OLD TESTAMENT · THE LAW · BOOK 2 OF 66

Exodus

Let them make Me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them (25:8)

40	Moses	c. 1446 B.C.	Egypt · Sinai
Chapters, 1,213 Verses	Author	The Exodus	Redemption and Covenant

STRUCTURE

The Book in Four Parts

Exodus moves from Egypt to Sinai: **chapters 1–18** tell how God redeemed His people, and **chapters 19–40** how He made His covenant with them and came to dwell among them.



Each bar shows that part's share of the 1,213 verses.

I 1–11 · 284 verses

Israel in Egypt

Bondage, the call of Moses at the burning bush, and the ten plagues.

II 12–18 · 210 verses

Deliverance

The Passover, the crossing of the Red Sea, and God's care on the way to Sinai.

III 19–24 · 169 verses

The Covenant at Sinai

The Ten Commandments, the book of the covenant, and the blood of the covenant.

IV 25–40 · 550 verses

The Tabernacle

The pattern, the golden calf, the covenant renewed, and the glory filling the tabernacle.

DATES B.C. (APPROXIMATE)

From Joseph to the Jordan

Dates follow the early exodus (c. 1446 B.C., 1 Kings 6:1) and the years Scripture gives.

c. 1876 B.C.

Into Egypt

Jacob's family, seventy souls (1:5; 12:40)

c. 1526 B.C.

Moses Born

Drawn out of the water (2:10; 7:7)

c. 1486 B.C.

Flight to Midian

At forty years old (2:15; Acts 7:23)

c. 1446 B.C.

The Burning Bush

Forty years later (3:2; Acts 7:30)

c. 1446 B.C.

The Exodus

After 430 years in Egypt (12:41)

c. 1446 B.C.

At Mount Sinai

In the third month (19:1)

c. 1445 B.C.

Tabernacle Reared Up

The second year, first month (40:17)

c. 1406 B.C.

Jordan Crossed

Forty years in the wilderness (Joshua 4:19)

For the route with maps, see **The Exodus Journey**.

EXODUS 3–4

The Burning Bush: God's Name

God calls Moses from a bush that burns but is not consumed, and makes His name known.

> *"And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and He said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you."*
>
> Exodus 3:14 (KJV)

3:6

The God of the Fathers

"the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob."

3:14

I AM

The eternal, self-existent God, who is always present with His people.

3:15

The LORD

"this is My name for ever, and this is My memorial unto all generations."

Moses' Five Objections

1 3:11–12

"Who am I?"

"Certainly I will be with thee."

2 3:13–14

"What is His name?"

"I AM hath sent me unto you."

3 4:1–9

"They will not believe me"

Three signs: the rod, the hand, the water.

4 4:10–12

"I am slow of speech"

"I will be with thy mouth."

5 4:13–17

Send Another

Aaron will speak for him.

EXODUS AT A GLANCE · PART 2 OF 7

The Ten Plagues, the Passover and the Red Sea

EXODUS 7–12

The Ten Plagues

Ten judgments on Egypt and its gods, "that ye may know that I am the LORD" (10:2).

1 7:14–25
Water to Blood
The river and all the waters

2 8:1–15
Frogs
Over all the land

3 8:16–19
Lice
"This is the finger of God"

4 8:20–32
Flies
Goshen set apart

5 9:1–7
Murrain
Egypt's cattle die

6 9:8–12
Boils
Upon man and beast

7 9:13–35
Hail
Fire mingled with the hail

8 10:1–20
Locusts
Every green thing eaten

9 10:21–29
Darkness
Three days; light in Israel's dwellings

10 11:1–12:30
Death of the Firstborn
Passed over by the blood

> *"For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, … and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD."*
>
> Exodus 12:12 (KJV)

EXODUS 12–15

The Passover and the Red Sea

God redeems His people by the blood of a lamb and by His mighty power at the sea.

1 12:3–5
A Lamb for a House
A male of the first year, without blemish, chosen on the tenth day.

2 12:6–7
The Blood on the Door
Killed on the fourteenth day; its blood struck on the side posts and the upper door post.

3 12:8–11
Eaten in Haste
Roast with fire, with unleavened bread and bitter herbs, ready to go.

4 12:29–36
Midnight
The firstborn of Egypt die; Pharaoh sends Israel out.

5 14:21–31
Through the Sea
Israel goes through on dry ground; the waters return on Egypt.

6 15:1–21
The Song of Moses
"Who is like unto Thee, O LORD, among the gods?" (15:11).

> *"And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you."*
>
> Exodus 12:13 (KJV)

"For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us" (1 Corinthians 5:7).

Out of Egypt

EXODUS 1–14 · MAP

Out of Egypt

Israel served in the land of Goshen, building treasure cities for Pharaoh. On the night of the passover they went out from Rameses, camped at Succoth and Etham, and were turned back to Pi-hahiroth by the sea. God did not lead them by the way of the Philistines, “although that was near” (13:17). The numbers match the cards below.

EXODUS 1–14

Out of Egypt

From the land of Goshen through the sea

Fifteenth day of the first month, c. 1446 B.C. · Positions approximate



The land of Goshen
Where Israel lived and served (Genesis 47:27; Exodus 8:22)

Rameses to the sea
Succoth, Etham, Pi-hahiroth (12:37; 13:20; 14:2)

Through the midst of the sea
On dry ground (14:22)

The way not taken
“Lest peradventure the people repent when they see war”

“But the children of Israel walked upon dry land in the midst of the sea; and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.”

EXODUS 14:29 (KJV)

The crossing is shown at the head of the Gulf of Suez, the traditional view. Many of these places cannot be located with certainty; positions are approximate.

BibleStudyForAll.com · Map positions approximate · Scripture from the King James Version

1 1:11; 12:37

Rameses
A treasure city built by Israel in bondage; the people set out from here.

2 1:11

Pithom
The other treasure city Israel built for Pharaoh.

3 12:37; 13:20

Succoth
The first camp: about 600,000 men on foot, besides children.

4 13:20–22

Etham
In the edge of the wilderness; the pillar of cloud and of fire goes before them.

5 14:1–9

Pi-hahiroth
God turns them back to camp by the sea, between Migdol and the sea.

6 14:21–31

The sea crossing
The LORD divides the waters; Israel goes over on dry ground, and Pharaoh’s host is drowned.

EXODUS AT A GLANCE · PART 4 OF 7

The Journey to Sinai and the Ten Commandments

EXODUS 15–18

The Journey to Sinai

Between the sea and the mountain, the people murmur and God provides at every stop.

15:22–26 · MARAH

Bitter Water Made Sweet

“I am the LORD that healeth thee.”

15:27 · ELIM

Twelve Wells

Twelve wells of water and threescore and ten palm trees.

16 · WILDERNESS OF SIN

Manna and Quails

Bread from heaven each morning; a double portion before the sabbath.

17:1–7 · REPHIDIM

Water from the Rock

Moses smites the rock in Horeb, and water flows.

17:8–16 · REPHIDIM

Victory over Amalek

Moses’ hands held up; the altar Jehovah-nissi.

18 · THE MOUNT OF GOD

Jethro’s Counsel

Able men appointed to judge the people.

See The Exodus Journey for maps of the whole route from Rameses to the Jordan.

EXODUS 20:1–17

The Ten Commandments

God first reminds Israel that He has redeemed them, then gives His law: four commandments about loving God, six about loving our neighbour.

> *“I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.”*
>
> Exodus 20:2 (KJV)

Love the LORD: Commandments 1–4

1 20:3

Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.

2 20:4–6

Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image.

3 20:7

Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain.

4 20:8–11

Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Love Thy Neighbour: Commandments 5–10

5 20:12

Honour thy father and thy mother.

6 20:13

Thou shalt not kill.

7 20:14

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

8 20:15

Thou shalt not steal.

9 20:16

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

10 20:17

Thou shalt not covet.

Jesus summed up the law in two commandments: love the Lord thy God, and love thy neighbour as thyself (Matthew 22:37–40).

From the Red Sea to Mount Sinai

EXODUS 2–4; 15–19 · MAP

From the Red Sea to Mount Sinai

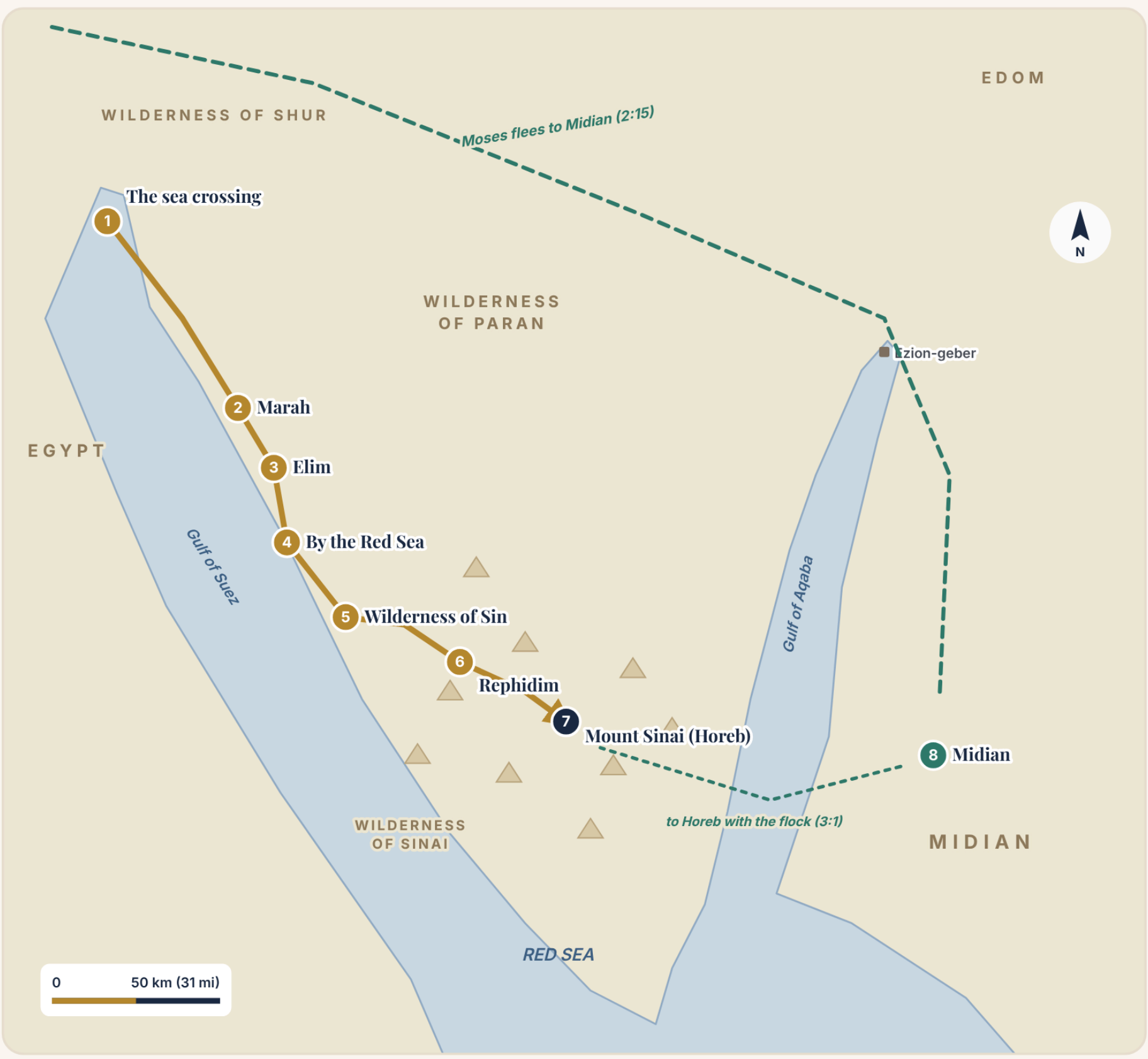
From the sea the people went three days into the wilderness of Shur, then by Marah, Elim and the wilderness of Sin to Rephidim and Mount Sinai, where they arrived in the third month. Forty years before, Moses had fled the same way to Midian, and met God at the burning bush on Horeb. The numbers match the cards below.

EXODUS 2–4; 15–19

From the Red Sea to Mount Sinai

The way through the wilderness to the mount of God

Third month after leaving Egypt, c. 1446 B.C. · Positions approximate



The sea to Mount Sinai
About three months (15:22–19:2)

Moses' flight to Midian
Forty years before (2:15; Acts 7:29–30)

Mount Sinai (Horeb)
The burning bush and the giving of the law

Midian
Jethro's country (2:15–22; 18)

"In the third month, when the children of Israel were gone forth out of the land of Egypt, the same day came they into the wilderness of Sinai."

EXODUS 19:1 (KJV)

Mount Sinai is shown at its traditional place in the south of the peninsula. Many stops cannot be located with certainty; positions are approximate.

BibleStudyForAll.com · Map positions approximate · Scripture from the King James Version

1 14:21–15:21

The sea crossing
The song of Moses: "The LORD is my strength and song."

2 15:22–26

Marah
Three days without water; the bitter waters made sweet. "I am the LORD that healeth thee."

3 15:27

Elim
Twelve wells of water and threescore and ten palm trees.

4 Numbers 33:10

By the Red Sea
A camp beside the sea, listed in Moses' record of the journeys.

5 16

Wilderness of Sin
The people murmur; God sends quails and the manna, and gives the sabbath.

6 17–18

Rephidim
Water from the smitten rock; Amalek defeated while Moses' hands are held up; Jethro visits.

7 3:1–4:17; 19–40

Mount Sinai (Horeb)
The burning bush; the law and the covenant; the tabernacle built. Israel camps here about a year.

8 2:15–22; 18:1

Midian
Moses flees from Pharaoh and keeps Jethro's flock forty years; Jethro comes from here.

The Tabernacle, the Golden Calf and God's Name

EXODUS 25–31; 35–40

The Tabernacle and Its Furniture

God gave Moses the pattern on the mount, and every piece was made "as the LORD commanded." From the gate inward:

1 27:9–19
The Court
Hangings of fine linen with one gate on the east.

2 27:1–8
Brasen Altar
The altar of burnt offering, for sacrifice.

3 30:17–21
Laver of Brass
Where the priests washed.

4 25:23–30
Table of Shewbread
Bread always before the LORD.

5 25:31–40
Golden Candlestick
Seven lamps giving light in the holy place.

6 30:1–10
Altar of Incense
Sweet incense before the veil.

7 26:31–33
The Veil
Dividing the holy place from the most holy.

8 25:10–22
Ark and Mercy Seat
"There I will meet with thee" (25:22).

> *"And I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will be their God."*
>
> Exodus 29:45 (KJV)

Aaron and his sons served as priests (28–29). On the high priest's mitre was a plate of pure gold engraved "HOLINESS TO THE LORD" (28:36).

EXODUS 32–34

The Golden Calf and God's Name

While Moses is on the mount, Israel breaks the covenant. Moses intercedes, and God renews it and proclaims His name.

1 32:1–6
The Sin
Aaron makes a molten calf: "These be thy gods, O Israel."

2 32:19–29
The Tables Broken
"Who is on the LORD's side? let him come unto me."

3 32:30–33:17
Moses Intercedes
"My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest" (33:14).

4 33:18–23
"Shew Me Thy Glory"
Moses is hid in a clift of the rock as God passes by.

5 34:1–28
The Covenant Renewed
Two new tables of stone, written again.

6 34:29–35
Moses' Face Shines
He puts a vail on his face.

EXODUS 34:6–7

The LORD Proclaims His Name

"The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty."

EXODUS AT A GLANCE · PART 7 OF 7

Christ in Exodus, Key Themes and Key Verse

LOOKING FORWARD

Pictures of Christ in Exodus

Jesus said, “had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed Me: for he wrote of Me” (John 5:46).

EXODUS 12 · 1 CORINTHIANS 5:7

The Passover Lamb

Without blemish, its blood shed to save from death: “Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.”

EXODUS 16 · JOHN 6:32–35

The Manna

“I am the bread of life”: the true bread from heaven.

EXODUS 17:6 · 1 CORINTHIANS 10:4

The Smitten Rock

“that Rock was Christ.”

EXODUS 3:14 · JOHN 8:58

I AM

“Before Abraham was, I am.”

EXODUS 25–40 · JOHN 1:14

The Tabernacle

“the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.”

EXODUS 25:17–22 · ROMANS 3:25

The Mercy Seat

Christ is set forth “to be a propitiation through faith in His blood.”

EXODUS 26:31–33 · HEBREWS 10:19–20

The Veil

A new and living way into the holiest, “through the veil, that is to say, His flesh.”

EXODUS 28–29 · HEBREWS 4:14

The High Priest

“we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God.”

BIG IDEAS

Key Themes

God’s Name

The LORD makes Himself known as I AM, the God who keeps covenant.

3:14–15; 6:2–3; 34:6–7

Redemption

God redeems His people by blood and by His mighty arm.

6:6; 12:13; 15:13

God Over the Gods

The plagues judge Egypt’s gods; the LORD alone is God.

7:5; 12:12; 15:11

Covenant

God binds Israel to Himself as His own people.

19:5–6; 24:7–8

God’s Holy Law

The Ten Commandments and the book of the covenant.

20:1–17; 21–23

Worship

Worship as God commands, not as man invents.

25:9; 32:1–8; 39:42–43

God’s Presence

The LORD dwells among His people and leads them.

13:21; 25:8; 40:34–38

Mercy and Intercession

Moses pleads, and God forgives a failing people.

32:11–14; 34:6–9

God Provides

Water, manna and victory in the wilderness.

15:25; 16:4; 17:6

KEY VERSE

“And let them make Me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.”

Exodus 25:8 (KJV)