



Israel Leaves Egypt

about the many plagues that God brought upon Egypt. Moses and Aaron spoke to Pharaoh one last time and described the final plague that would strike the Egyptians. However, because God hardened

his heart, Pharaoh would not let the Israelites leave.

Death of the Firstborn

Moses told the Israelites that all the firstborns of man and animals in Egypt would soon die. But God would protect the Israelites from this final plague if they obeyed Him.

On the 10th day of the month of Abib, a man from every Israelite household was to take a healthy male lamb. On the 14th day of Abib, they were to kill the lamb in the evening and put

some of the blood on the doorposts of their houses. They were told to roast the entire lamb and eat it quickly with bitter herbs and unleavened bread. Also, sandals were to be on their feet, and a staff was to be in their hands.





An angel would pass through the land of Egypt that night and kill all the firstborn of man and animal. But when the angel saw the blood on the doorposts of the Israelites, he would pass over their homes, and no one would be harmed. Moses

explained that this was the Passover, and a memorial to be kept forever. (A memorial is something that helps you remember a special event.)

On the 14th day, the Israelites did as they were commanded, and none

of their firstborn were killed. But in Egypt, there was great sadness and crying because of all the dead firstborns.

The Exodus

Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron that very night. He and the

other Egyptians wanted the Israelites to leave Egypt quickly because they were afraid they would all die!

The Egyptians gave the Israelites silver, gold and clothing. Some of the Egyptians were prepared to

leave Egypt with the Israelites.

On the 15th of Abib, at least two to three million people left Egypt with their belongings, including

animals and unleavened dough. The bones of Joseph, who died many years before, were also taken out of Egypt. This was a very happy night



for the Israelites. Today, we call it the "Night to be Much Observed."

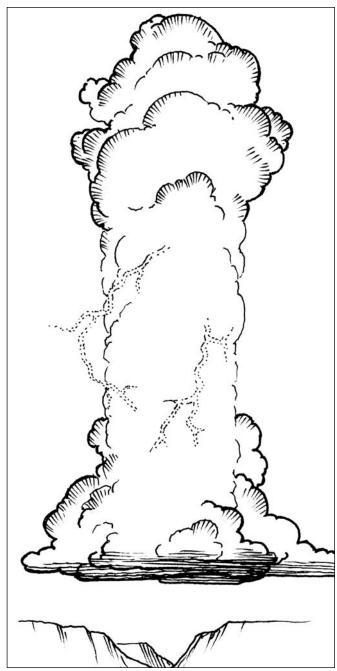
While the Israelites journeyed, God used a pillar of cloud to lead them during the day. This shielded them from the scorching sun. At night, He used a pillar of fire to give them light.

Crossing the Red Sea

After the Israelites left Egypt, Pharaoh was sorry that he let them leave. Who would be his slaves and do all his hard work? Pharaoh decided to send 600 of his best chariots and their captains after the former slaves. The Israelites soon realized they were being chased!

The mountains and the Red Sea were on one side of the Israelites, and the Egyptians were on the other. The Israelites became worried and cried out to God. They complained to Moses, saying, "Have you brought us out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? It would have been better if we had just stayed in Egypt and been Pharaoh's slaves."

But Moses told the people not to be afraid, because God would protect them. The Israelites would



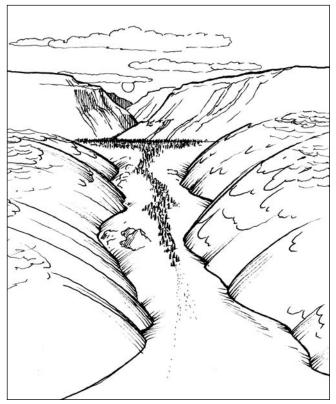
never see Pharaoh and his army again! The Egyptians could not see the Israelites because a cloud of darkness was blocking their view. But the Israelites could see because the pillar of fire gave them light.

God told Moses to lift up his rod and stretch his hand over the sea.

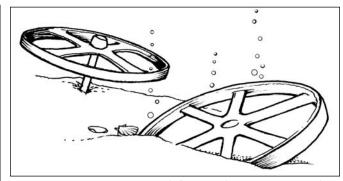
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Moses did as God instructed, and soon a wind came from the east. It blew so strong that the sea divided, and the sea floor became dry! The Israelites saw a wall of water on their right and their left sides as they walked through.

The Egyptians followed the Israelites into the parted Red Sea. The wheels on their chariots started falling off. Some of the troops wanted to leave because they realized that God was fighting for the Israelites.



But before Pharaoh's army could do so, God told Moses to stretch out his hand over the sea. Moses did as God commanded, and the walls of



water came crashing down on the Egyptians and their chariots! Every soldier died.

Moses and the children of Israel sang a song that praised God for the great and powerful miracle He did. Miriam (Moses' and Aaron's sister) and other Israelite women sang and danced with timbrels. The Israelites were filled with joy on this special day, the last Day of Unleavened Bread.

Waters Made Sweet

The Israelites left the shores of the Red Sea. They journeyed for three days in the wilderness without finding water. Finally, they found water at a place that was later called Marah. But they could not drink it because it was bitter. After Moses heard the Israelites' complaints, he

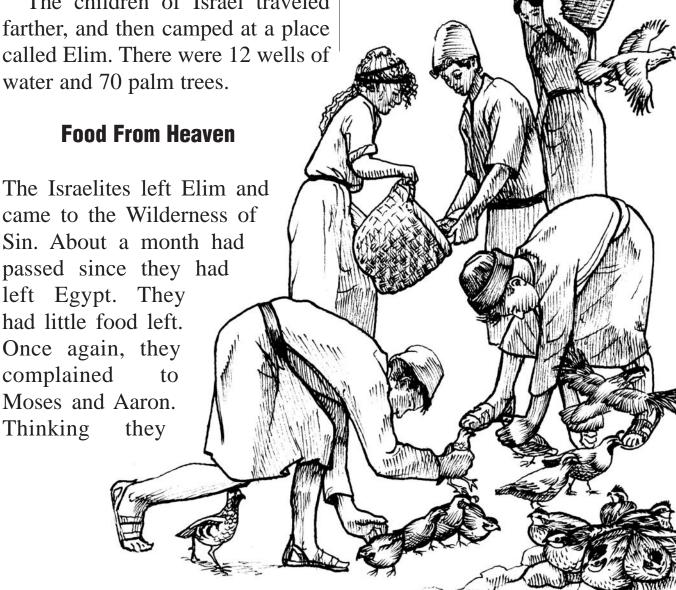


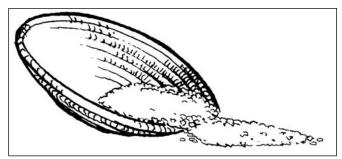
prayed to God for help. God told Moses to throw a certain tree into the water. Moses did as God commanded. Another miracle was done: the bitter water became sweet! God said, "You will not suffer any of the diseases that I have put on the Egyptians if you obey Me." He continued, "I am the God who heals you."

The children of Israel traveled farther, and then camped at a place

would starve to death in the wilderness, the people wished they had stayed in Egypt. God told Moses that He would provide food for the Israelites.

That evening, quail covered the camp. The Israelites enjoyed meat for dinner! The next morning, the

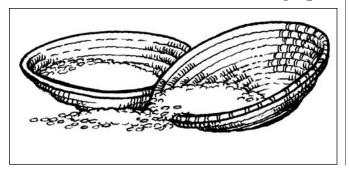




ground was covered with something that looked like frost, but it was actually food! The Israelites called this small, white, round stuff "manna", which means, "What is it?" They discovered that it tasted like wafers made with honey. It did not stay on the ground all day, however. When the sun became hot, the manna melted.

Each morning, the Israelites were to gather enough manna for the entire day, but they were not to save any for the next day. But not everyone obeyed. Some people left manna in their tents overnight. The next morning, their tents were filled with an awful smell! The manna was rotten and full of worms!

On the sixth day of the week, the Israelites were to do something spe-



cial. They were to gather extra manna for the seventh day, the Sabbath, because it is a day of rest. God would not provide the special bread on the Sabbath. When the Israelites awakened Sabbath morning, the manna was still fresh. It did not stink or have worms.

But some people disobeyed God. They went out Sabbath morning to gather manna, but did not find any. Their disobedience made God angry. God is full of mercy, and He explained that the Sabbath was a gift from Him so the people could rest and worship Him.

Through Moses, God instructed Aaron to keep some manna in a pot so the Israelites' descendants could see how the people before them were fed in the wilderness. The Israelites continued eating manna for forty years, until they came to the land of Canaan.

Water From a Rock

The children of Israel left the Wilderness of Sin and came to a place called Rephidim. They and their animals were thirsty, but there was no water to drink. They complained to Moses, saying, "Why did

you bring us out of Egypt to kill us, our children and our animals with thirst?" They thought that God was no longer with them.

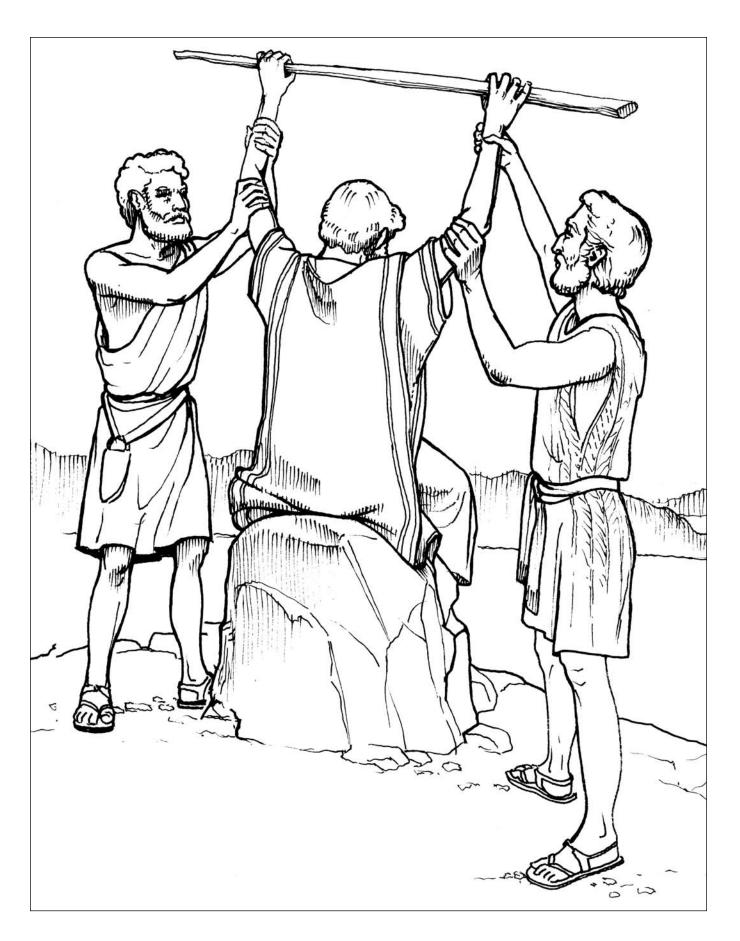
Moses prayed to God and asked Him what he should do. God told him to strike a rock with his rod. Moses did as God commanded and water

came out of the rock! The Israelites had plenty of water to drink!

War With the Amalekites

While the Israelites were camped at Rephidim, the Amalekites attacked. The Amalekites were descendants





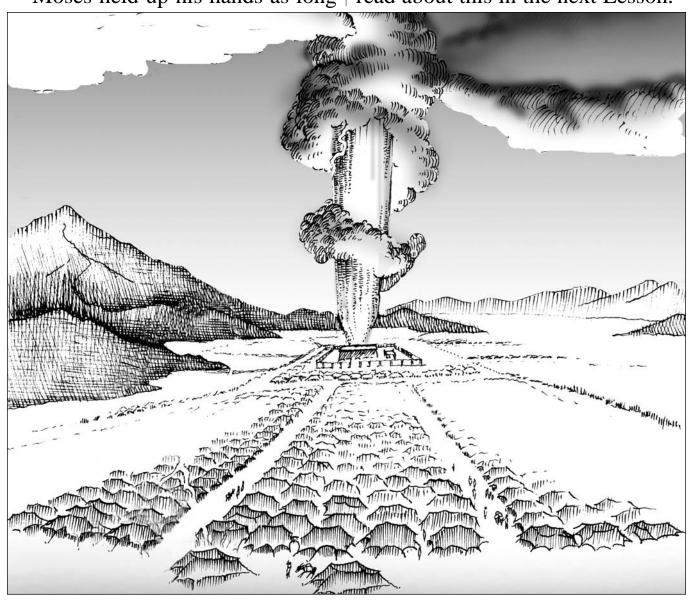
of Esau, and the Israelites were descendants of Jacob (Esau's brother). They were distant cousins.

Moses told Joshua to choose some men and fight against the Amalekites. Moses went up to the top of a nearby hill. When Moses held up his hands, Israel did well in the battle. But when he lowered his hands, the Amalekites did well.

Moses held up his hands as long

as he could, but he eventually became tired. So Aaron and Hur found a stone that he could sit on. They then held up his hands. They did this until sunset, and the Israelites won the battle!

About three months after they left Egypt, the Israelites arrived at Mt. Sinai. There, God gave them the Ten Commandments. We will read about this in the next Lesson.



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BIBLE MEMORY: Exodus 13:21

