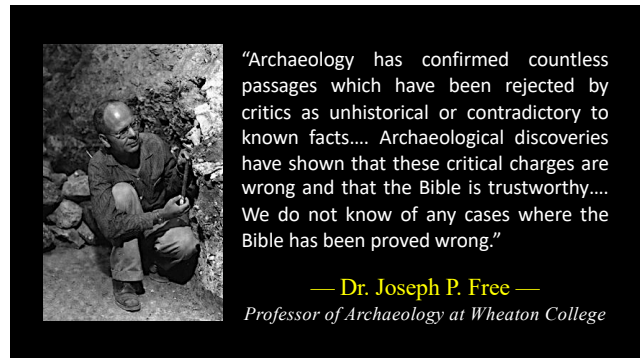
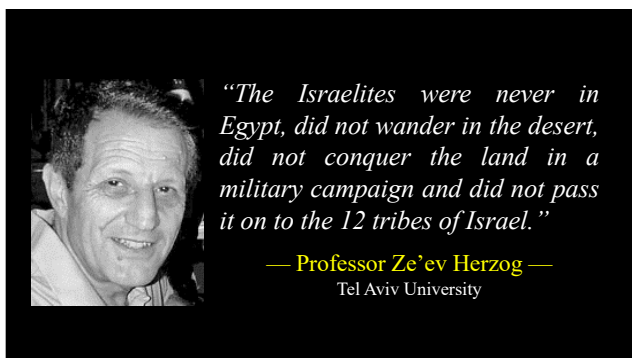


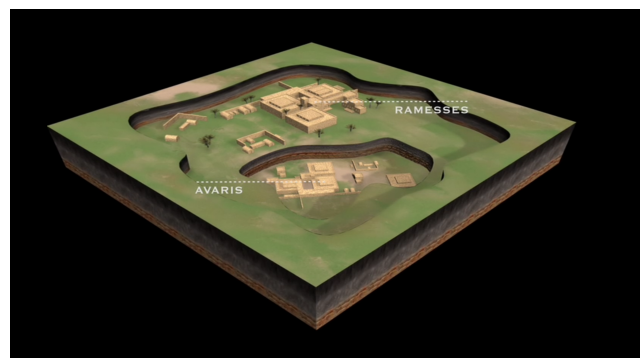
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6

Hatshepsut: Pharaoh's Only Daughter

Moses was found by "Pharaoh's daughter" in the Nile River. Records show that Thutmose I and Queen Ahmose had only one child, and **her** name was Hatshepsut. Exodus states, "When the child grew older... he became her son" (Exodus 2:10). Children were typically nursed until the age of three, and they began formal education at the age of five. Incredibly, only half of Egyptian children reached the age of five.

18 th Dynasty Pharaohs	
Ahmose I	1576-1551
Amenhotep I	1551-1530
Thutmose I	1530-1517
Thutmose II	1517-1504
Hatshepsut	1504-1483

7




Remains of Hatshepsut Reigned 1504-1483 BC	Remains of Thutmose III Reigned 1504-1450 BC	Remains of Amenhotep II Reigned 1452-1417 BC
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8

THE PAPYRUS IPUWER - LEIDEN 344

An Egyptian Parallel to the Biblical Ten Plagues




9

Avaris Abandoned

"The most likely interpretation is that *Avaris was abandoned*. No conflagration [destruction] layer or corpses of slain soldiers have been found so far in the large and widely separated excavation areas.... We do not know if the settlement continued beyond the time of Amenhotep II."

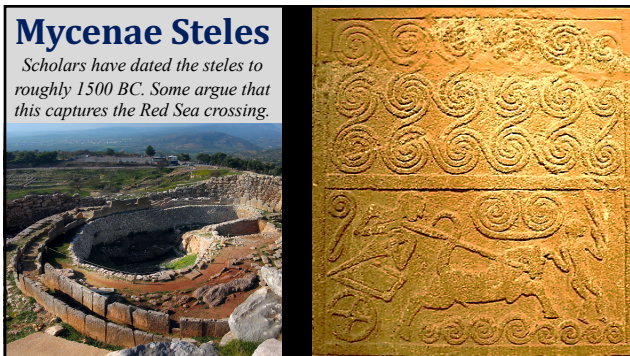
— Dr. Manfred Bietak —
University of Vienna



10

Mycenae Steles

Scholars have dated the steles to roughly 1500 BC. Some argue that this captures the Red Sea crossing.



11

Any Questions?



12

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE Aftermath of the Exodus

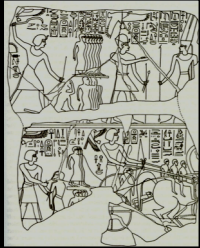
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Did Pharaoh Die in the Red Sea?

The Bible never specifies that Pharaoh died in the Red Sea, but it does specify that his “army,” “horsemen,” and even the “best of Pharaoh’s officers” drowned. Why omit the death of Pharaoh? Psalm 136:15 — the strongest case for Pharaoh’s death — only states that God “overthrew Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea.” The Hebrew verb (נָעַר, “overthrew”) is most commonly translated as “shake off.” Nonetheless, Amenhotep II reigned for another 29 years.

14

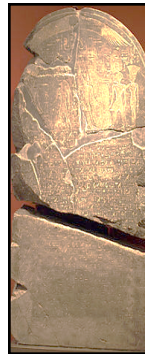
A Dramatic Shift in Foreign Policy



Amenhotep II ascended to the throne in 1452 BC. Initially, he showed great military prowess. However, he concluded his final campaign in the vassal territories of the Levant during his 9th year (c. 1444 BC). He claimed to have seized horses and livestock “without limit,” 1,092 chariots, and 101,128 foreign slaves. Why would this Egyptian pharaoh have faced a dire shortage of livestock, horses, chariots, and slave labor?

15

Egypt’s Need for New Slaves



In his 3rd campaign, Amenhotep II did not conquer any new territories, but his army captured forty-six times more slaves than all campaigns combined. Egyptologist Claude Vandersleyen wrote, “It seems possible to consider this reign as unsuccessful, a time of decline: a few exploits abroad... an almost complete absence of sources after the ninth year of the reign.” Dr. Yohanan Aharoni of Tel-Aviv University agreed that “cracks began to appear in the structure of the Egyptian Empire.”

16

Egypt Reduced to Buying Slaves

Two generations later, Egyptian pharaoh was forced to *purchase* female slaves from the lands conquered by Thutmose III. In a letter sent to the king of Gezer, Amenhotep III offered “silver, gold, garments, turquoises, all sorts of precious stones, chairs of ebony, as well as all good things” in exchange for slaves. Clearly there was a shortage in slaves and prisoners of war.



17

A Dramatic Shift in Foreign Policy



After nine years of Amenhotep II’s 35-year reign, there was a seismic shift in his military ambitions. His military campaigns came to a complete halt. Though Egypt viewed the Mitanni empire as a vile enemy, Amenhotep II went to great lengths to secure peace. In a weakened position, his heir Thutmose IV married the daughter of the Mitanni king. For the remaining decades of his reign, Amenhotep II was devoted to domestic building projects.

18

A Price Tag for Peace in Egypt



Amenhotep II claimed that the Mitanni king paid for peace and begged for life. Two generations later, the Mitanni King sent a tablet to the Egyptian Queen Tiye, declaring: "I have asked... your husband for massive gold statues, but your son has gold-plated statues of wood.... Why have they been the reason for such pain, that your son should not have given them to me? ... Neither has he given me what his father had been accustomed to give."

19

Sustained Weakness in Egypt

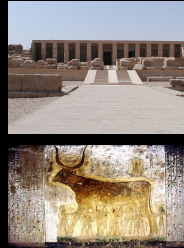


Egypt's military was relatively silent for decades. In the generations to follow, Egypt received multiple distress letters (i.e. the "Amarna Letters") from their vassal kings in Israel. The letters revealed that a group (i.e., "Habiru") was advancing and conquering the cities of the region. Egypt's pharaohs did nothing to protect their territory. As they grew wealthy, the pharaohs opted to secure peace by sending lavish gifts to their neighbors.

20

The Tomb of Pharaoh Seti I

On the tomb of Seti I (1294-1279 BC) in Egypt's Valley of the Kings, scholars found an inscription (i.e., "Destruction of Mankind"). In the inscription, the Egyptian god Ra describes himself as "**Yawi**." In Egyptian, this means "I am I" — the divine name revealed to Moses (Exodus 3:14). Dr. John Gwyn Griffiths from the Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago claims that this meaning "seems the only one possible."



21

A Very Strange Egyptian Myth

"The Two Brothers" (c. 1190 BC) is an allegorical tale of Anpu and Bata. Bata was accused of raping his brother Anpu's wife. While fleeing for his life, a god "**made a great body of water appear between him and his elder brother.**" After Bata castrated himself to prove his loyalty, he fled to the Levant, and the gods showed pity on him. They create a bride for him, who bore the essence of the gods. When Pharaoh learned of her beauty, he sent soldiers to lure her away from Bata with promises of wealth. She then told pharaoh the secret of Bata's life (his heart rested atop an acacia tree), so Pharaoh kills Bata. When Anpu learns of Bata's death, he searched for his heart and raised him.

22

A Very Strange Egyptian Myth

Bata returns to Egypt in the form of a beautiful bull, drawing the admiration of Pharaoh. Later, Bata reveals himself to his Pharaoh's wife, and she requested permission to eat his liver. As Bata was slain, "**he shook his neck and let fall two drops of blood on the doorposts** of his majesty, one on the one side of the great portal of Pharaoh, and the other on the other side," birthing two majestic Persea trees—bearing the soul of Bata. Pharaoh's wife then demanded that these trees be cut down and made into furniture, but a splinter flew into her mouth and impregnated her with Bata, who later took the throne.

23

Temple of Hatshepsut

"Besides the terraced gardens of myrrh trees, two sacred Persea trees stood before the now vanished portal in the wall of the entrance forecourt."

— Earl Baldwin Smith —
Princeton University



24

African DNA in Jewish Populations



Skeptics claim that the Israelites were never in Egypt. Researchers from Harvard Medical School analyzed the genetics of seven Jewish populations. Each of the populations contained three to five percent of African DNA sequence patterns dating back, on average, more than 100 generations. In their report, the researchers concluded: "The Jewish groups descend from a common ancestral population which was itself admixed with Africans, prior to the beginning of the Jewish diaspora that occurred in 8th to 6th century BC."

25

Non-Israelites in the Exodus

"The Israelites journeyed from Rameses to Succoth. There were about six hundred thousand men on foot, besides women and children. Many other people went up with them, as well as large droves of livestock, both flocks and herds." (Exodus 12:37-38)

"Miriam and Aaron began to talk against Moses because of his Cushite wife, for he had married a Cushite" (Numbers 12:1).

"You shall not detest an Egyptian, because you were an alien in his land. The sons of the third generation who are born to them may enter the assembly of the LORD." (Deuteronomy 23:8)

26

Any
Questions?



27

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

The Ten Plagues in Historical Context

28

The Ten Plagues of Egypt



29

Exodus 7:4-5

"Then I will lay my hand on Egypt and with mighty acts of judgment I will bring out my divisions, my people the Israelites. And the Egyptians will know that I am the Lord when I stretch out my hand against Egypt and bring the Israelites out of it."

30

Exodus 12:12

“I will bring judgment
on all the gods of Egypt.
I am the Lord.”

31



32

Exodus 7:21

“The fish in the Nile died, and the
river smelled so bad that the
Egyptians *could not drink* its water.
Blood was everywhere in Egypt.”

33



34

Exodus 8:3

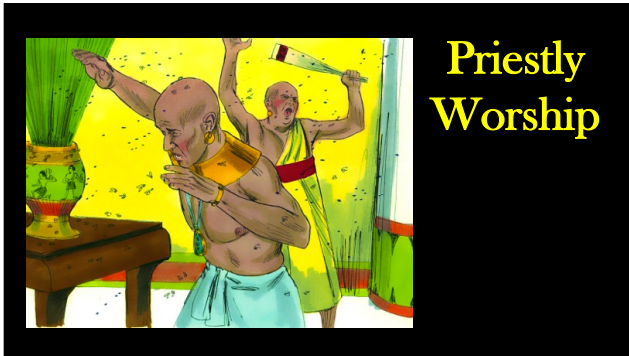
“The Nile will teem with frogs. They will
come up into your palace and your bedroom
and *onto your bed*, into the houses of your
officials and on your people, and *into your
ovens and kneading troughs.*”

35

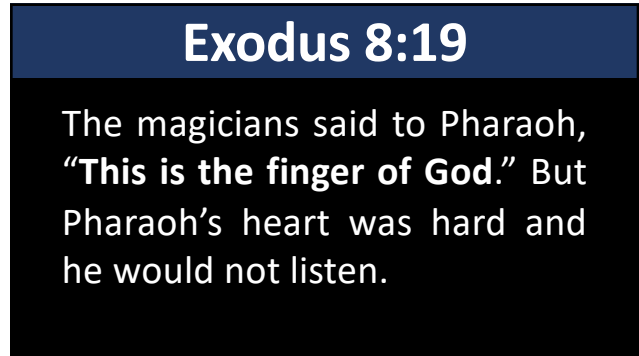
Exodus 8:13-14

“The frogs died in the houses, in
the courtyards and in the fields.
They were piled into heaps, and
the land reeked of them.”

36



37



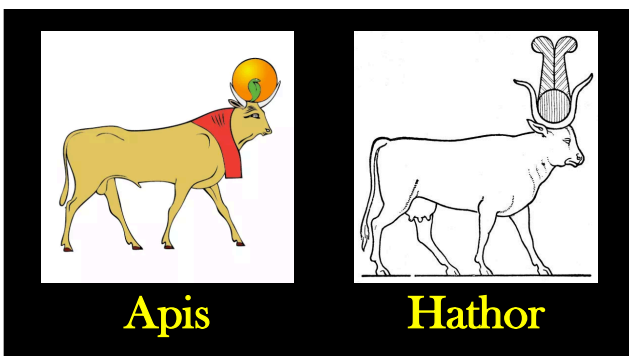
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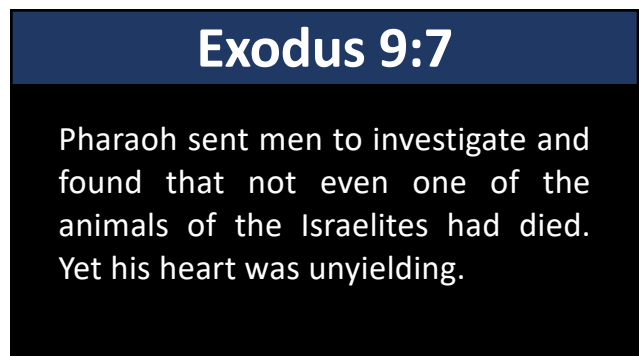
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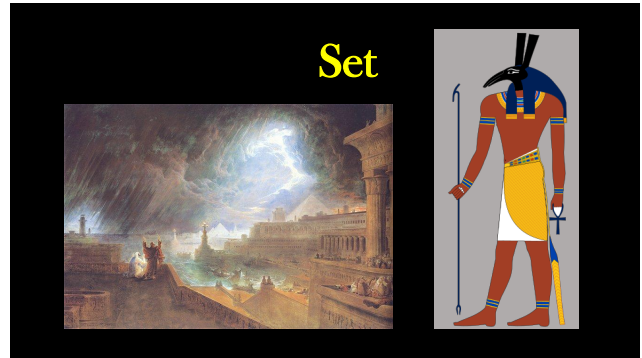
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45

Exodus 10:7

Pharaoh's officials said to him, "How long will this man be a snare to us? Let the people go, so that they may worship the Lord their God. Do you not yet realize that Egypt is ruined?"

46



47



48

Exodus 11:3

“The Lord made the Egyptians favorably disposed toward the people, and Moses himself was highly regarded in Egypt by Pharaoh’s officials and by the people.”

49

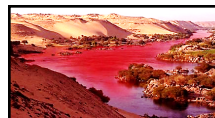


50

Exodus 12:37-38

“The Israelites journeyed from Rameses to Succoth. There were about six hundred thousand men on foot, besides women and children. Many other people went up with them.”

51



Egyptians believed that the Nile River was the bloodstream of Osiris, the god of resurrection. In the 1st plague, this blood only led to death and the loss of Egypt’s hope for the afterlife.



In the 9th plague, Egypt is plagued with darkness for three days. Ra, Egypt’s greatest god, was powerless to stand against Yahweh and would have been considered dead for three days.



In the 10th and final plague, pharaoh (considered a god among Egypt) lost his firstborn son. In the death of this god’s firstborn son, the Israelites were set free from the land of death and slavery.

52

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Possible Sites for Mount Sinai?

53

Jebel Musa



Jebel Al-Lawz

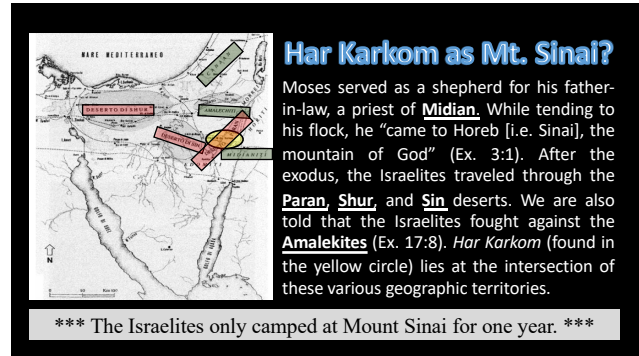


Proposed Sites for Mount Sinai

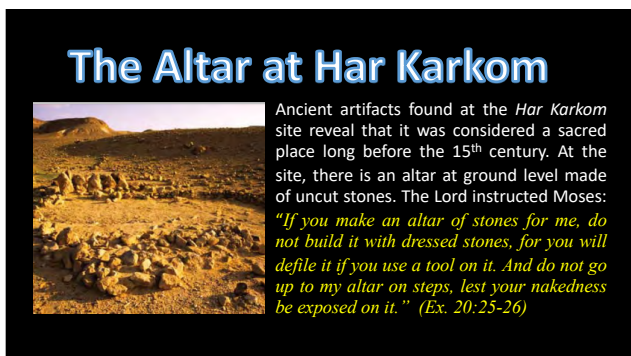
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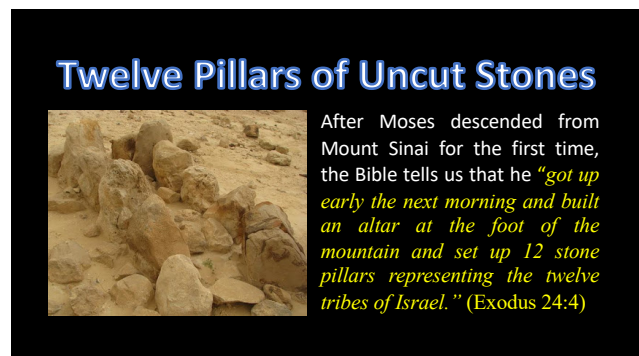
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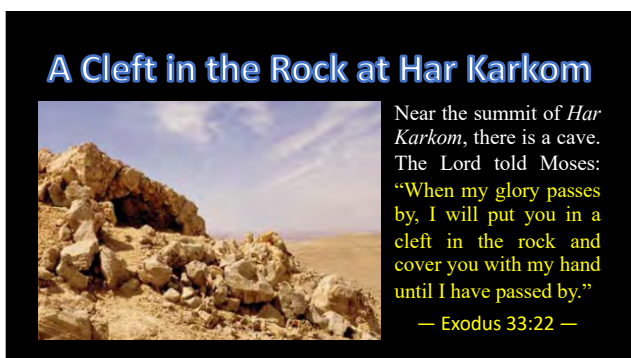
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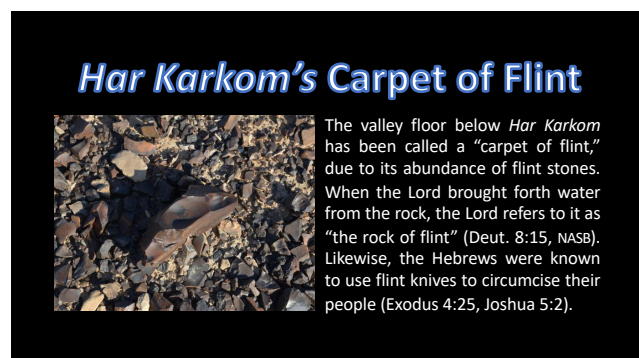
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59



60

Aerial Photos of the Karkom Plateau



Aerial photos of *Har Karkom* reveal circular stone fences where flocks were kept. On the plateau of this site, where there is no natural source of food or water, archaeologists discovered 239 sites with hut floors, forty-two fireplaces, and fifty-five flint workshops.

61

Artwork on Karkom's Stones



In the valley beneath *Har Karkom*, researchers found various pieces of artwork etched into the stones. This particular stone features the images of scorpions and snakes, which had plagued the Israelites. *"He led you through the great and terrible wilderness, with its fiery serpents and scorpions."*

— Deuteronomy 8:15 —

DISCLAIMER: Based on an imprecise method of dating the styles of rock art, experts believe this site dates to the early Middle Bronze Age (i.e. 2000 BC).

62

Artwork on Karkom's Stones

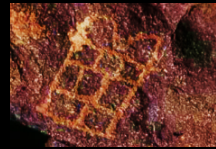


This stone artwork features the images of a staff and a serpent. These are closely linked in the Bible. When Moses confronted Pharaoh, we are told that Aaron (his brother) *"threw his staff down in front of Pharaoh and his officials, and it became a snake."* (Exodus 7:10)

The disk and horns were considered divine symbols of power (see Hathor & Isis). Dr. Emmanuel Anati, professor of Paleoethnology at the University of Lecce in Italy, notes that the U-shape means "to change," while the dots mean "to act."

63

Artwork on Karkom's Stones



One of the stones found in the valley beneath *Har Karkom* features the image of two joined tablets divided into ten sections, which many have suggested reflects the deliverance of the Ten Commandments to Moses.

64

Artwork on Karkom's Stones



This stone features the image of a lampstand with seven lamps. This artwork matches the Lord's tabernacle designs given to Moses atop Sinai, requiring the Israelites to *"make its seven lamps and set them up on it so that they light the space in front of it."* (Ex. 25:37)

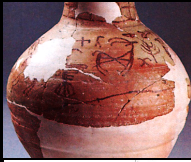

65

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Evidence for Mosaic Authorship

66



The "Lachish Ewer"

In 1934, archaeologist James L. Starkey was excavating outside the Fosse Temple in the ancient city of Lachish. While clearing out a rubbish heap, he discovered a jar, which has become known as the "Lachish Ewer." This jar, dating to the 13th century BC, displays several images and proto-Canaanite letters on its shoulder — proving that the region had developed advanced phonetic alphabets similar to ancient Hebrew during this era.

67

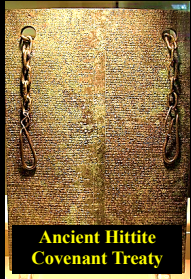
The Qeiyafa Ostrakon

This ancient Hebrew ostrakon, which dates to the late 11th or early 10th century BC, was discovered at *Khirbet Qeiyafa*. The ostrakon's inscription is the oldest sample Hebrew writing found to date. For centuries, skeptics have claimed that the majority of the Old Testament books (including the Torah and the 12 books of history) must have been written in the 6th and 5th centuries BC. Their argument hinges largely on the belief that the Hebrew language did not exist prior to these centuries. This single ostrakon has decisively proven that they were wrong by at least four centuries.

68


Ancient Hittite Covenant Treaty



Some scholars have claimed that Deuteronomy was written by multiple authors several centuries after Moses. But as scholars examined the style and format of ancient Hittite "covenant treaties," they realized that the book of Deuteronomy was virtually identical. These covenant treaties always involved a king (Yahweh), subjects (Israelites), a preamble, a statement of objectives, a historical background, the vassals' obligations to the king, and a list of blessings for obedience, and a list of curses for disobedience. This is the precise outline of Deuteronomy. The Hittite Empire disappeared from history in roughly 1180 BC.

69

Silver Scrolls of Ketef Hinnom




In 1979, an archaeologist and a group of young students were excavating a burial site. One young boy recklessly hit at a wall with a hammer and discovered a secret chamber filled with more than 1,000 objects dating to the 7th century BC. Two of these objects were silver amulet scrolls containing the oldest known recordings of the Torah. This destroyed the skeptics' argument that the Torah was written during or after the Babylonian exile (586-539 BC).

70

Legible Portions of Amulet I: "YHW...the great...who keeps the covenant and graciousness toward those who love [Him] and those who keep [His] commandments.... The Eternal.... blessing more than any snare and more than Evil. For redemption is in Him. For YHWH is our restorer and rock. May YHWH bless you and keep you. [May] YHWH make [His face] shine..."

Amulet II: "May Yahweh bless you, keep you. May Yahweh make His face shine upon you and grant you peace."

*** See Numbers 6:24-26 ***

71

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

God Rebukes Pagan Beliefs

72

Who is This Deliverer?

The Egyptians — all Pharaoh's horses and chariots, horsemen and troops — pursued the Israelites and overtook them as they camped by the sea.... The Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the Lord. Then the Lord said to Moses, "Tell the Israelites to turn back and encamp near Pi Hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea. They are to encamp by the sea, directly opposite Baal Zephon."

— Exodus 14:9-12 —

73

Discovery of Ugaritic Tablets



Skeptics argue that Moses did not write the Torah — claiming that Semitic languages were not developed until centuries after Moses. However, when archaeologists uncovered tablets at the ancient city of Ugarit, which was destroyed during the 13th century BC, they discovered an alphabet strikingly similar to ancient Hebrew. Unlike the Akkadian language (hundreds of different signs), Ugaritic featured only 30 letters. It also gave insight into ancient mythologies.

74

Significance of Baal Zephon



"The club swoops from the hand of Baal like an eagle from his fingers. It strikes the head of Prince Yamm, between the eyes of Judge River. Yamm sinks, falls to the earth; his joints fail; his frame collapses. Baal drags and poises Yamm."

— Ugaritic Tablets, 16th Century BC —
Creation Myth at Baal Zephon

75

Yahweh: Greater Than Baal

Biblical authors understood that God parted the sea at the location of Baal-Zephon not only to deliver His people, but to denounce the pagan claims about the "creator" Baal. The Psalmist uses mythopoeic language in writing: "God is my king from of old, who works deeds of deliverance in the midst of the earth. You divided the sea by Your strength; You broke the heads of the sea monsters in the waters" (Ps. 74:13).

76

Who is This Deliverer?

Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness.... And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." (Genesis 1:2-9). The first organic life then emerges from the ground on the third day.

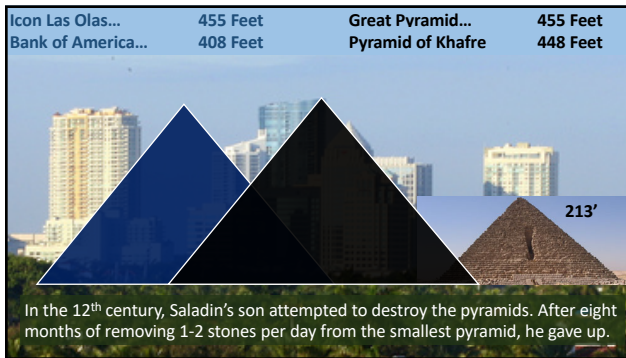
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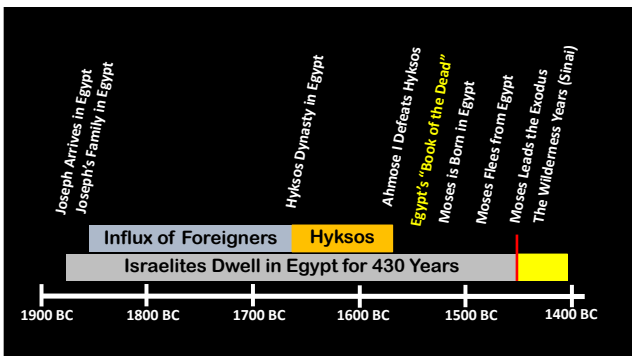
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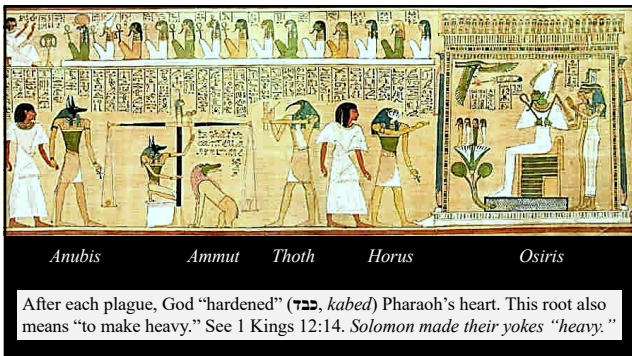
81

Egypt's "Book of the Dead" (1550 BC)

According to Egypt's "Book of the Dead," in order to receive an afterlife, a man must truthfully confess 42 negative statements to the gods of Egypt. Below are a sampling of these statements:

"I have never transgressed the law... stolen... uttered lies... committed adultery... made anyone weep... attacked any man... been an eavesdropper... slandered any man... been angry without just cause... polluted myself... shut my ears to the words of truth... been a stirrer up of strife... acted with undue haste... prided into matters... multiplied my words in speaking... done any evil... raised my voice... cursed god... acted with arrogance."

82

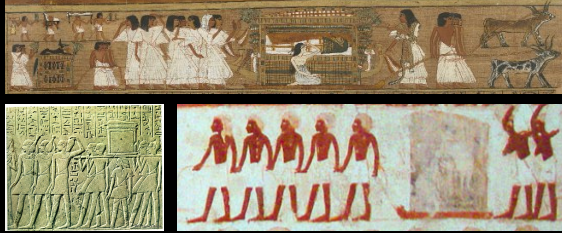


83



84

Egypt's Funeral "Procession of Shrines"



85

Moses & The Ark of the Covenant



86

Resurrection & the Ark's Contents



The Ark was intended as a polemic against the Egyptian beliefs about the resurrection. The gilded sides, staves, and the divine beings atop the chest mirrors Egypt's canopic styles that were most common during the 18th dynasty, which spanned over the life of Moses.

87

Covenant Fulfilled!

"Then the disciples went back to their homes, but Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot." (John 20:10-12)



88