



Fear Not, Stand Firm, & See God's Salvation

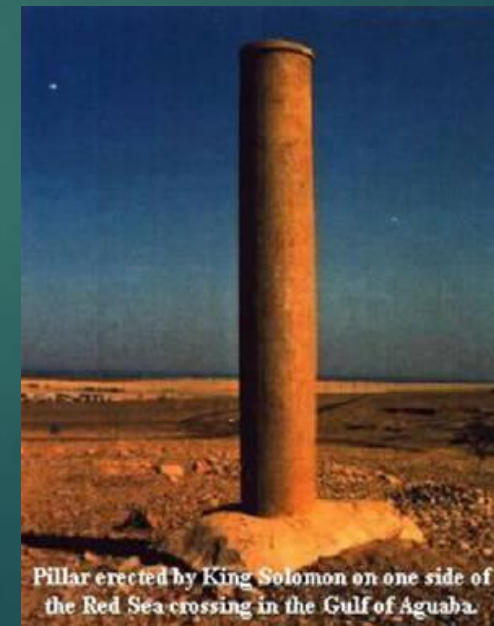
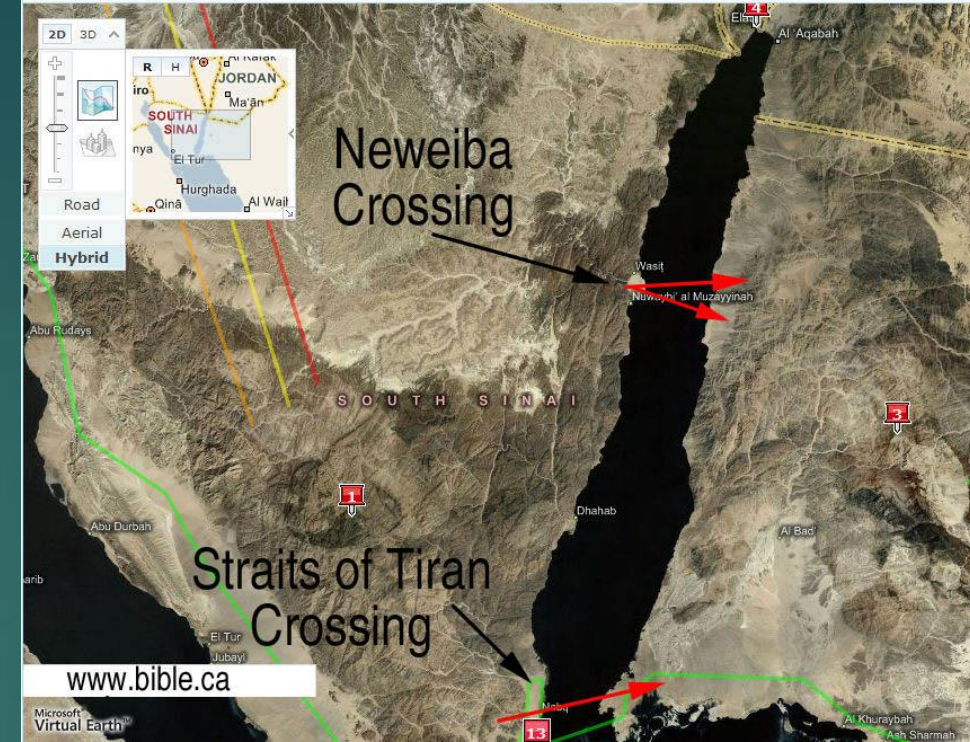
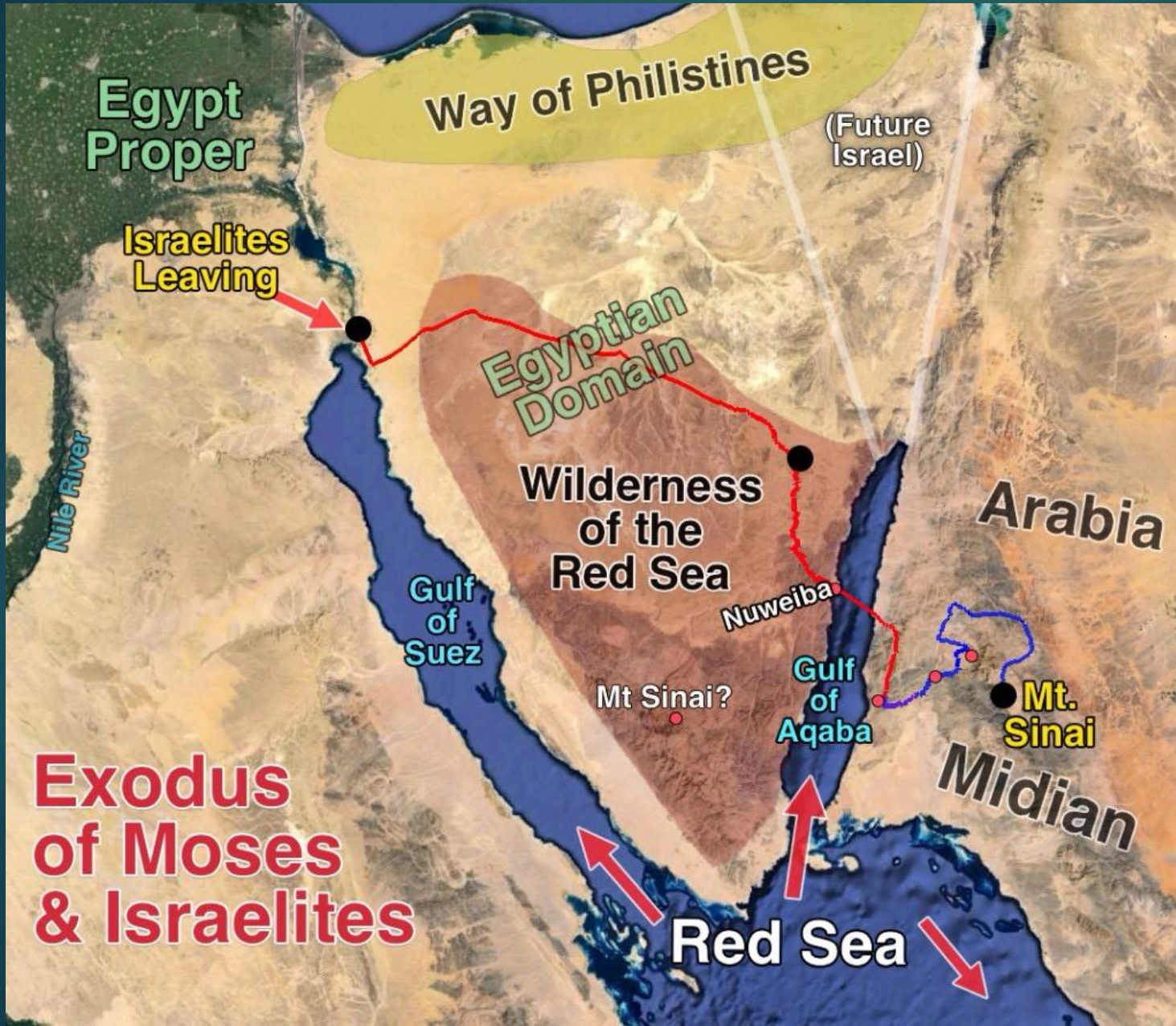
EXODUS 14:9-31

Finally They Were Leaving

- ▶ But which way did they go?
- ▶ (13:20) They were taking the main road between the **Nile Delta** and the **Jordan Valley**, via what we know as Gaza Strip today, until they arrived at Etham, facing the wilderness (today the Sinai Peninsula).
- ▶ Instead of following the main highways to leave Egypt (toward Beersheba) they went “**toward the Red Sea**” i.e. South or East in Sinai Peninsula



- ▶ Note: The edge of the wilderness on the way out of Egypt is east of Suez. There is no “wilderness” west of Raamses (near today Cairo) toward the Gulf of Suez. The **wilderness** started at the east of the Gulf of Suez (and it won’t need several days to cross such short distance).
- ▶ (14:3) Since the entire Sinai Peninsula is the wilderness, we just need to spot a piece of land that is surrounded by the wilderness on 3 sides and the sea on the fourth side. (see. 14:9-10 “lifted up their eyes”)





Exodus Route



Exodus Route



Exodus Route



Nuweiba Beach
Solomon Pillar



Solomon Pillar



Mt Sinai
Jabel al Lawz



Introduction—Their Wrong Focus



- ▶ (v.9-10) They **lifted up** their eyes, not to see the Pillar of Fire among them...but Egyptian chariots!
- ▶ (v.11-12) How quickly they forgot to “see” the miracle among them, or forgot how God has saved them in Egypt—and they **complained**
- ▶ Troubles may come to us all of a **sudden** (e.g. loss of health, job) and capture our attentions. But have we **acknowledged** the presence of God?

1. Fear Not (v.13)

- ▶ (v.11-12) When we are afraid, we may do or say **silly things**, things that we will regret later.
- ▶ Nothing wrong with being concerned about **danger**, but fear can lead us to make the wrong choice. It is not God's will for us to live in fear (Jos. 1:8-9; 2 Tim. 1:7; 1 John 4:18)
- ▶ What are you **afraid** of? Is your fear rational? Is God bigger than your troubles? (Psalm 27:1-2)



2. Stand Firm (v.13)

- ▶ The two popular responses are to **run away** or to **fight back** (our own method with our own strength). Rather God asked them to **stand**.
- ▶ God specifically asks us to stand with His armour (Eph. 6:10-17). In this war we win if we **stand on His ground**—the ground of victory.
- ▶ God was about to fight for them, and He has already fought for us on the cross of Calvary



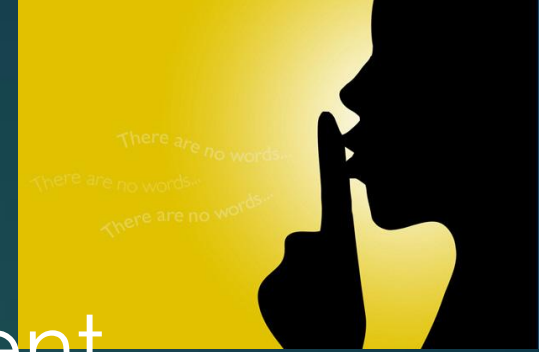
3. See the Salvation of the Lord (v.13)

- ▶ “The battle is not yours but God’s”
(2 Chron. 20:14-17) This is the hardest part.
God wants us to **watch** his victory and to **praise** Him.
- ▶ God wants us **bear witness** to His deliverance and worship Him with our eyes (Psalm 27:1-6)
- ▶ (14:15) Do you believe that God will fight for you? Do you believe that God can win?



4. Be Silent (v.14)

- ▶ (Hab. 2:20) In **awe** of God, we should be silent before His greatness (Psalm 46:10), and **remember** who God is
- ▶ The opposite of **silent** in this case would be **complaining** (James 5:8-10; Exo. 16:8)
- ▶ We may complain so loudly we don't **hear** the word of God (or at least when we talk for no reason, Matt. 17:5)
- ▶ We may complain so much we miss out on God's act of salvation (Exo. 14:30-31)



Conclusion

- ▶ The miracle is not only the parting of the Red Sea, but the **walking** on dry ground (v.21). Regardless of if the event is natural or not, it shows God's **care** and **preparing our path**.
- ▶ It is easy to talk about fear not, stand firm, see God's salvation, and be silent when our lives are **calm**...not so much when we are surrounded by enemies
- ▶ It is good to learn to rely on God today and not wait until tomorrow.

