

# Making Promises

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## Part 5: The Exodus

### Review

- According to the early date of the Exodus (**1446**), the Pharaoh in the Exodus account would have most likely been Amenhotep II.
- In the plagues leading up to the Exodus, God is judging the Egyptians and many of the Egyptian gods for their enslavement of the Hebrew people.
- Each plague seems to call out a specific god, or perhaps a plethora of gods, for the purposes of condemning Egypt, and teaching the Hebrew people that YHWH was superior to all gods.
- After the 10<sup>th</sup> plague, the Egyptians gave to the Hebrew people, gold and silver as they left. This was both a fulfillment of what God told Abraham (**Gen. 15:13-14**)

### The Route of the Exodus

- Though most modern English translations identify the “**Red Sea**” as the place where the children of Israel crossed, the precise location cannot be determined by the Hebrew text.
  - ◉ The Hebrew text calls the sea the “**Yam Suf**” translated the “**Sea of Reeds.**”
  - ◉ The biblical text tells us that the Israelites traveled from **Rameses** to **Succoth (Ex. 12:37; Num. 33:3-5)**, from Succoth to Etham (**Ex. 13:20; Num. 33:6**), Etham to Pi-hahiroth (between Migdol and the sea, opposite Baal-zephon) (**Ex.14:1-2; Num. 33:7**), through the Yam Suf (**Ex. 14:21-22; Num. 33:8**), and into the Desert of Shur (**Ex. 15:22**).
    - \* Baal-zephon is a place identified with Tell Dafanneh, just west of Lake Menzaleh.
  - ◉ It is believed that the modern day **Suez Canal (the Red Sea)** would have been too far south to account for the journey of the Hebrews, since the remains of **Succoth** and **Migdol** are believed to be much further north.
  - ◉ The lake system, commonly referred to as the **Ballah Lakes**, are more likely the site of the crossing of the Sea of Reeds.
    - \* Today this lake system is mostly dry, but is still covered in reeds, measuring approximately **18 feet** deep.

- Of the two exits out of Egypt, the Hebrews take the **southern exit** because God doesn't want them to take the direct route to Canaan since there they would encounter the Philistines (**Ex. 13:7-8**).
- It's possible that once they approached the Sea of Reeds, the children of Israel turn **northward** at God's direction to camp on the northern edge of the sea (**Ex. 14:2**).
- God hardens Pharaoh's heart yet again, and he **pursued** the Israelites to bring them back (**Ex. 14:4-9**).
- When Moses **stretched out his hand**, the Lord caused a wind to blow back the water so that the Israelites could pass through the sea on dry land (**Ex. 14:21-22**). When Moses stretched out his hand for a second time, the water washed over Pharaoh's army who was in hot pursuit (**Ex. 14:26-29**).
  - \* God's victory over Pharaoh served to elevate himself and **his servant Moses** in the eyes of the people (**Ex. 14:30-31**).
- There is a considerable amount of debate as to whether or not Pharaoh himself **drowned in the Sea of Reeds**.
  - In favor of Pharaoh drowning in the depths of the sea, are **phrasings in scripture** like **Psalms 136:15**.
  - Other aspects of the scriptural account leave room for Pharaoh himself sending his **army and generals** into the sea (**Ex. 14:28; 15:4-5**).
  - In addition, Pharaoh's sudden death in the year of the Exodus would **further complicate** the timeline of the Exodus.
    - \* If the Exodus happens somewhere in the 1440s-30s, Thutmose IV doesn't assume the throne until 1425. That being said, Egyptian chronology has often proven itself to be a difficult discipline. The dates of Pharaohs can be approximated, but can vary widely from resource to resource.
- The drowning of Pharaoh's army in the sea becomes a type of victory that **all of God's** people will experience at the **end of salvation history** (**Rev. 15:1-4; Ex. 15:1-18**).

<b>Exodus 12:37</b>	And the people of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand men on foot, besides women and children.
<b>Numbers 33:3–5</b>	<a href="#">3</a> They set out from Rameses in the first month, on the fifteenth day of the first month. On the day after the Passover, the people of Israel went out triumphantly in the sight of all the Egyptians, <a href="#">4</a> while the Egyptians were burying all their firstborn, whom the Lord had struck down among them. On their gods also the Lord executed judgments. <a href="#">5</a> So the people of Israel set out from Rameses and camped at Succoth.
<b>Exodus 13:20</b>	And they moved on from Succoth and encamped at Etham, on the edge of the wilderness.
<b>Numbers 33:6</b>	And they set out from Succoth and camped at Etham, which is on the edge of the wilderness.
<b>Exodus 14:1–2</b>	<a href="#">1</a> Then the Lord said to Moses, <a href="#">2</a> “Tell the people of Israel to turn back and encamp in front of Pi-hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, in front of Baal-zephon; you shall encamp facing it, by the sea.
<b>Numbers 33:7</b>	And they set out from Etham and turned back to Pi-hahiroth, which is east of Baal-zephon, and they camped before Migdol.
<b>Exodus 14:21–22</b>	<a href="#">21</a> Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. <a href="#">22</a> And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.
<b>Numbers 33:8</b>	And they set out from before Hahiroth and passed through the midst of the sea into the wilderness, and they went a three days’ journey in the wilderness of Etham and camped at Marah.
<b>Exodus 15:22</b>	Then Moses made Israel set out from the Red Sea, and they went into the wilderness of Shur. They went three days in the wilderness and found no water.
<b>Exodus 13:7–8</b>	<a href="#">7</a> Unleavened bread shall be eaten for seven days; no leavened bread shall be seen with you, and no leaven shall be seen with you in all your territory. <a href="#">8</a> You shall tell your son on that day, ‘It is because of what the Lord did for me when I came out of Egypt.’
<b>Exodus 14:2</b>	“Tell the people of Israel to turn back and encamp in front of Pi-hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, in front of Baal-zephon; you shall encamp facing it, by the sea.
<b>Exodus 14:4–9</b>	<a href="#">4</a> And I will harden Pharaoh’s heart, and he will pursue them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, and the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord.” And they did so. <a href="#">5</a> When the king of Egypt was told that the people had fled, the mind of Pharaoh and his servants was changed toward the people, and they said, “What is this we have done, that we have let Israel go from serving us?” <a href="#">6</a> So he made ready his chariot and took his army with him, <a href="#">7</a> and took six hundred chosen chariots and all the other chariots of Egypt with officers over all of them. <a href="#">8</a> And the Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued the people of Israel while the people of Israel were going out defiantly. <a href="#">9</a> The Egyptians pursued them, all Pharaoh’s horses and chariots and his horsemen and his army, and overtook them encamped at the sea, by Pi-hahiroth, in front of Baal-zephon.
<b>Exodus 14:26–29</b>	<a href="#">26</a> Then the Lord said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.” <a href="#">27</a> So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians fled into it, the Lord threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea. <a href="#">28</a> The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained. <a href="#">29</a> But the people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.
<b>Exodus 14:30–31</b>	<a href="#">30</a> Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. <a href="#">31</a> Israel saw the great power that the Lord used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the Lord, and they believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

<b>Psalm 136:15</b>	but overthrew Pharaoh and his host in the Red Sea, for his steadfast love endures forever;
<b>Exodus 14:28</b>	The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained.
<b>Exodus 15:4-5</b>	<a href="#">4</a> “Pharaoh’s chariots and his host he cast into the sea, and his chosen officers were sunk in the Red Sea. <a href="#">5</a> The floods covered them; they went down into the depths like a stone.
<b>Revelation 15:1-4</b>	<a href="#">1</a> Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and amazing, seven angels with seven plagues, which are the last, for with them the wrath of God is finished. <a href="#">2</a> And I saw what appeared to be a sea of glass mingled with fire—and also those who had conquered the beast and its image and the number of its name, standing beside the sea of glass with harps of God in their hands. <a href="#">3</a> And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, “Great and amazing are your deeds, O Lord God the Almighty! Just and true are your ways, O King of the nations! <a href="#">4</a> Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship you, for your righteous acts have been revealed.”

### EIGHTEENTH DYNASTY OF EGYPT

RULER	BEGAN TO RULE	RULE ENDED
<b>Amosis</b>	1570	1546
<b>Amenhotep I</b>	1546	1526
<b>Thutmose I</b>	1526	1512
<b>Thutmose II</b>	1512	1504
<b>Hatshepsut</b>	1503	1483
<b>Thutmose III</b>	1504	1450
<b>Amenhotep II</b>	1450	1425
<b>Thutmose IV</b>	1425	1417
<b>Amenhotep III</b>	1417	1379
<b>Amenhotep IV</b>	1379	1362
<b>Smenkhkare</b>	1364	1361
<b>Tutankhamon</b>	1361	1352
<b>Ay</b>	1352	1348
<b>Horemheb</b>	1348	1320