



Evidence of Exodus

Evidence of EXODUS

Did God Move In Egypt Nearly 4000 Years Ago?

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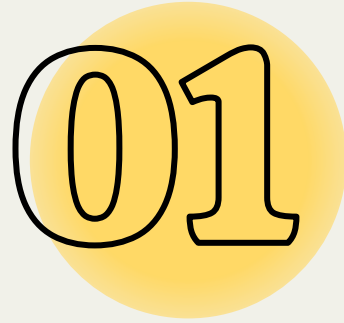
Is there evidence Hebrews were even in Egypt?

03 The Exodus

What can we see from the exit?

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Egypt & History

What do we know about this time in the world from history and the Bible?



Tribe of Jacob

- Joseph first enters Egypt as a slave
- Rises to second in command of all of Egypt behind only the Pharaoh
- Rest of the Hebrews come to avoid famine.
- Settle in the land of Goshen; grow as a mighty people.

Goshen

Area of the Lower Kingdom in Egypt that is generally identified as the western half of the Nile Delta.

Area where the Biblical Hebrews settle, along with some interesting other Semitic (Asiatic) peoples...



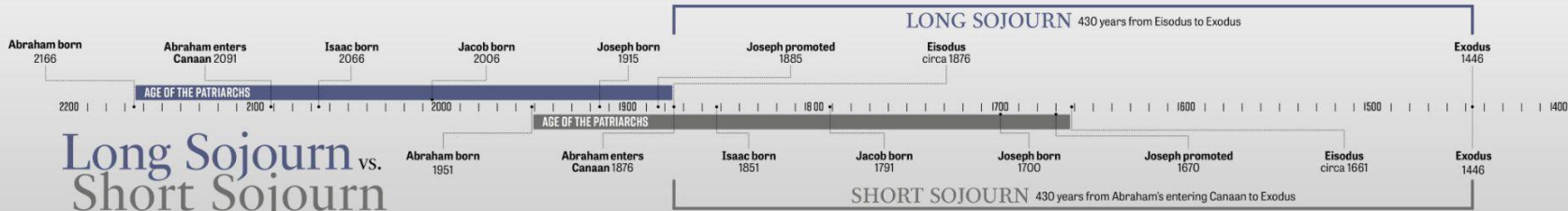
The Land Of Goshen





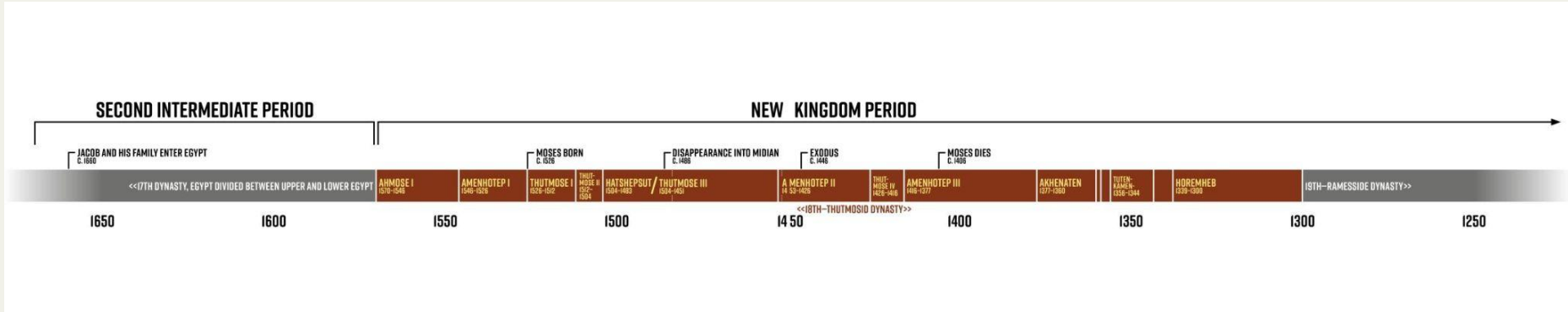
Exodus Timeline?

- Two Main Theories - 1400s BC or 1200s BC
- 2 Kings 6:1 VS Exodus 1:11
- Long VS Short Sojourn
- 18th Dynasty of Egypt



Long Sojourn vs. Short Sojourn

18th Dynasty



Proposed Timeline.

1660 BC

Hebrews
migrate into
Egypt for
famine

1550 BC

18th
Egyptian
Dynasty
begins

1526 BC

Moses Born

1486 BC

Moses kills
worker, flees
to Midian

1446 BC

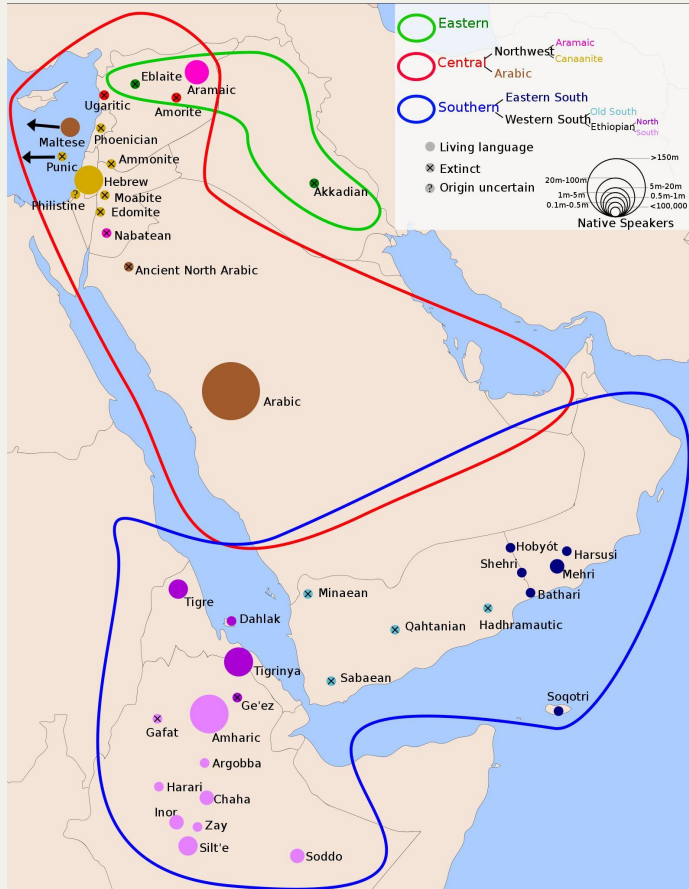
Exodus



Hyksos

- Egyptian name for a Semitic Peoples that migrate into Egypt in 1660s BC
- "Shepherd Kings" & Traders
- "Rule" from Avaris
- Are defeated by Ahmose at the rise of the 18th Dynasty, taken as slaves or exiled

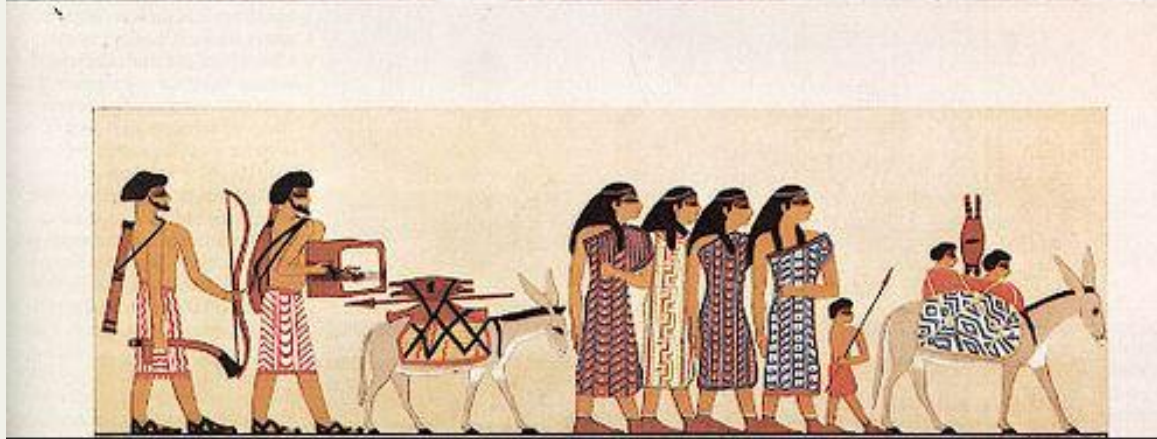
Semitic Peoples





Hebrews in Egypt

What evidence is there of Hebrew peoples in Egypt?



Beni Hasan Painting

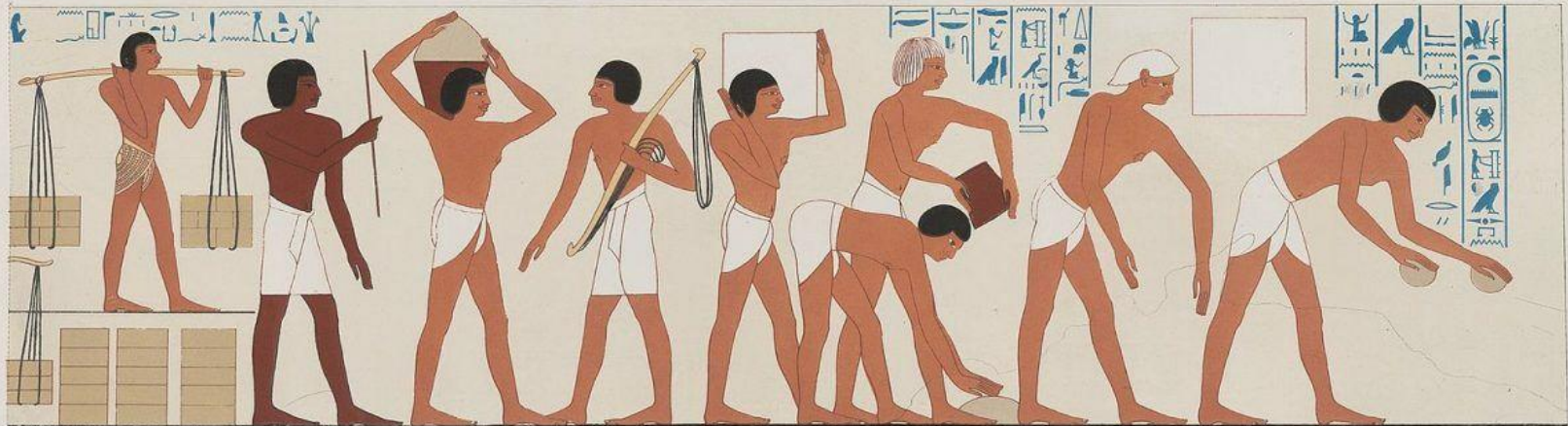
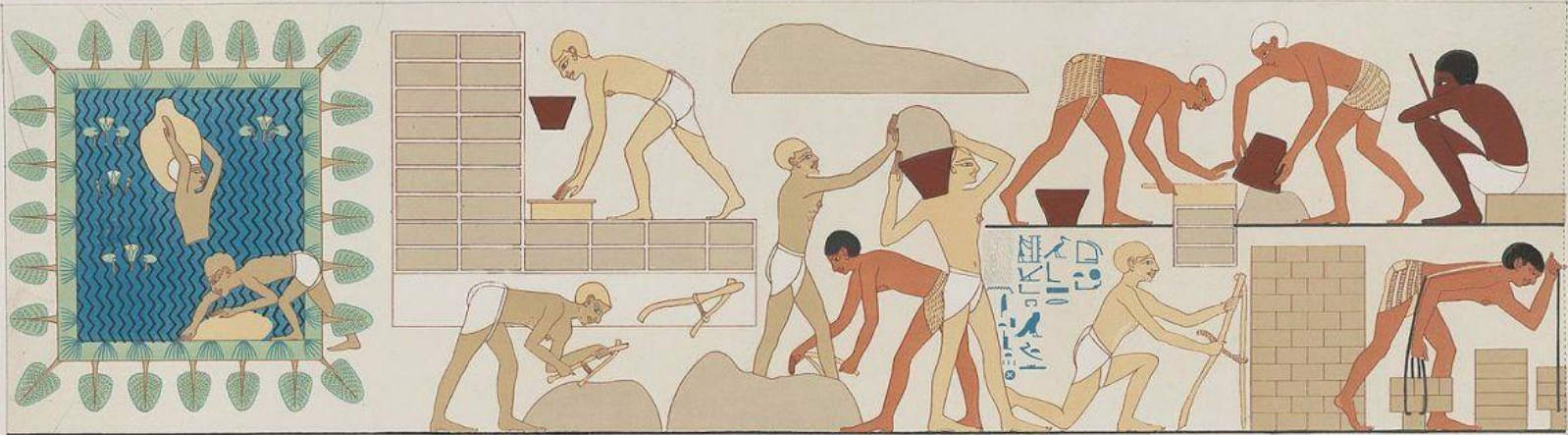
This painting shows the journey of an Asiatic (Semitic) peoples into Egypt during the 1800's BC. Typically related to the Hyksos people.



Fig 1 & 2. Two Egyptians



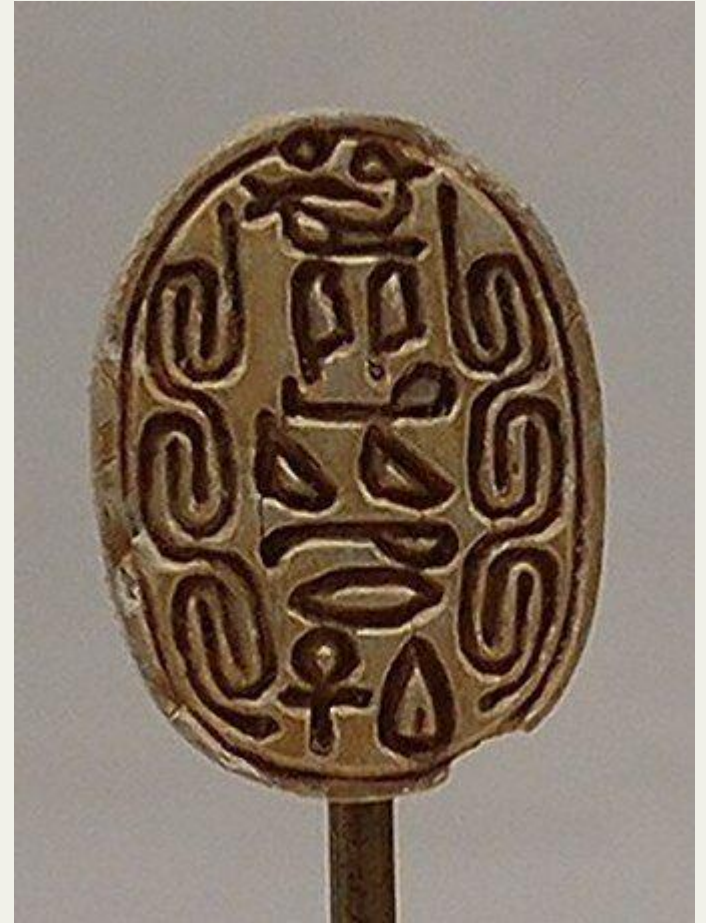
ARRIVAL OF SOME FOREIGNERS IN EGYPT FROM BENI HASSAN



Yakub-Har Scarabs

Scarabs found in Goshen sealed with the name Yakub-Har. Date to the 1600s BC

Yakub is a transliteration of Jacob and Har is the word for mountain.



Papyrus Brooklyn

A 1600s BC papyrus found that tells of routines and information on slaves for Priests, mostly relating to medicine. Currently held in Brooklyn, giving it the name.

Seemingly unimportant to us at first until we start to examine the names on the roll. Over 40 Semitic names.

Semitic names found on the roll include:

- ◆ Ashera
- ◆ Menahema
- ◆ Shiphrah
- ◆ Sekera
- ◆ Aqoba
- ◆ Ayyabum
- ◆ Dawidi



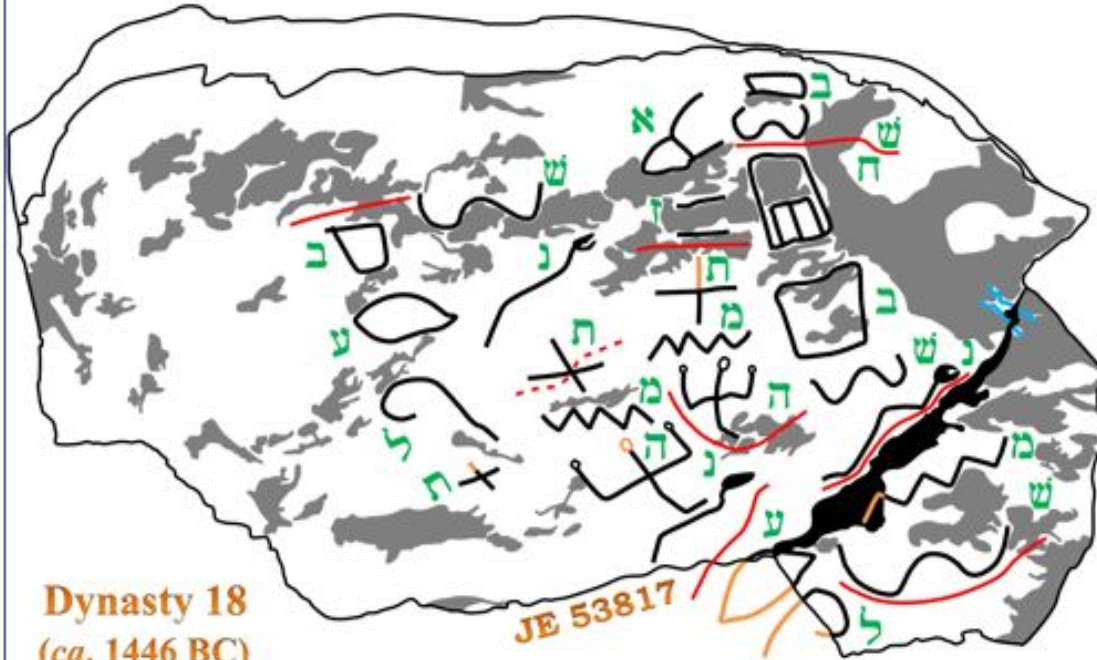
Proto-Sinaitic Marker

Romain F. Butin, "The Protosinaitic Inscriptions," *Harvard Theological Review* 25/2 (1932): pl. 19

This rock found in the Sinai peninsula at a turquoise mine shows evidence of a Canaanite based language capable of complex writing used in Egyptian controlled lands.

Sinai 361

Serâbîl el-Khâdim



Dynasty 18
(ca. 1446 BC)



Romain F. Butin, "The Protosinaïtic Inscriptions," *Harvard Theological Review* 25/2 (1932): pl. 19



Possible Exodus Route

This map shows the possible route of the Exodus in which they stop at Succoth, leaving the potential for the Moses inscription to be valid.



Avaris | Rameses

Same City

The city of Rameses was founded on top of the city of Avaris. This is a broadly accepted fact.

Hyksos

Capital city of the Hyksos rulers. Seemingly first settled as pastoralists, then grew in number as well-to-do entrepreneurs, became subservient to the Egyptians and finally left.

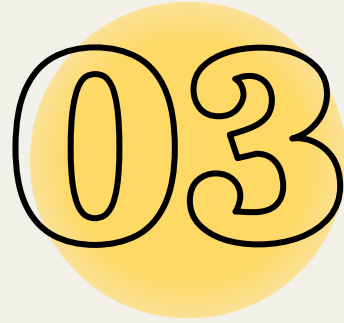
Sudden Abandonment

Evidence shows that the city was suddenly abandoned before usage resumed as a monument and burial city.



When she could hide him no longer, she took for him a basket made of bulrushes and daubed it with bitumen and pitch. She put the child in it and placed it among the reeds by the river bank.

— Exodus 2:3



The Exodus

Can we find evidence linking the Exodus account to history?

Exodus Evidence

01 Ipuwer Papyrus

An account told by an Egyptian.

02 Pharaoh

Can we pin down the Pharaoh of the Exodus?

03 Dream Stele

A message "from the gods" at the feet of the Sphinx.

04 Moses

Is there a historical suspect for the Biblical Moses?



Ipuwer Papyrus

- AKA Account of an Egyptian Sage
- Copy dates to 1200's BC, written before at an unknown time
- Ipuwer is a poet writing a lamentation of events; think of other ancient poetic epics
- Significant number of thematic similarities with the Exodus story

Exodus-Ipuwer Similarities

River To Blood

Exodus 7:20-21 would reveal a comparison to the Nile running with blood.

Lack Of Water

Exodus 7:24 reveals to us that there would be a lack of water to drink leading to dire thirst among the people.

Trees broken

Exodus 9:24 shows us that due to the hails, trees and crops were damaged by the hail.

Exodus-Ipuwer Similarities

Ruined Crops

In Exodus 9:31 we can see that the crops were ruined, with nothing to harvest.

No Fruit or Herbs

Exodus 10:15 tells us that due to the swarm of locust, nothing green remained in the land.

Great Grief

Verses such as Exodus 12:30 and Numbers 33:4 tell us of the great grief in Egypt over the many dead.

Exodus-Ipuwer Similarities

Light Goes Out

Exodus 10:22-23 speaks of God blotting out the sun and there being no light.

Jewels With Slaves

In Exodus 12:35-36 we read about the escaping slaves being given whatever they ask for.

All Is Ruined

Exodus 10:7 gives us the idea that Egypt as a nation was in ruin due to the plagues.



Recap

- River To Blood
- Lack of Water
- Trees Broken
- Great Greif
- Ruined Crops
- No Fruit or Herbs
- Light Goes Out
- Slaves With Jewels
- All Is Ruined



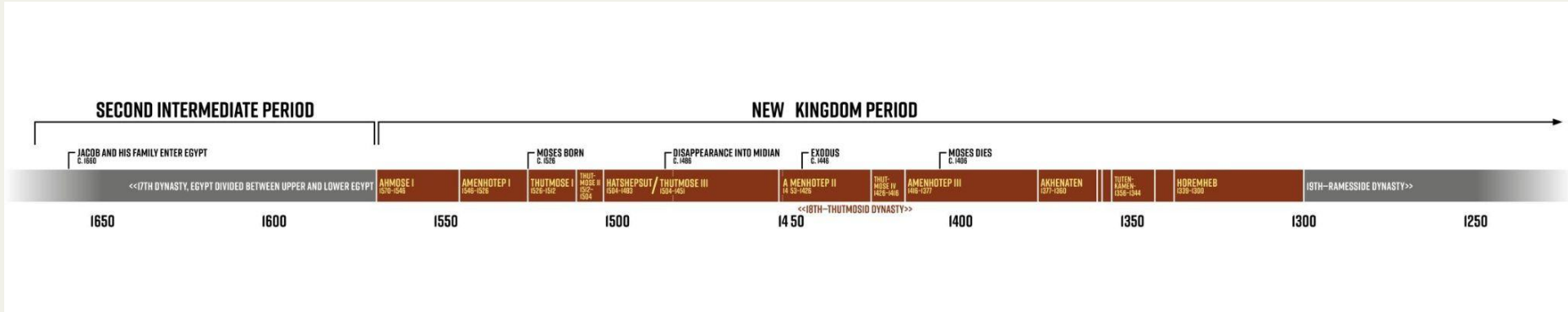
Suspect for the Pharaoh

- 40 years+ ruler before him
- First born son can't inherit
- Personal character from Bible - prideful, stubborn, impulsive
- Likely reigning during 1446 BC

Amenhotep II



18th Dynasty





**He seized His bow and grasped four
arrows at once...**

— Amenhotep II Inscriptions



He was one who knew all the works of Mont; he had no equal on the field of battle. He was one who knew horses; there was not his like in this numerous army. Not one of them could draw his bow; he could not be approached in running.

— Amenhotep II Inscriptions



**[Amenhotep II was] said to have been
able to row a ship alone faster than
200 Egyptian naval members**

— Amenhotep II Inscriptions

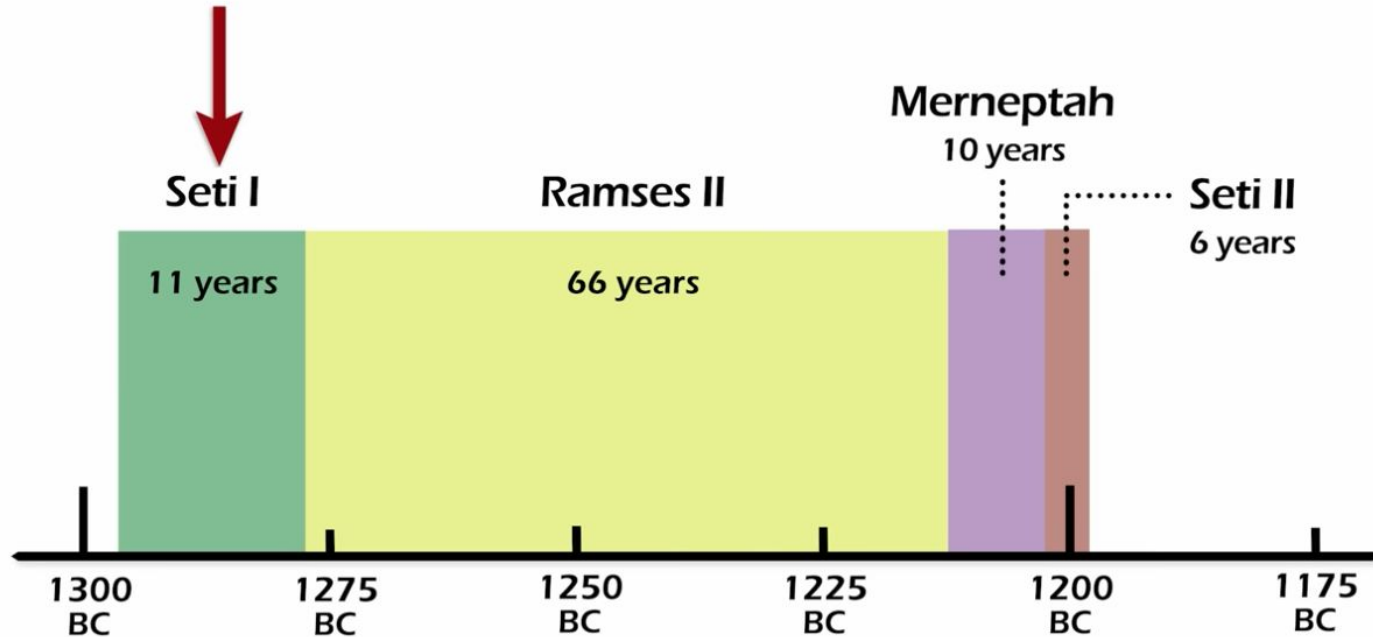
Thebes Stele



Memphis Stele



Late Date Pharaohs





Amenhotep II Summarized

- I. Ruled in 1446 BC
- II. Previous Pharaoh, Thutmose III, ruled 54 years
- III. Next Pharaoh, Thutmose IV, was not first born son
- IV. Prideful character similar to biblical Pharaoh
- V. Named by ancient, but distant, historians
- VI. Led raid in 1445 BC



Dream Stele

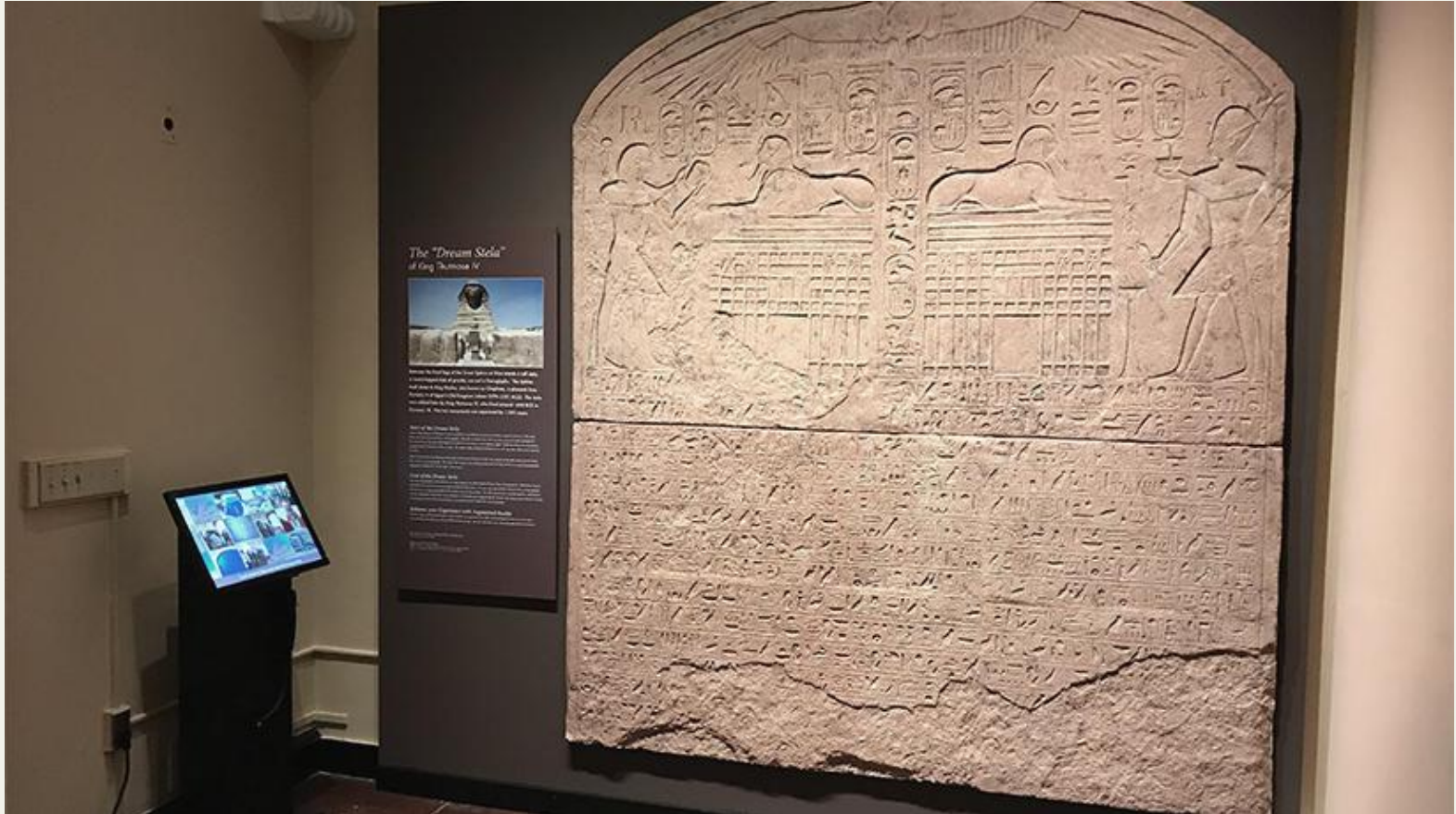
- A large stone tablet found at foot of Sphinx
- Attributed to Thutmose IV
- Myth behind his divine appointment to the throne

Dream Stele



By : Mohamed Said

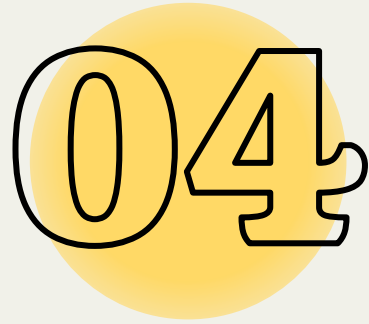
Dream Stele





Suspect for Moses

- Senenmut is the name of our candidate
- Adopted by Royal Daughter Hatshepsut
- Rises to prominence leading Egypt against Kush (Nubia)
- Promoted to a Joseph-like leadership role by Hatshepsut
- 90 titles, most curious is his role as Chief Architect
- Disappears off the scene in 1486
- He (and Hatshepsut) are stricken from the records by Amenhotep II



The Wilderness

Can we find evidence linking the period of the wandering?

Post-Exodus Evidence

01 Soleb Inscription

Oldest YHWH inscription

02 Amarna Letters

Possibly linked to the conquest?

03 Merneptah Stele

13th Century BC
inscription of the nation of Israel

04 Crossing & Sinai

Is there biblical basis for locating Mt. Sinai? What about bad evidence?

Soleb Inscription

Oldest known inscription of the word
YHWH

Transcription names this man as a
representative of the "Nomads of Yahweh"

Dates to approximately 1400 BC





Soleb Temple

This palace formation was made to celebrate Amenhotep III's 30th year of reign in approximately 1400 BC. In it to show his majesty, are pillars showing people he has **conquered** purportedly

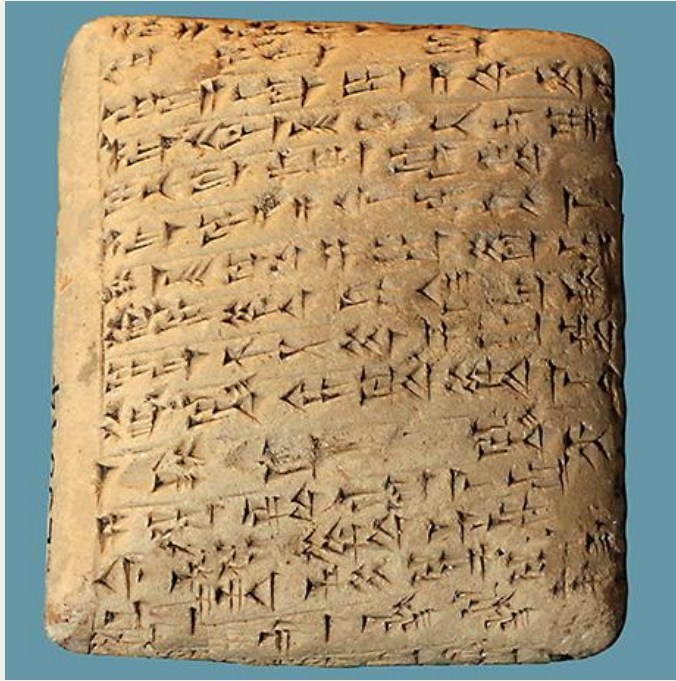
Amarna Letters

Small clay tablets from the time of the 18th Dynasty written from foreign subjects back to the Pharaoh.

As of today 382 have been found.

A wide variety of subjects and locations but a large percentage are on the loss of Canaanite cities to a people known as the "Habiru" / "Apiru"





Amarna

The name "Hibiru" and who it associates to is obviously a hotly debated topic. There are identifiable language similarities along with the clear historical parallels.

Biblical Regions Mentioned

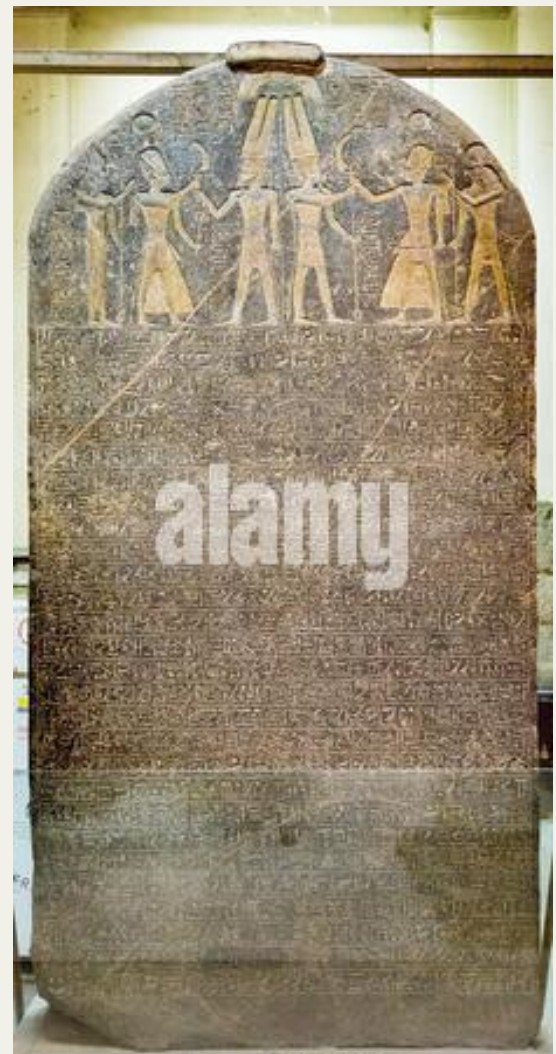
- Acco
- Achshaph
- Aijalon
- Ashkelon
- Beth - Shean
- Gezer
- Gebal
- Hazor
- Hebron
- Jerusalem
- Lachish
- Megiddo
- Shechem
- Shiloh
- Sidon

Merneptah Stele

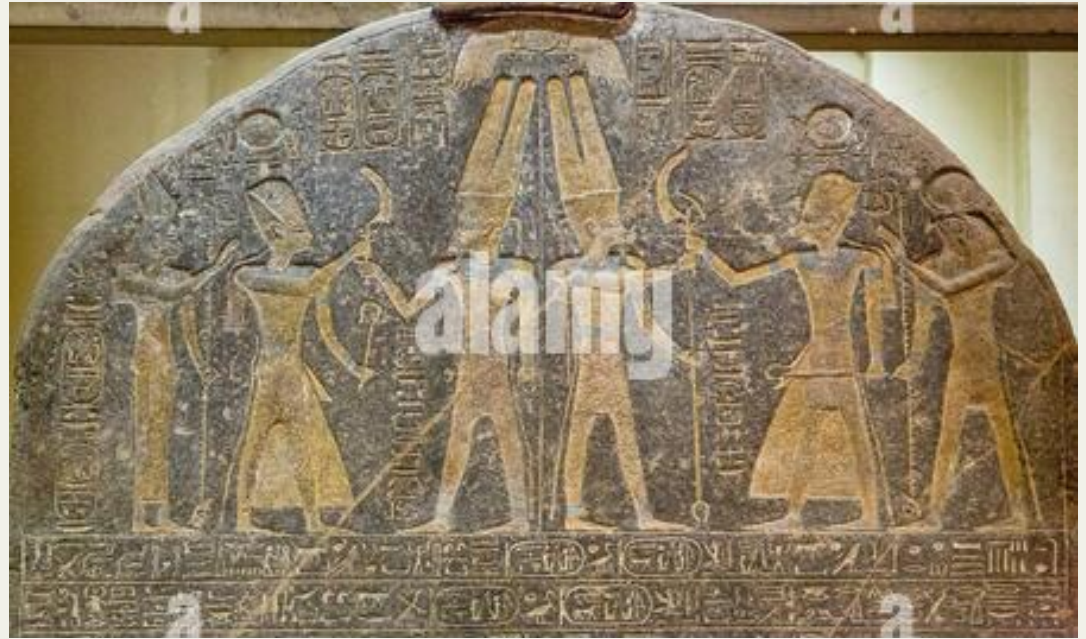
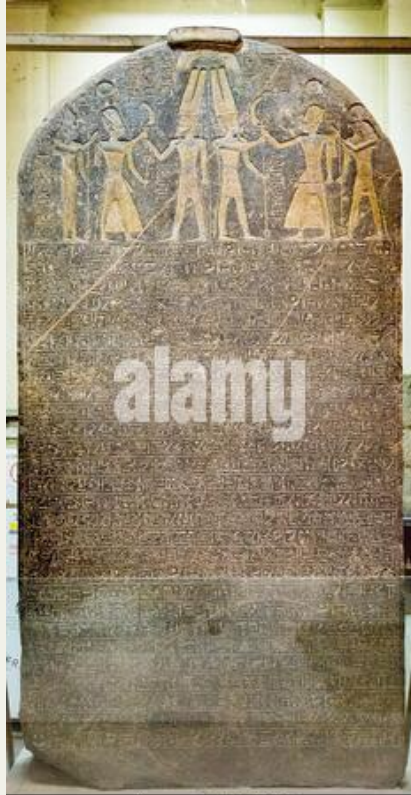
Oldest known inscription of the nation of Israel

From a Pharaoh detailing his military victories in the Canaanite region.

Dates to approximately 1220 BC



Merneptah Stele



The Crossing & Sinai

Can we use the Biblical account of the Crossing and the time at Mt. Sinai to map out locations?

This is one of the more broadly speculated topics. Two primary subjects- "Traditional" Sinai & Jebel El-Lawz

How do we handle bad evidence?





Why Jebel El-Lawz

- Land of Midian, home of Jethro
- Land of Ishmael
- From South of Edom, Mt. Seir and Mt. Paran
- Wilderness of Egypt & Wilderness of Sinai
- Attack of the Amalekites
- Tallest mountain in Northern Arabia

Bad Evidence



Many self-titled archaeologist over the years have headed out with, hopefully, good intentions to prove Biblical historicity but with poor skills and methodology. Let's examine bad evidence and why.

Wheels



Split Rock



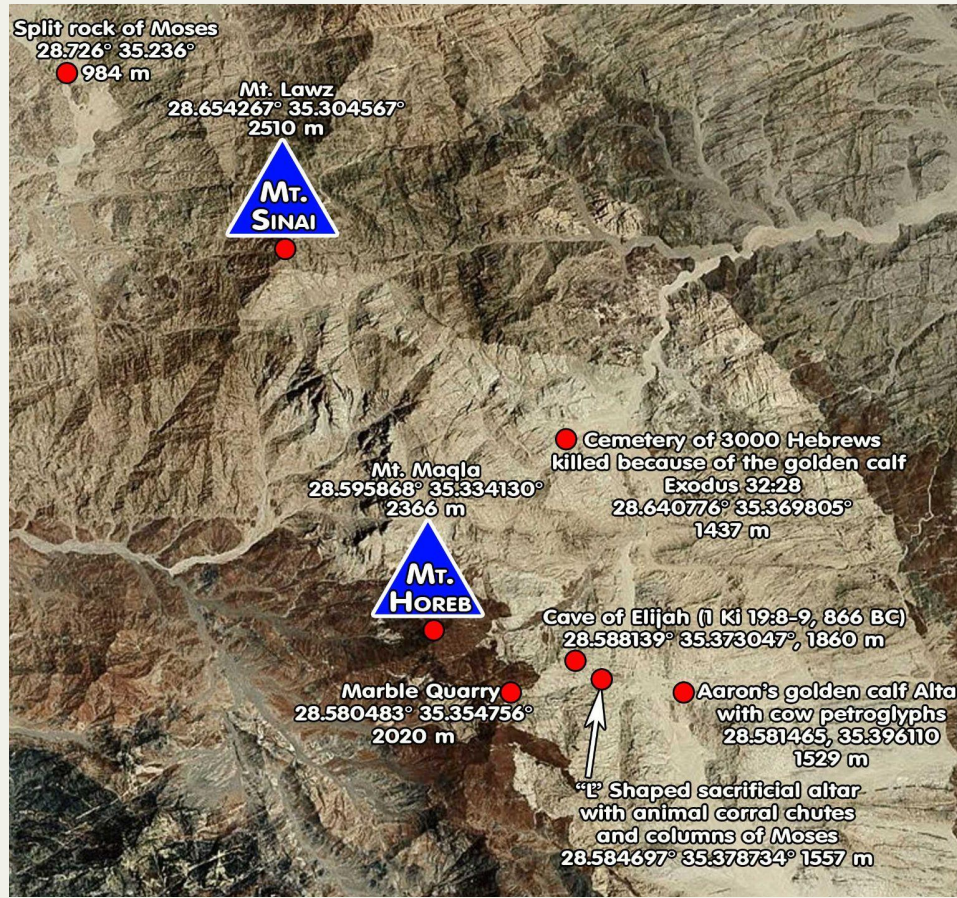
Split Rock



Split Rock



Split Rock



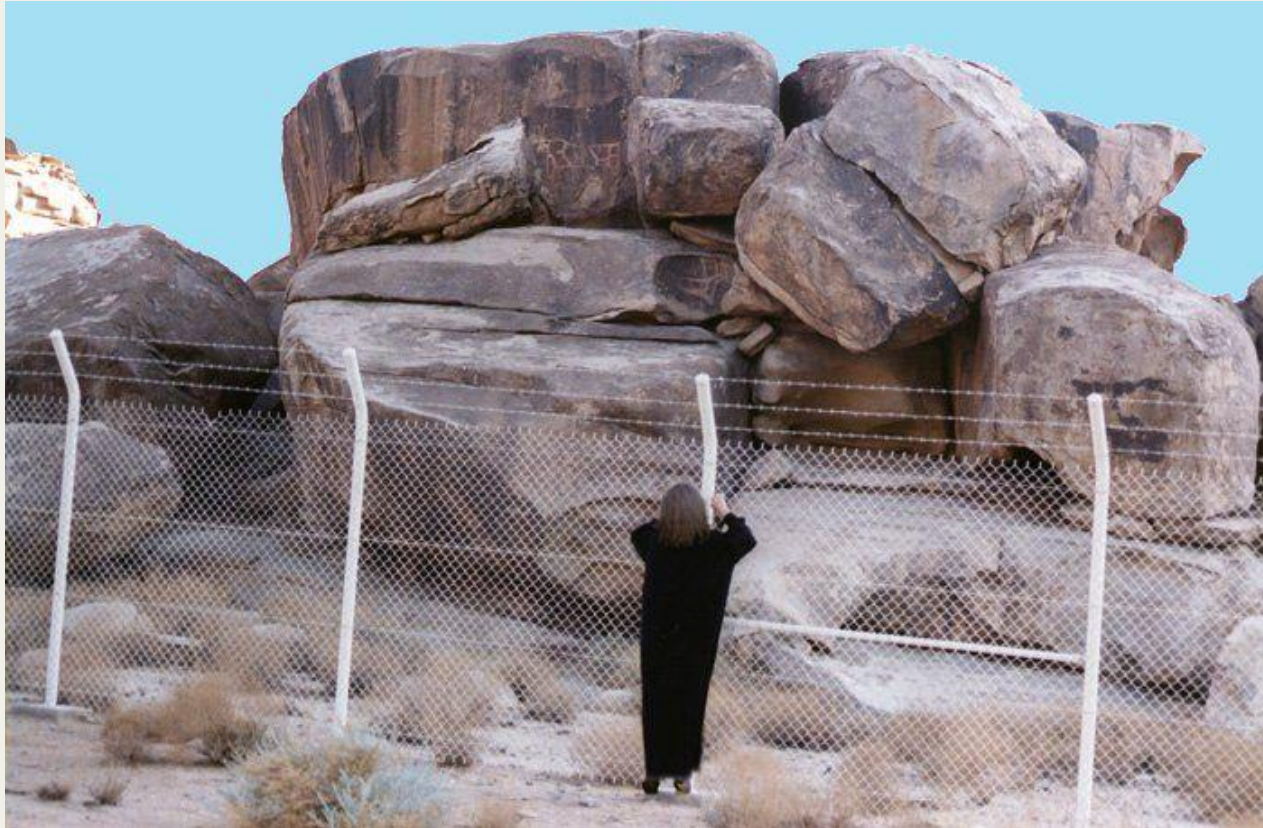
Mountain Top



Mountain Top



“Altar”



“Altar”



Altar at Mt. Ebal



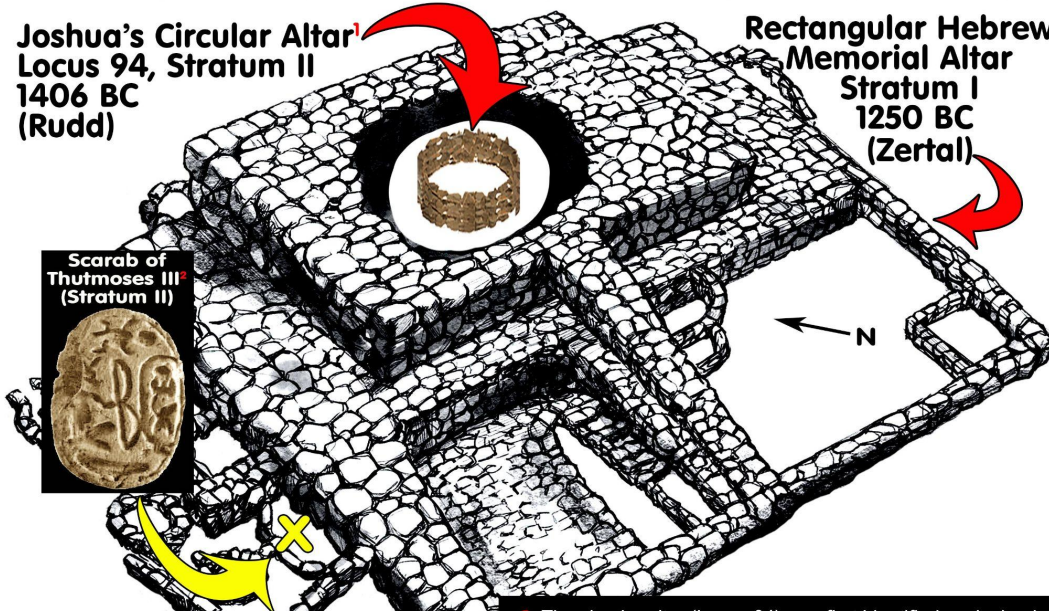
Altar at Mt. Ebal

Joshua's Circular Altar on Mt. Ebal

Joshua's Circular Altar¹
Locus 94, Stratum II
1406 BC
(Rudd)

Rectangular Hebrew
Memorial Altar
Stratum I
1250 BC
(Zertal)

Scarab of
Thutmoses III²
(Stratum II)



Hebrew Altar on Mt. Ebal



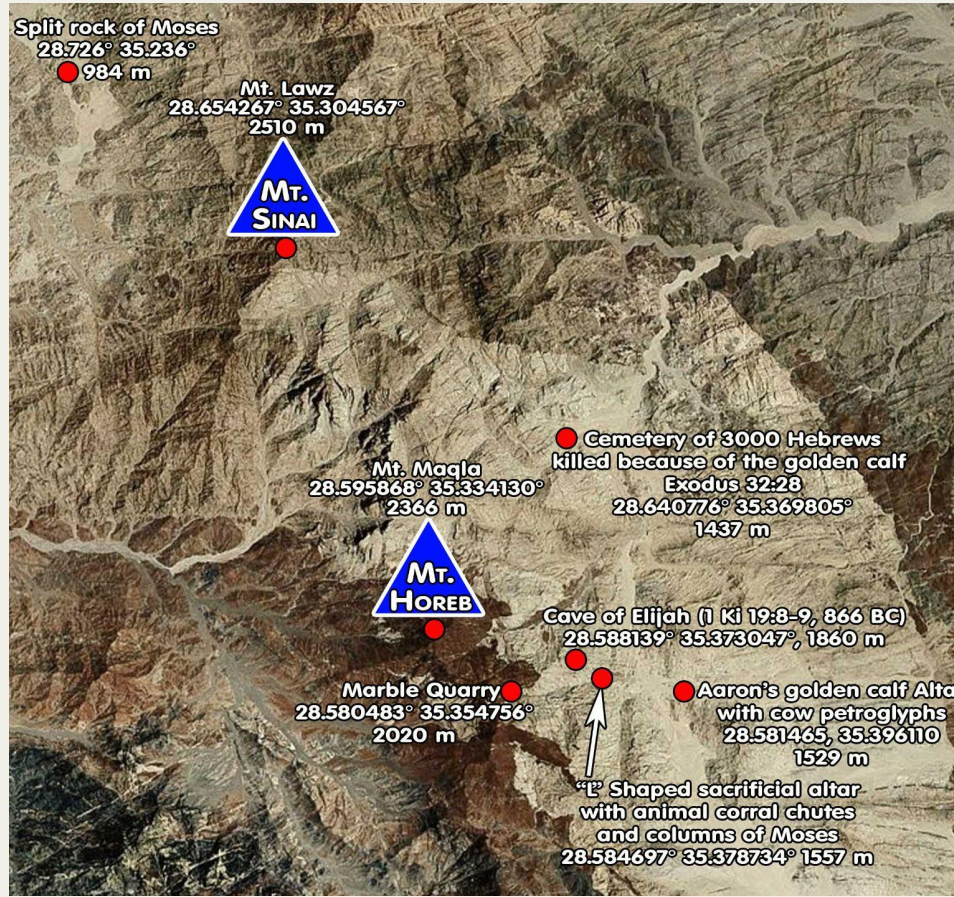
Mt. Ebal Altar

This is a recreation of Joshua's altar found on Mt. Ebal with to-scale replicas of a man and goat so as to get an idea of the size.

Graveyard of the 3000?



Graveyard of the 3000?



Pillars



Pillars



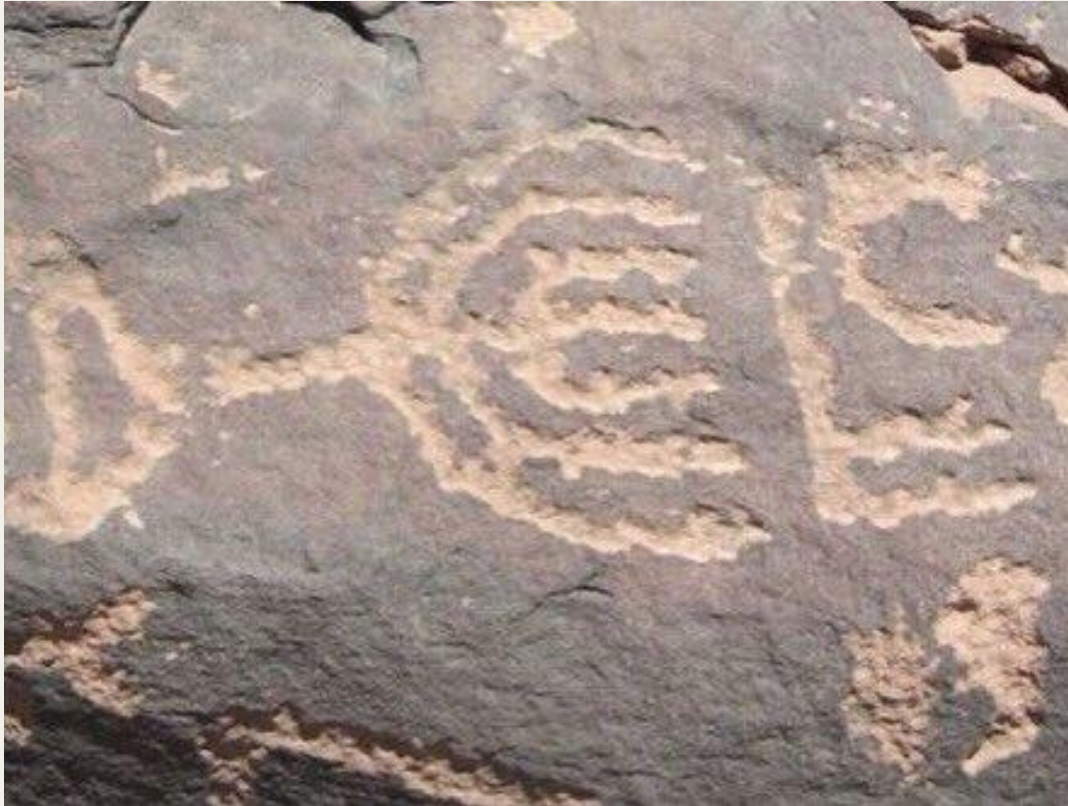
Petroglyphs



Petroglyphs



Petroglyphs



JUST NO

There is a tremendous amount of Biblical basis to place the historic site of the Giving of the Law at modern Jebel El-Lawz.

We do not need to rely on easily dismissable evidence that ultimately hurts the work of credible archeologist and the witness of believers worldwide.





Summary

Can I have faith in the Exodus as history?



Building a historical case

Discerning Evidence

When building the case for proof of historicity of an account one must discern the value of evidence. Circumstantial evidence is not bad evidence by default but must be contextual.

Difference In Details

Often when comparing the Bible to other texts or scholarly interpretation of archeology, we should expect to see subtle difference. Only Scripture is inerrant.

Missing Pieces

It is said that only 1% of all things have survived to be found and we've only found 1% of that. The lack of physical evidence is not alone evidence.

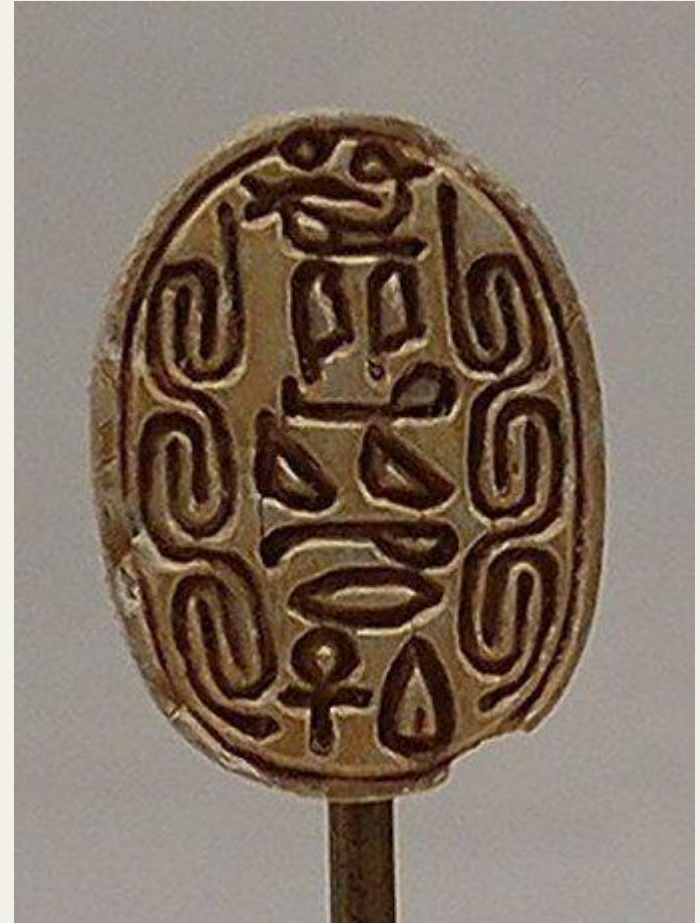
Biblical Exodus

- We are suggesting the historic truth of the Biblical account in which a Hebrew man raised by Egyptians named Moses is called by God to lead the Hebrew people out of slavery, which was not the condition under which they entered Egypt. Following a series of supernatural plagues, the Hebrews embark on an equally supernatural journey that ultimately lasts 40+ years. We suggest this happens in the 1400s BC.



Hebrews in Egypt

- We do have evidence of Hebrew people in Egypt as slaves prior to 1446 BC
- There is evidence of a semitic people group moving in freely during the appropriate time, later being turned to slaves and finally leaving Egypt behind.
- We have language connections to show developing semitic language within Egypt during the appropriate time.



The Exodus

- There is evidence to show that Amenhotep II is the Pharaoh of the Exodus
- The successor of Amenhotep II was not his first born son and he leaves behind physical evidence of his "divine appointment"
- We have an Egyptian epic poem describing supernatural destruction.
- There is evidence to suggest a candidate for Moses in the person of Senenmut.



Crossing to Conquest

- We have evidence to suggest wandering people of YHWH during the late 1400s b.c.
- We have evidence showing Israel as an established regional power by the late 1200s b.c
- We can find biblically and geographically sound places for the Exodus story post plagues





There is more than sufficient evidence to support the Biblical account of the Exodus.

All arguments to the contrary are based primarily in the perceived lack of evidence or inherent rejection of any account involving supposed supernatural events.



Evidence of Exodus

Evidence of EXODUS

Did God Move In Egypt Nearly 4000 Years Ago?