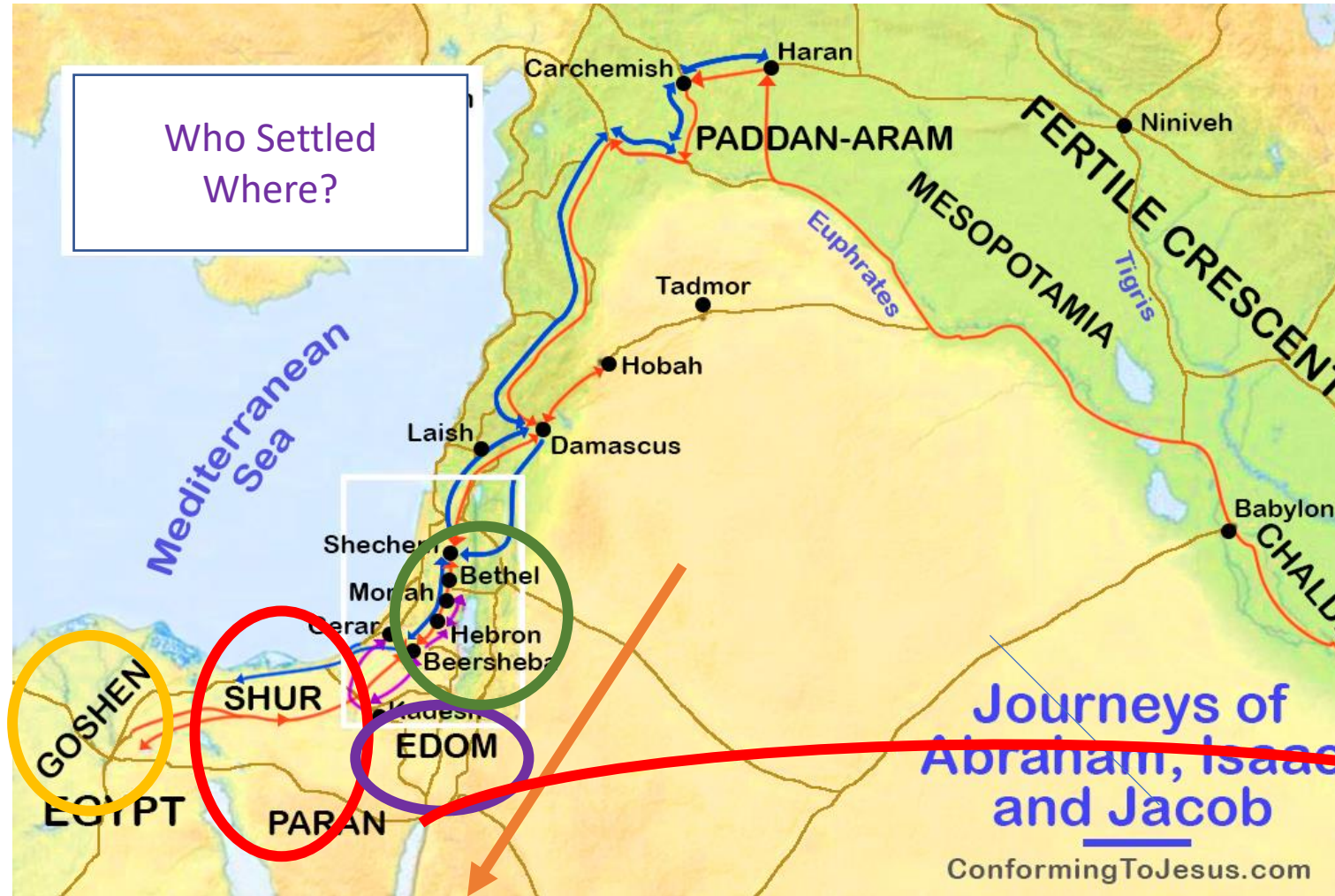


The History of Salvation 5



Sons of Abraham:

Green: Isaac

Red: Ishmael

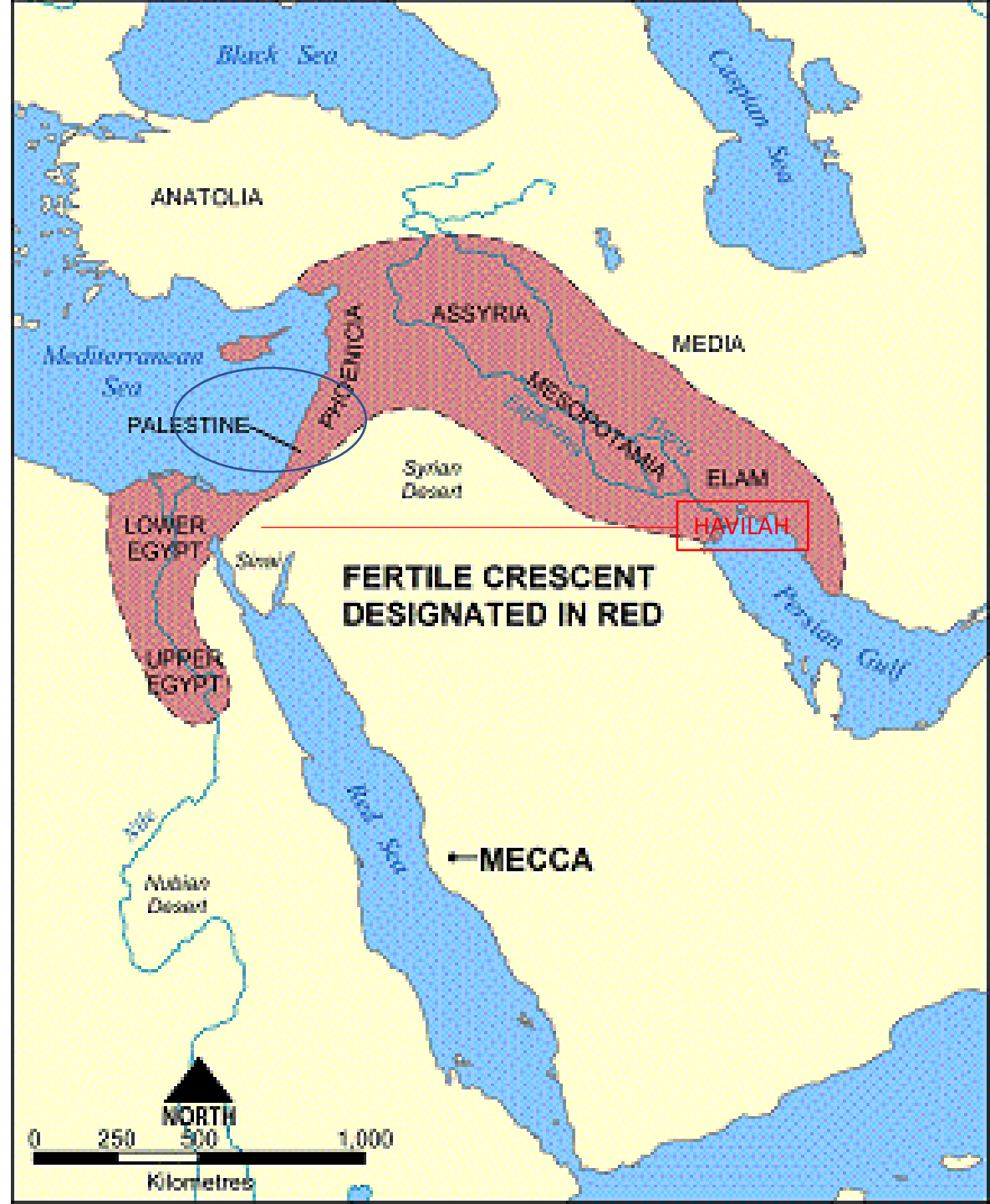
Orange: Midian

Sons of Isaac:

Blue: Esau

Yellow: Jacob

Ishmael lived in the wilderness of Paran. His descendants lived 'from Havilah unto Shur, that [is] before Egypt, as thou goest toward Assyria'. (Gen 25)

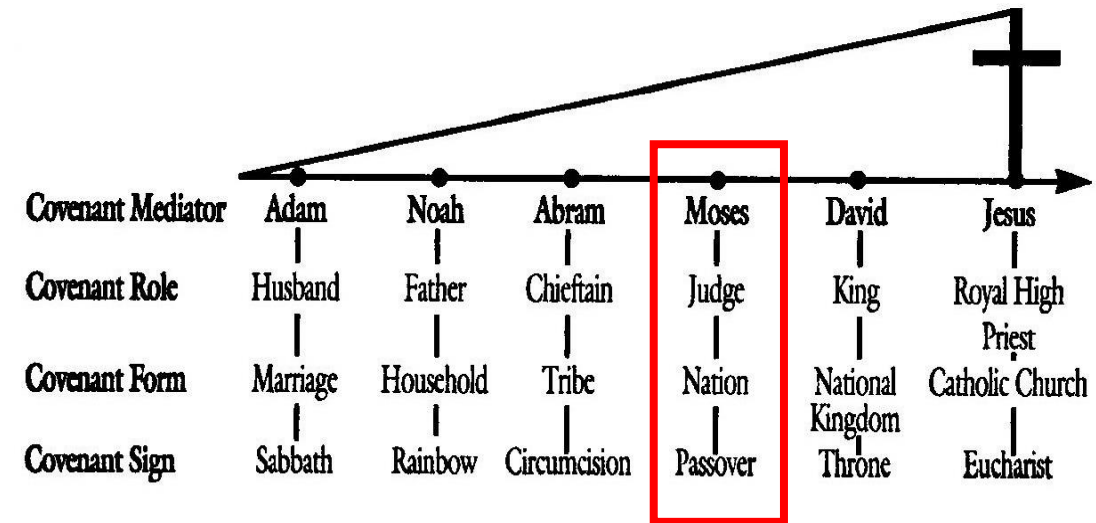


The Covenant with Moses

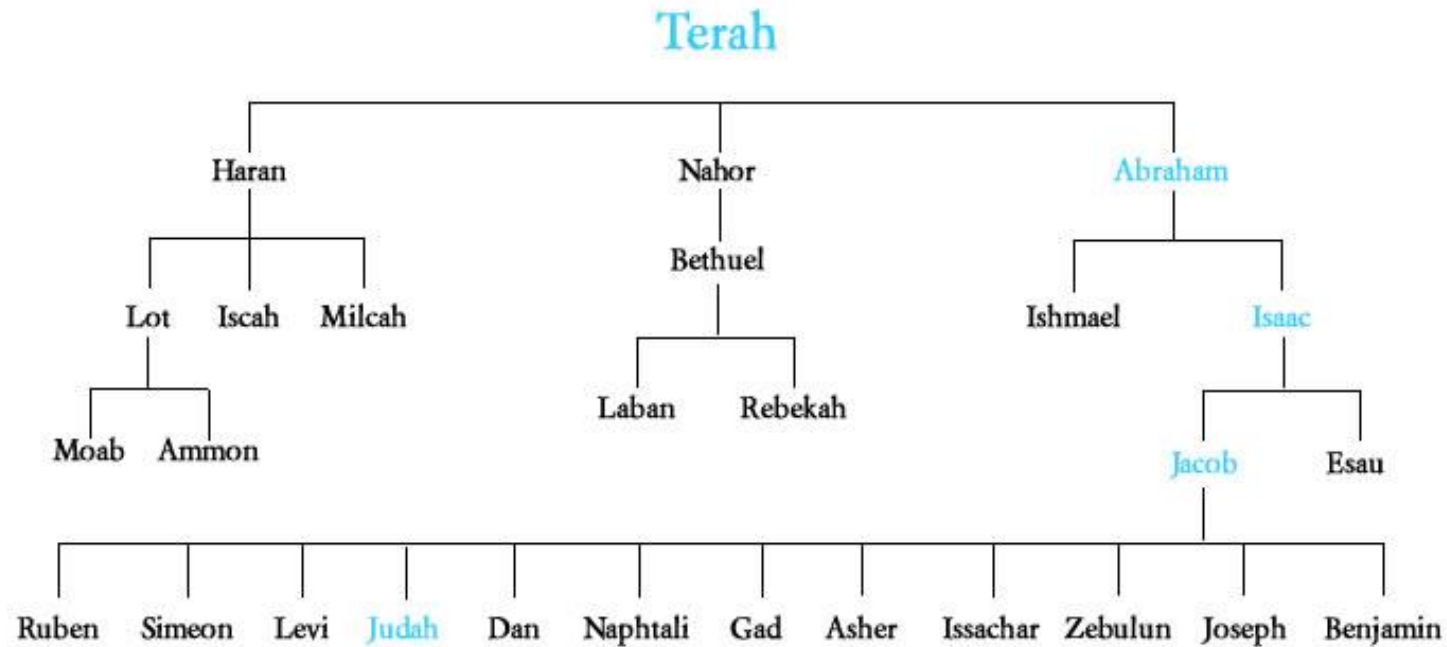
(Ex 19:5-6; 3:4-10; 6:7)

Features of a Covenant:

1. Covenant Mediator (person God makes the covenant with)
Moses
2. Covenant Role (who the mediator is representing)
As judge & liberator of Israel
3. Promises & Conditions of the covenant (blessings & curses)
God swears to be Israel's God; Israel swears to worship God alone. The blessings are that they will be God's chosen people. The condition is to keep God's Law
4. Sign by which the covenant will be remembered
The Passover, commemorated each year
5. Form God's family has as a result of the covenant
Grows from a tribal network of patriarchs to a nation, under the leadership of Moses



The Chosen Line in Genesis

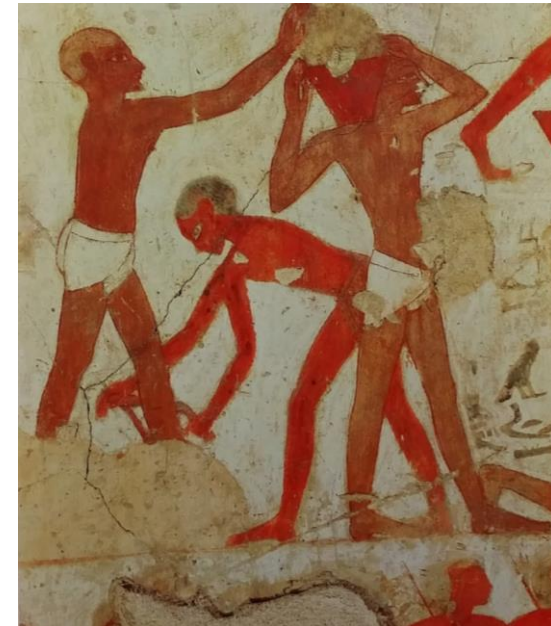


This chart indicates the chosen line found in the Book of Genesis.
The names in blue are the lineage of the Messiah.

The People
of Israel

The Israelites in Egypt

- Jacob's whole family settle in Egypt. God had warned Abraham that they would be enslaved and oppressed for 400 years, but that God would deliver them (Gn 15:13-15).
- Initially they are privileged guests, then they are enslaved (Ex 12:40).
- "The people of Israel are too many & too mighty for us" ... Therefore they set taskmasters over them to afflict them with heavy burdens.'
- Possible Time Period: @ Reign of Ramses II, 1292-1290 BC & Merneptah, 1212-1204BC



Bottom: The Israelites in Egypt: Labourers in Egypt: tomb of the vizier Rekhmire, Valley of the Nobles, Thebes (c. 1425-1400 BC)



God Remembers His Promise

The people of Israel groaned under their bondage, & cried out for help, & their cry under bondage came up to God. And God heard their groaning, & God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, & with Jacob. And God saw the people of Israel, & God knew their condition.

The time had come for Him to fulfill His promise to Abraham, to make His descendants a great nation & to give them a beautiful and bountiful land of their own (Gn 28:13-15).

God sends Moses to tell Pharaoh that "Israel is My son, My first-born" (Ex 4:22; Sir 36:11).

Who was Moses?

Birth & Rescue of Moses

- Family of Levi
- A new Pharaoh enslaves the people of Israel
- Order to kill every male Israelite child at birth
- Moses is saved by being placed in a "papyrus basket", the same word is used for Noah's ark in Genesis 6:14).
- Moses escapes & is brought up in Pharaoh's court with his Hebrew mother as nurse
- Moses kills an Egyptian for beating a Hebrew slave, flees Egypt, marries, & settles in Midian.
- Moses' wife circumcises their son. (Ex 4:24-26).



Moses Moves to Midian



Sons of Abraham:
Green: Isaac
Orange: Midian

Sons of Isaac:
Easu: Blue
Jacob: Yellow

Moses and Jesus



- The rules of both command Moses: Pharaoh orders Egypt's midwives to kill every Hebrew the killing of Hebrew boys (Ex 1:15-16, Mt 2:16)).
- Moses and Jesus are saved by family members - Moses by his mother and sister (Exodus 2:1-10) and Jesus by his mother and father (Mt 2:13-15; Ex 2:5-10).
- Both remained in exile until those who sought their life were dead (Mt 2:20; Ex 4:19).
- Both came out of Egypt.
- Moses & Jesus fast for 40 days and 40 nights in the wilderness. (Mt 4:2; Ex 34:28)
- The old Covenant is made with Moses on a mountain. Jesus gives the New Covenant to his people on a mountain (Mt 5-7; Dt 5:1-21).
- The Passover & The Last Supper, Passion & death of Jesus
- The parting of the waters of the Red Sea &: Baptism
- The wandering in the desert
- The daily bread from heaven: Manna & the Eucharist
- Moses staff lifted up in the desert & the Cross

God Reveals Himself to Moses: The Burning Bush

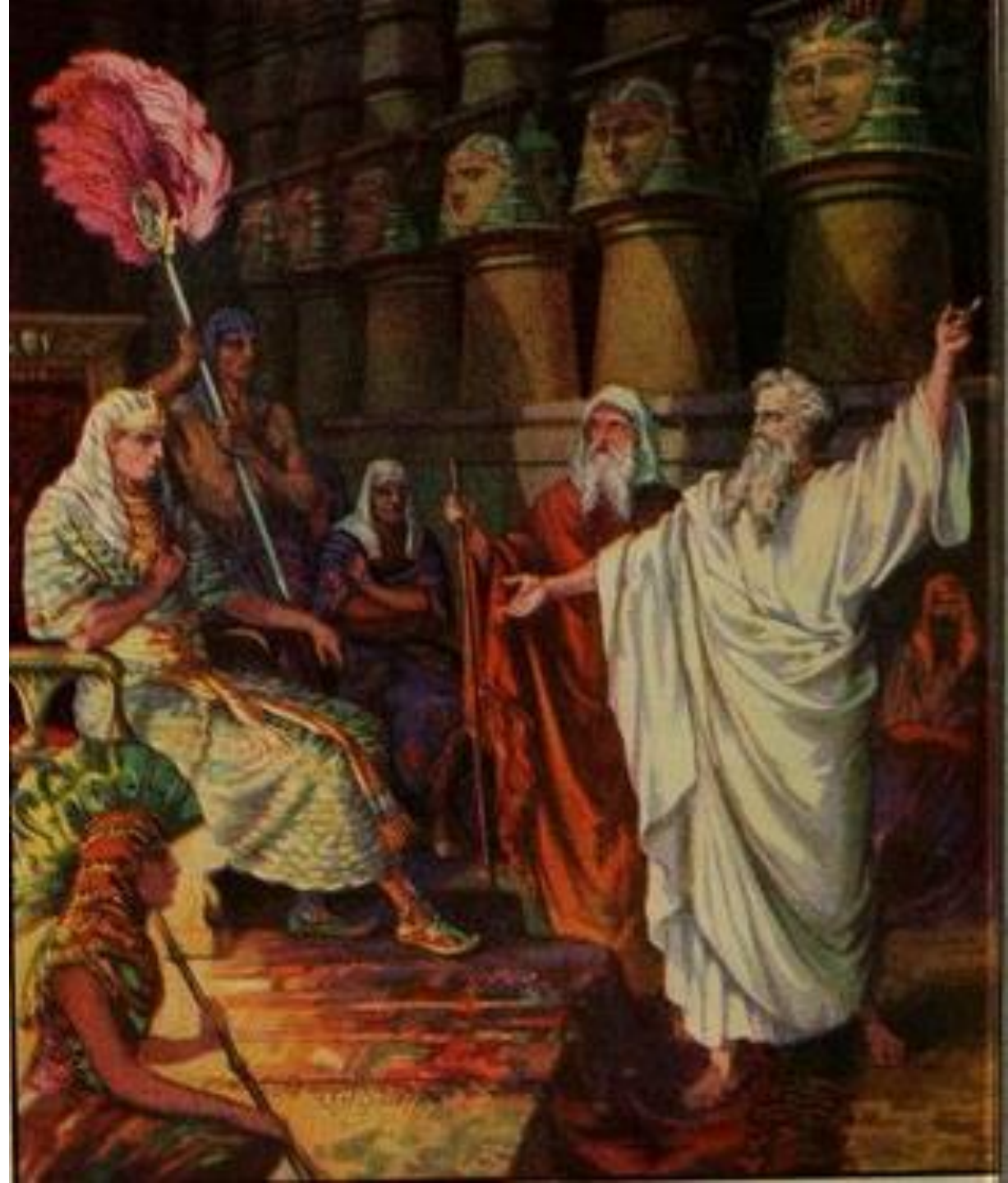
- Moses encounters the God of Abraham, Isaac & Jacob at Sinai
- God orders Moses to go back to Egypt & lead Israel to freedom.
- God reveals his sacred Name to Moses. Knowing God's Name means knowing the truth about God.
- He tells Moses to ask Pharaoh to let the people go for three days to make sacrifices, but warns him that Pharaoh will refuse.
- Moses doubts his capacity. God:
 - Tells him to have faith
 - Gives him power to work miracles
 - Appoints Aaron to accompany and speak for him.



The First-Born Son

“You shall say to Pharaoh, ‘Thus says the LORD, Israel is my first-born son, & I say to you, “Let my son go that he may serve me”; if you refuse to let him go, behold, I will slay your first-born son.’”

- Israel is the first-born son, but not the only son.
- God wants to be a father of all other nations too. Israel is called out of Egypt to show the other nations the way to live as His children. But it must be righteous before it can preach to other nations.
- Israel is to be a covenant mediator for God’s world-wide family that will lead them to him.



God Repeats His Promise

Moses & Aaron put their request to Pharaoh who refuses & increases the Israelites' work. The Israelites blame Moses.

God repeats his promise to Israel (Ex 6:6-8)

Say therefore to the people of Israel, 'I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from their bondage, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment, and I will take you for my people, and I will be your God; and you shall know that I am the LORD your God, who has brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. And I will bring you into the land which I swore to give to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob; I will give it to you for a possession. I am the LORD.'"

The Israelites don't listen because of their 'broken spirit'.



Unleash the Plagues

The plagues are judgements on the Egyptian gods. (The Nile was identified with the god Hapi, frogs with the goddess Heket, Re the sun god. The first-born of the pharaoh was considered divine).

1. Water into blood (דָּם): Ex. 7:14–24.
2. Frogs (צִפְרֹדֵי): Ex. 7:25–8:15.
3. Gnats/Lice (כְּנָיִם): Ex. 8:16–19
4. Flies (עָרוֹב): Ex. 8:20–32
5. Diseased livestock (דָּבָר): Ex. 9:1–7
6. Boils (שֹׁחַיִן): Ex. 9:8–12
7. Thunderstorm of hail (בָּרָד): Ex. 9:13–35
8. Locusts (אֲרָבָה): Ex. 10:1–20
9. Darkness for three days (חֹשֶׁךְ): Ex. 10:21–29
10. Death of firstborn (מַכַּת בְּכוֹרוֹת): Ex. 11:1–12:36

The Nine Plagues

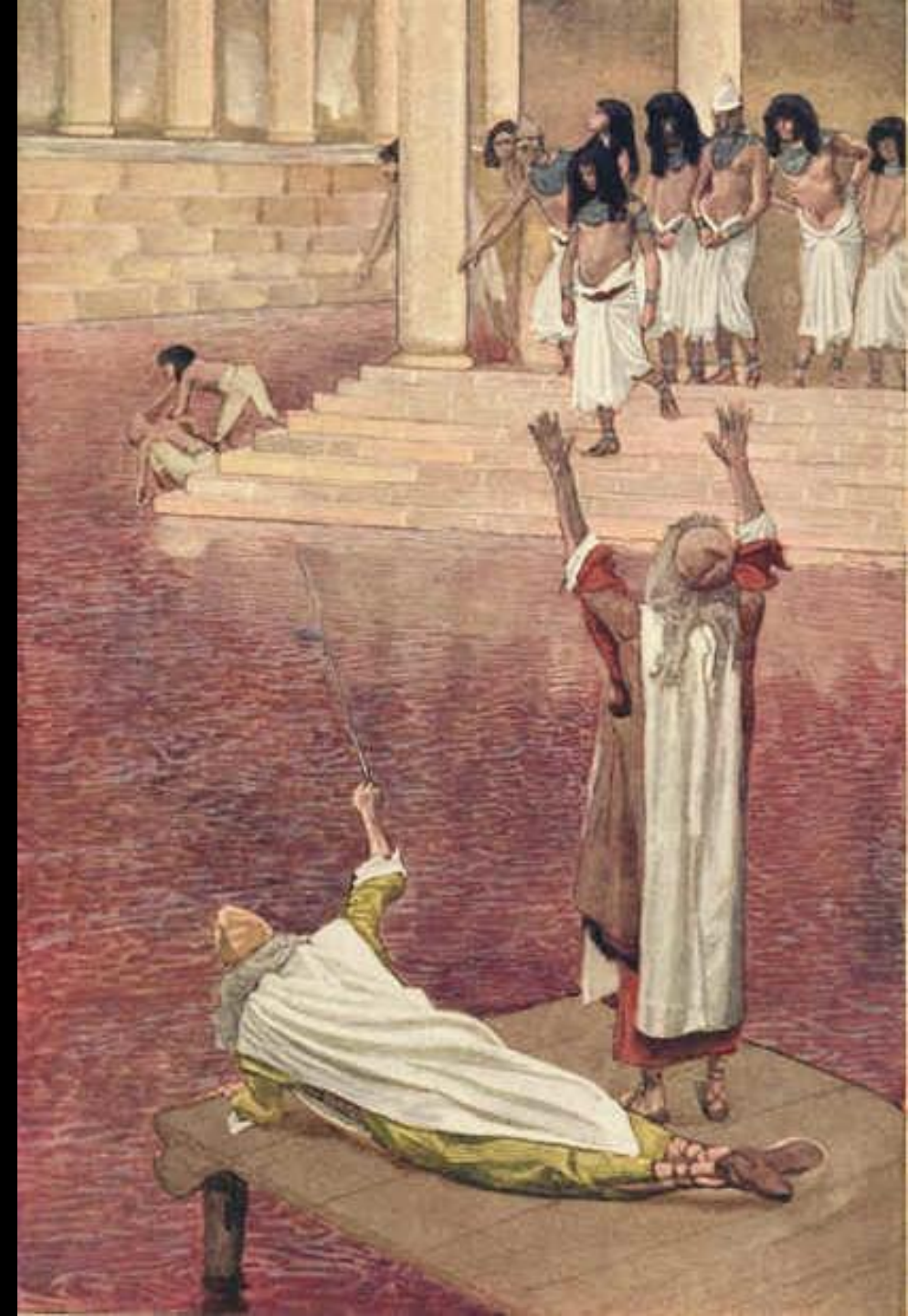
God protects the Israelites from harm or loss. The plagues show the Israelites who is God & destroyed false deities.

Pharaoh allows the Israelites to sacrifice provided they do not go far. Moses insists they must journey 3 days away.

Then Pharaoh ... said, "Go, sacrifice to your God within the land." But Moses said, "It would not be right to do so; for we shall sacrifice to the LORD our God offerings abominable to the Egyptians. If we sacrifice offerings abominable to the Egyptians before their eyes, will they not stone us? We must go three days' journey into the wilderness and sacrifice to the LORD our God as he will command us." So Pharaoh said, "I will let you go, to sacrifice to the LORD your God in the wilderness; only you shall not go very far away ... But Pharaoh hardened his heart this time also, and did not let the people go.

The animals the Israelites sacrificed were divinities for the Egyptians. The Israelites had been in Egypt so long they had begun to absorb some of their practices. The idols had to go. The Israelites had to sacrifice these. This would have been a spiritual liberation and they could have returned to Egypt.

Apis was a bull god, Hathor a cow goddess, Khnum a ram god.



The Passover

They shall take every man a lamb... a lamb for a household ... Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old; you shall take it from the sheep or from the goats; and .. the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs in the evening. Then they shall take some of the blood, and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat them. They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it ... roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. And you shall let none of it remain until the morning, anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. In this manner you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD's passover. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will smite all the first-born in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you, upon the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall fall upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.





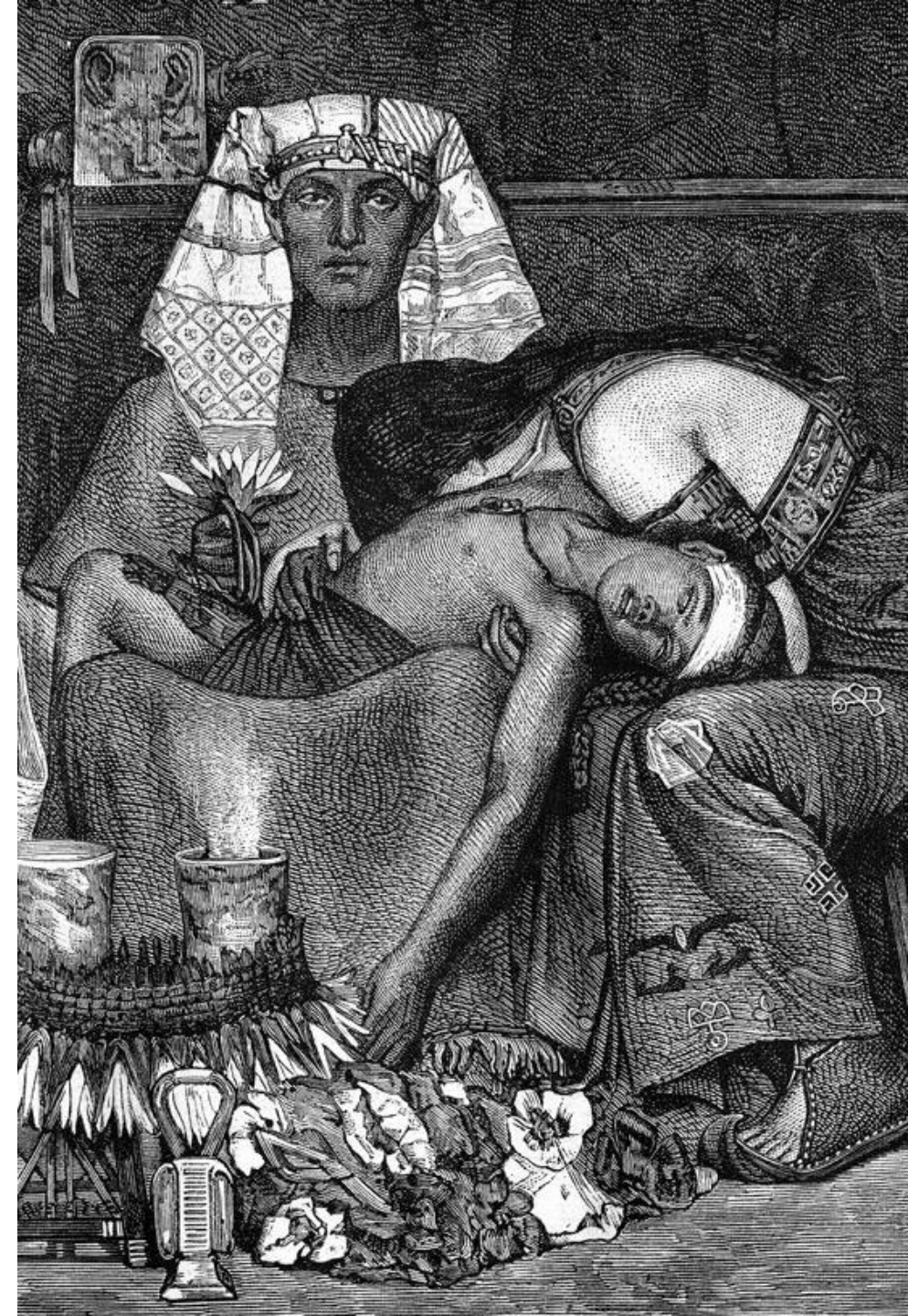
The Passover Lamb is a Type
of Christ

- Christ is the lamb of God whose blood saves us from eternal death.
- The Passover meal & unleavened bread.
- The Passover lamb is a type of Christ, the Lamb of God, whose blood saves us from eternal death.

The Tenth Plague

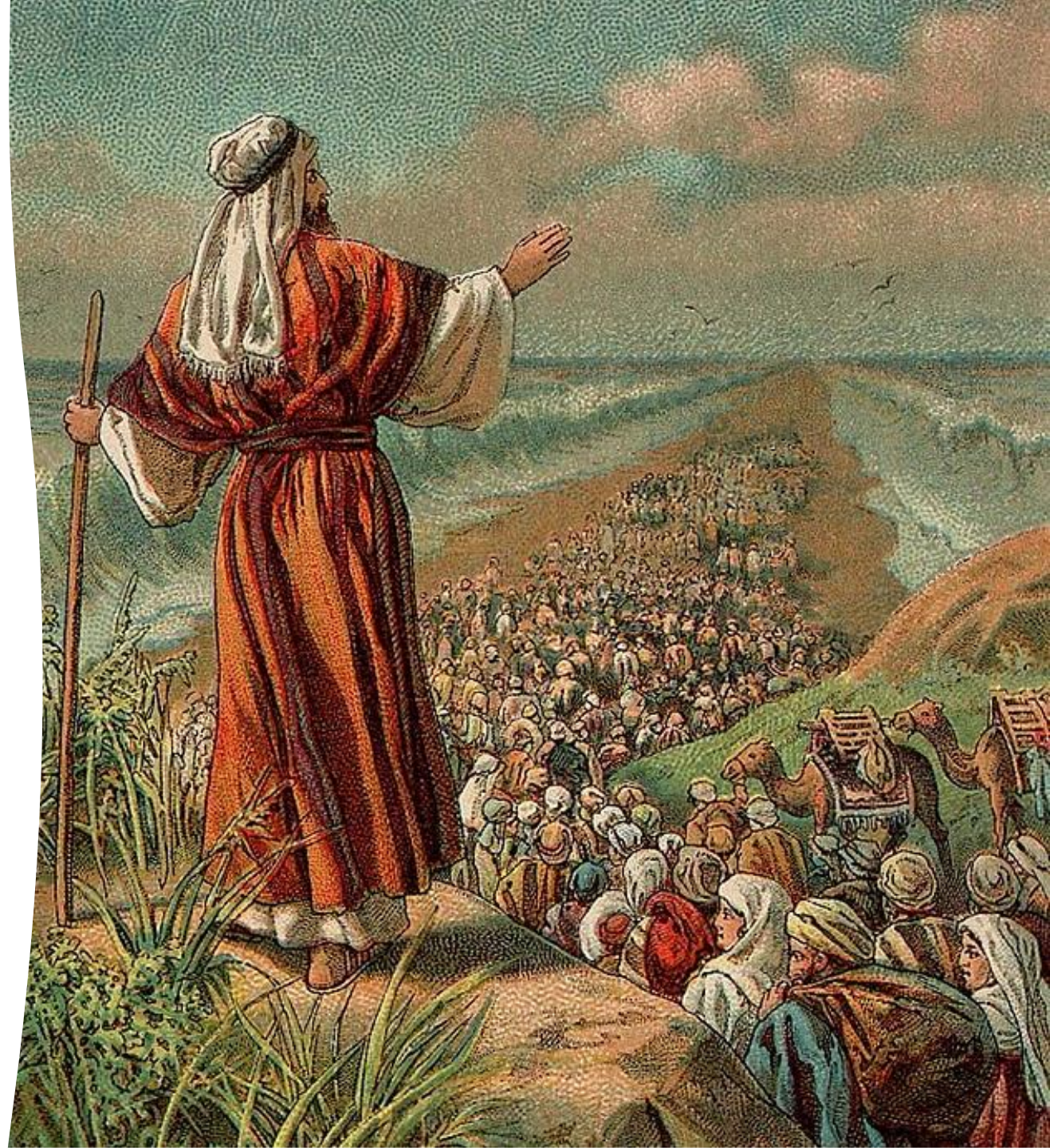
Death of firstborn (מִּפְּתַת בְּכוֹרוֹת): Ex. 11:1–12:36

At midnight the LORD smote all the first-born in the land of Egypt, from the first-born of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the first-born of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the first-born of the cattle. And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he, and all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt, for there was not a house where one was not dead. And he summoned Moses and Aaron by night, and said, “Rise up, go forth from among my people, both you and the people of Israel; and go, serve the LORD, as you have said. Take your flocks and your herds, as you have said, and be gone; and bless me also!”



The Exodus

- About 600,000 men, plus women & children
- Gold & silver, but few provisions
- Take the bones of Joseph
- The pursuit of Pharaoh & miraculous crossing of the Red Sea
- Celebration
- Grumbling in the wilderness
- God provides: water, manna, quail
- God wants to bring them to the promised land, but also to make them his own. God loves us the way we are, but loves us too much to leave us that way.



A Type of Baptism

Our fathers were all under the cloud, & all passed through the sea, & all were baptized into Moses in the cloud & in the sea, & all ate the same supernatural food & all drank the same supernatural drink. For they drank from the supernatural Rock which followed them, & the Rock was Christ. (1 Cor 10: 1-4)

As the Israelites passed through the waters into freedom and a new identity as God's chosen people, so too the Christian in baptism is freed from sin and made a child of God.



Testing in the Wilderness

"An example...written down as a warning to us, upon whom the end of the ages has come" (1 Cor 10:11).

Despite all the signs & wonders worked by God, the Israelites' journey is a story of stubbornness & shortsightedness, of the people's inability to trust God.

At Marah they grumbled at the bitter water. God gave Moses power to make the water sweet (Ex 15:22-25).

In the desert at Sinai they grumbled for food. God feeds them with manna from heaven, their daily bread every day for 40 years (Ex 16).

At Meribah & Massah they put God to the test: "Is the Lord in our midst or not?" (Ex 17:2,7). Moses struck the rock as God instructed & water poured out.

Forty years later Moses explained to the Israelites that all this was

"to test you by affliction & find out whether or not it was your intention to keep His commandments...You must realize that the Lord, your God, disciplines you even as a man disciplines a son" (Dt 8:2-5).

The testing is a form of "fatherly discipline" by which God makes His child stronger, make Israel stronger, to teach the people how much they need God, how without Him they would be nothing. God tested them so that they wouldn't mistake their freedom & prosperity as the work of their own strength. "

"It is the Lord, your God, who gives you the power to acquire wealth, by fulfilling, as He has now done, the covenant which He swore to your fathers" (Dt 8:17-18).

God plans, not only to bring them to the physical promised land, but to free them from sin & make them depend on Him as a father who keeps his promises.



Manna & the Eucharist

Hungry & Thirsty, the Israelites complain to Moses. God sends miraculous food, a type of the Eucharist.

The manna lasts only for the day so they trust in God.

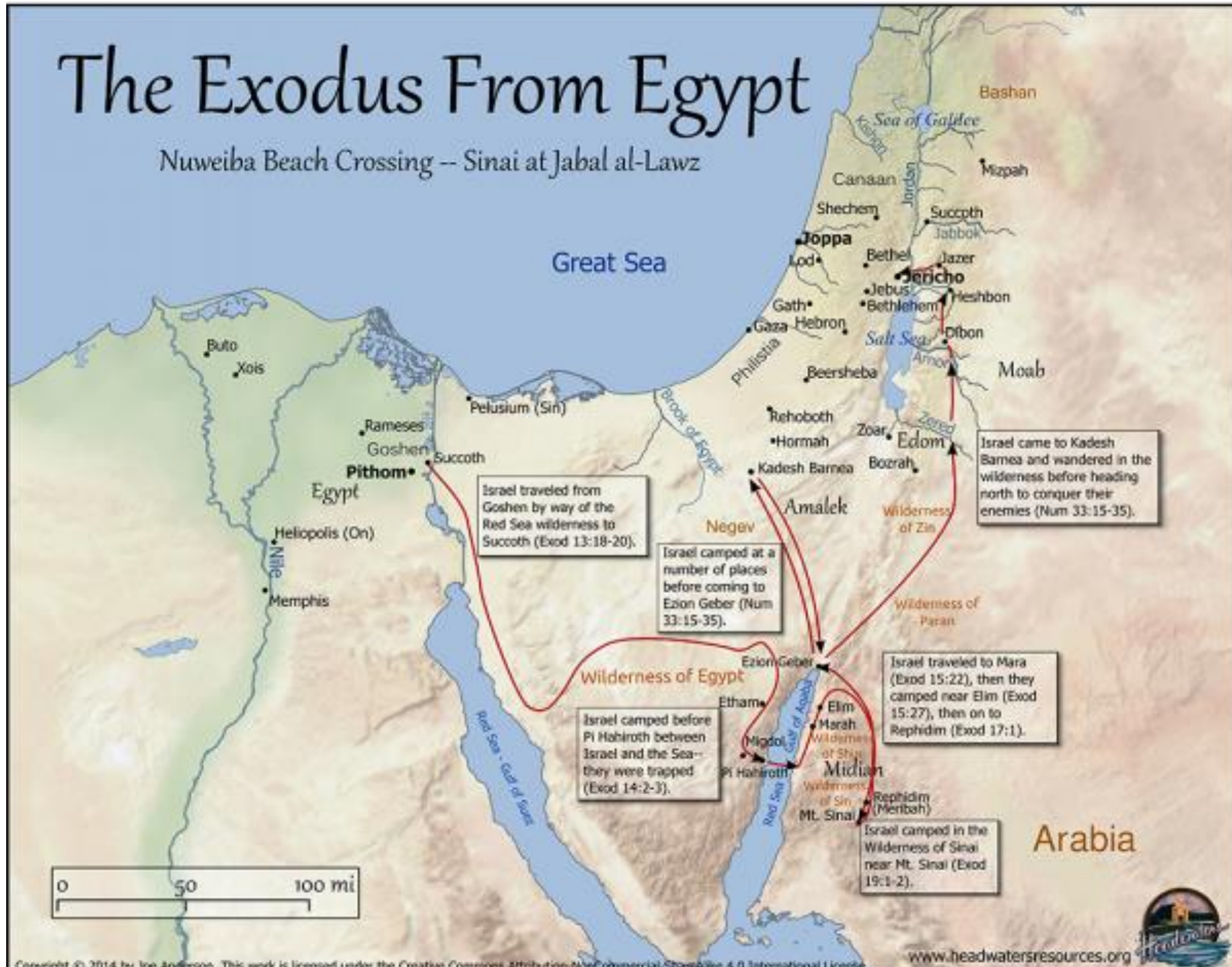
So they said to him, "Then what sign do you do, that we may see, and believe you? What work do you perform? Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven; my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven, and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Lord, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to me shall not hunger, and he who believes in me shall never thirst." (Jn 6: 30-35)

Route of the Exodus



The Exodus From Egypt

Nuweiba Beach Crossing – Sinai at Jabal al-Lawz



The Covenant on Mt Sinai

After three months they camp at Mt Sinai & Moses goes up the mountain to pray. God tells him how he wants to transform his people.

*"You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, & how I bore you on eagles' wings & brought you to myself. Now therefore, **if** you will obey my voice & keep my covenant, you shall be my own possession among all peoples; for all the earth is mine, & you shall be to me a kingdom of priests & a holy nation."* (Ex 19: 3-6)

- If they agree, Israel will be the first-born son to lead other nations to God. The people tell Moses they agree. Also a personal relationship with his people – will talk to them directly, guide & lead them.
- The people need to be unified as a nation before they could unite other nations. The Ten Commandments give the people a new identity., a new way of living under God's lordship.
- A holy nation, a kingdom of priests is built on holiness & righteousness, and on its relationship with God rather than military or political power. A holy nation will be able to lead other nations to God.
- **"If** you hearken to My voice & keep My covenant, you shall be My special possession...a kingdom of priests " (Ex 19:5). God's covenant is conditional. To experience its blessings, Israel must keep His covenant, obey its terms (spelled out in Ex 20-23). If they don't keep His covenant, they may as well be "no people" at all, their number blotted from the face of the earth (Dt 32:21; Hos 1:9; 1 Pt 2:10).

The Ten Commandments

'The Book of the Covenant' (Ex 21-23) was a declaration of independence from Egypt, but more importantly a declaration of dependence on God.

Ex 21-23 & the Ten Commandments are a covenant family law, a household code. These laws were primarily given to govern relationships within the growing national household of Israel - they cover how to resolve disputes, how to deal with slaves, how to treat acts of violence, how to make restitution for theft or property damage, and how to relate to God and human authority.



The Covenant on Mt Sinai

- Preparation for the covenant
- 3rd day: thunder & lightning on the mountain, the mountain wrapped in fire. The Lord is on the mountain.
- The people freak out. They only want God to speak to them through Moses, not directly. Moses goes up alone.

Ex 20-23: Code to live by as God's family; the law to live by.

Ex 24: Once the expectations are clear, God enters a covenant with Israel.

Sacrifices, peace offerings, the blood of the sacrifices is used as a ritual sign of the covenant oath that binds them.

Moses, Aaron and elders have covenant meal on mountain – signifies communion. The Covenant is sealed with a ritual meal. Moses and the 70 elders sit down to eat in the presence of God (Ex 24:9-11).

Parallels with New Covenant at the Last Supper: a sacrifice & meal.

After listening to God's words, Israel swears to keep the covenant (Ex 19:8,24:3,7).

Moses builds an altar with twelve pillars, symbolizing that all of the tribes of Jacob had approved the covenant (Ex 24:4). Then He takes the blood from the animals sacrificed and sprinkles it on the people, calling it "the blood of the covenant which the Lord has made with you" (Ex 24:8). Blood is a symbol of family relations. That's what this covenant does - it makes Israel the sons and daughters of God.

The Covenant prefigures the New Covenant; it is a partial fulfillment of God's plan which will be fulfilled with Jesus.



After the Covenant

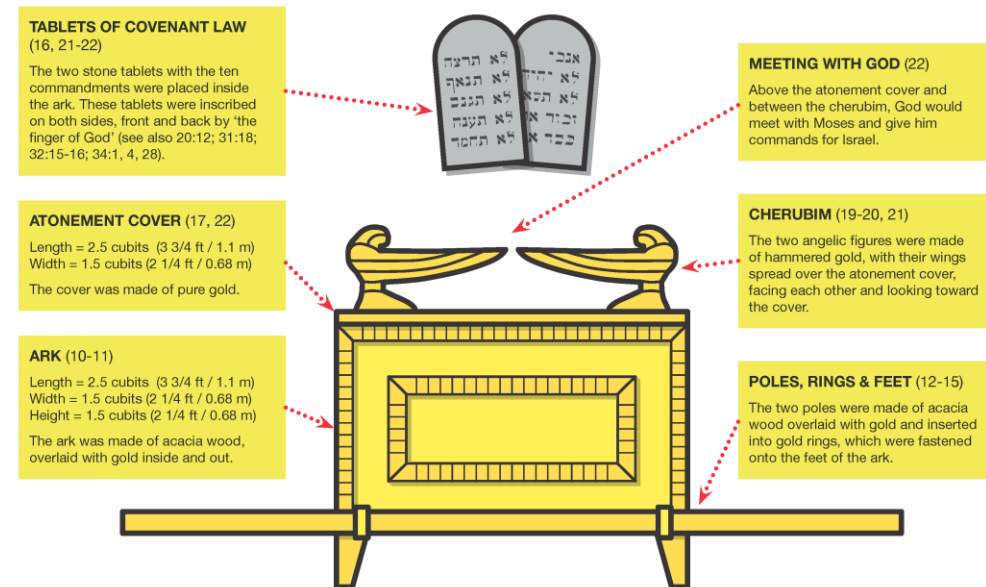
- Moses goes back up the mountain & is gone for 40 days, speaking with God.
- Specifications for the Ark of the Covenant & the Tabernacle.
- Consecrated priesthood & vestments
- The Sabbath
- Moses receives the tablets with the Ten Commandments.



The Ark of the Covenant

- The Ark: contained a golden urn holding manna, Aaron's rod, & the stone tablets of the covenant (Hb 9:4)
- The Tabernacle: a portable temple where God dwells amongst His people.
- God's own designs & specs – what is worthy of God.
- God takes up residence (Ex. 40: 34-38).

THE ARK OF THE COVENANT EXODUS 25:10-22 © Mark Barry 2015 | visualunit.me | Please do not republish without permission, but feel free to copy for personal use.



The Ark of the Covenant & The Tabernacle





Meanwhile, Back at Camp ...

The people grow impatient & demand Aaron make them a golden calf. Aaron gives in.

Up, make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we don't know what's become of him'. (Ex 32:1)

- The golden bull calf: The calf is an image of Apis, the Egyptian fertility god. Also represents money, sex, power.
- They build an altar, offer sacrifices, eat & drink a ritual meal. Israel's worship is a parody of the covenant at Sinai.
- They also "rose up to revel," a polite way of saying that they engaged in orgies associated with the cult of Apis (**Ex 32:1-6**).
- What the forbidden fruit was to Adam the golden calf was to Israel. It is a second fall from grace, a total betrayal of God & return to ways of Egypt.
- Moses destroys the idol, grinds it up & makes the people drink it. Then there's a slaughter of the apostates.

The Golden Calf

God sends Moses back down. Israel broke its covenant oath & left God. Without God they are cursed, losing the blessings of the covenant. God has sworn his part too. Consequences for the breach.

Moses smashes the tablets as Israel destroyed the covenant. Calf: burnt, ground up & drunk by the people.

God's mercy: Process for repairing broken covenant: Exodus (33-40), Leviticus, & Numbers 1-10.

- Moses mediates & negotiates for Israel – don't destroy them. (Christ mediates)
- Levitical priesthood. Levites come to Moses, replace the 1st-born sons as priests. Other tribes lose their priesthood. Kill people, as curse for sacrilege. Show they choose God even over their blood relatives.
- Levites ordered to offer animal sacrifices daily in the temple for Israel. No longer optional. They are addicted to idolatry. Only God saves. This happens until the fullness of time, with the Incarnation.

Figures to bear Israel's curse symbolically until Christ bears it redemptively. (Hb 5-10) The sacrifices prefigure the sacrifice of Christ, which can redeem from sin where the sacrifice of hundreds of thousand animals cannot. After the Redemption & the coming of the Holy Spirit the sacrifices cease.

Animals the Egyptians sacrificed cannot be sacrificed or eaten by the Israelites: declared unclean.

The Israelites spend 1 year at Sinai getting this straight.



Moses Breaks the Tables of the Law, Gustave Dore, 1866.