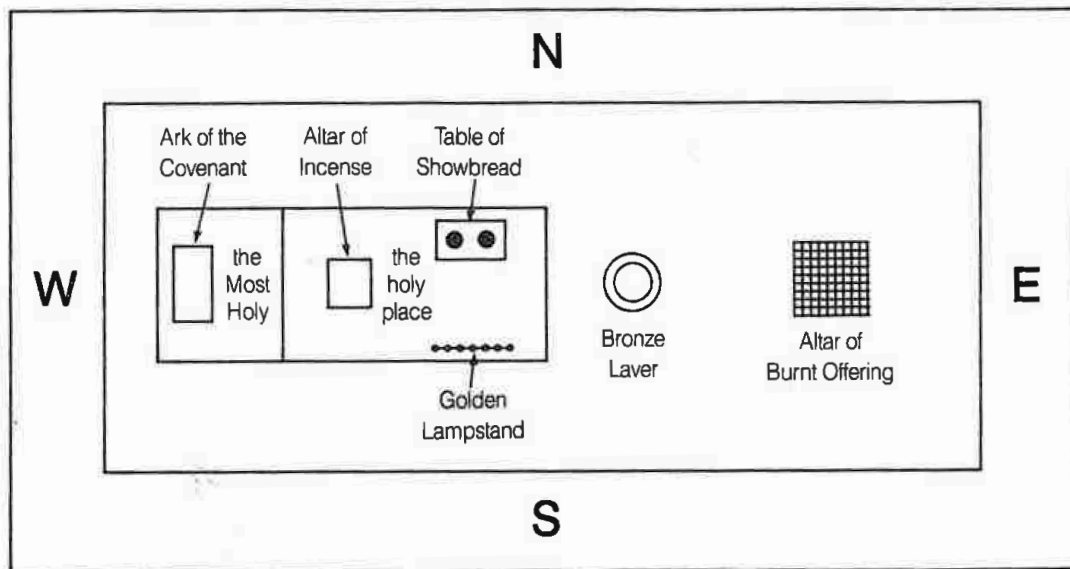




# The Plan of the Tabernacle

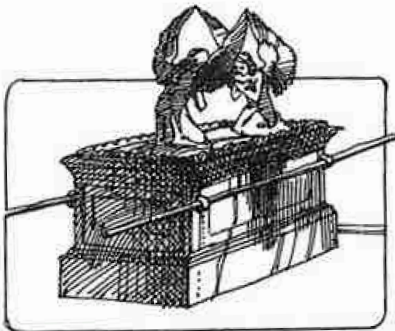


The tabernacle was to provide a place where God might dwell among His people. The term *tabernacle* sometimes refers to the tent, including the holy place and the Most Holy, which was covered with embroidered curtains. But in other places it refers to the entire complex, including the curtained court in which the tent stood.



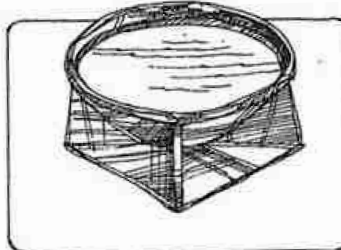
This illustration shows the relative positions of the tabernacle furniture used in Israelite worship. The tabernacle is enlarged for clarity.

# The Furniture of the Tabernacle



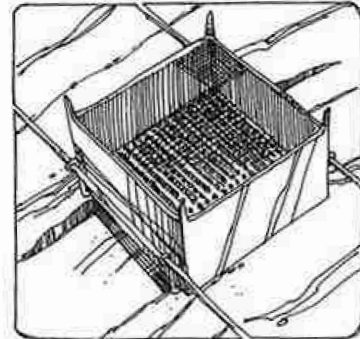
**Ark of the Covenant**  
(Ex. 25:10-22)

The ark was most sacred of all the furniture in the tabernacle. Here the Hebrews kept a copy of the Ten Commandments, which summarized the whole covenant.



**Bronze Laver**  
(Ex. 30:17-21)

It was to the laver of bronze that the priests would come for cleansing. They must be pure to enter the presence of God.



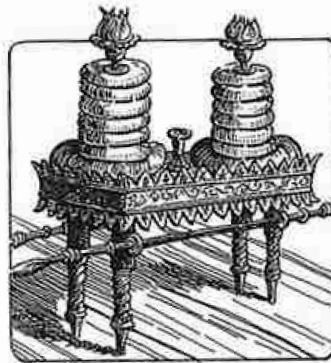
**Altar of Burnt Offering**  
(Ex. 27:1-8)

Animal sacrifices were offered on this altar, located in the court in front of the tabernacle. The blood of the sacrifice was sprinkled on the four horns of the altar.



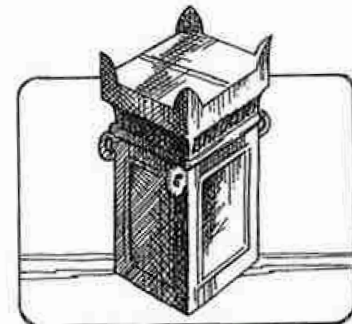
**Golden Lampstand**  
(Ex. 25:31-40)

The gold lampstand stood in the holy place, opposite the table of showbread. It held seven lamps, flat bowls in which a wick lay with one end in the oil of the bowl and the lighted end hanging out.



**Table of Showbread**  
(Ex. 25:23-30)

The table of showbread was a stand on which the offerings were placed. Always in God's presence on the table were the 12 loaves of bread representing the 12 tribes.



**Altar of Incense**  
(Ex. 30:1-10)

The altar of incense inside the tabernacle was much smaller than the altar of burnt offering outside. The incense burned on the altar was a perfume of a sweet-smelling aroma.

