

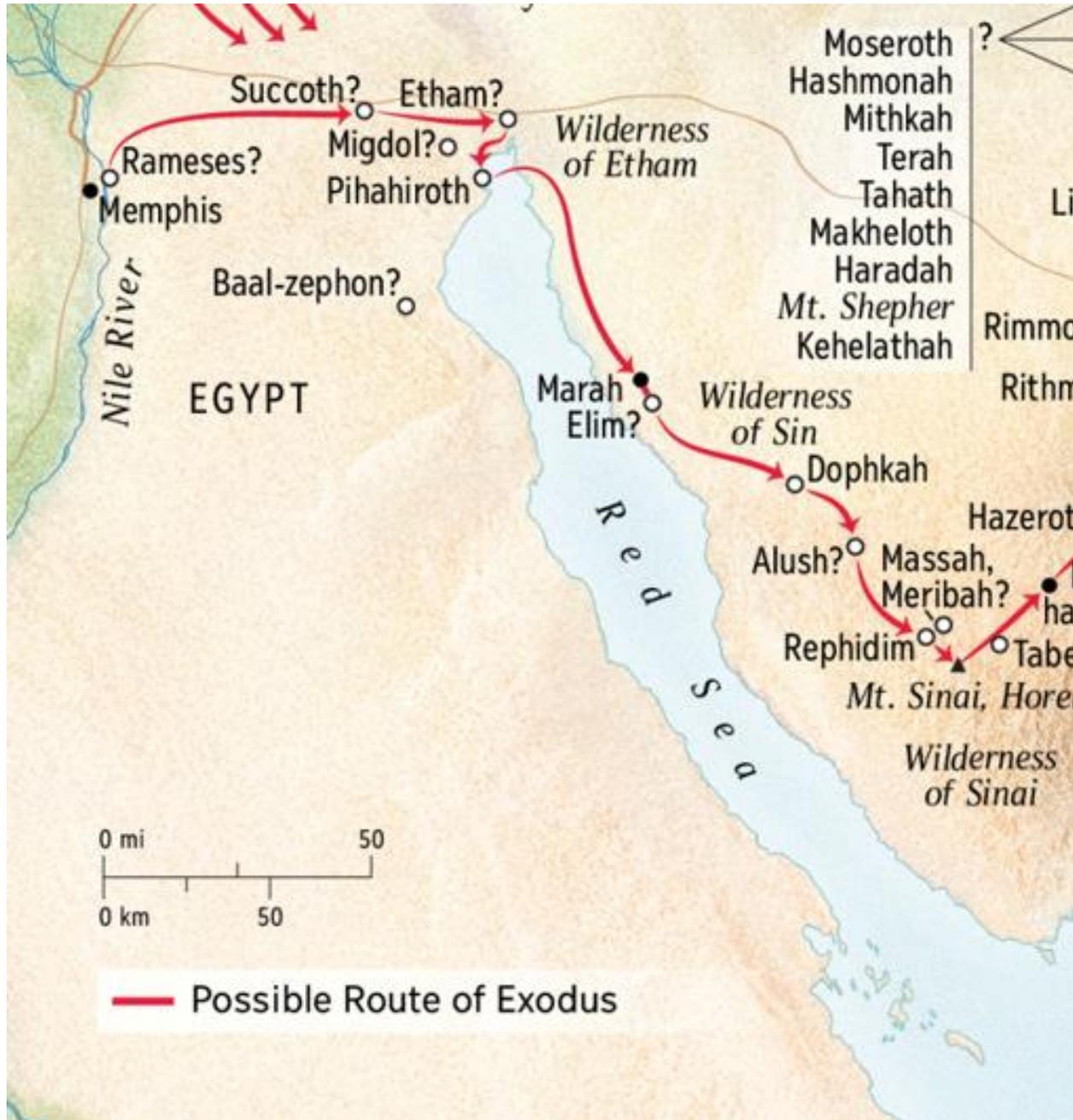


Spiritual Lessons from the life of Moses

Lesson 17- The Golden Calf (Part 1)

Exodus 32(a)

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(1) Background- At Mt Sinai, God gave the Israelites the 10 Commandments and other laws.

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S/No	Scripture	God's Instructions at Mt Sinai
1.	Exodus 20	The Ten Commandments
2.	Exodus 21	The Book of the Covenant
3.	Exodus 22	
4.	Exodus 23	
5.	Exodus 24	
6.	Exodus 25	The Ark of the Covenant The Table of the Bread of the Presence The Lampstand
7.	Exodus 26	The Tabernacle
8.	Exodus 27	The Altar of the Burnt Offering

S/No	Scripture	God's Instructions at Mt Sinai
9.	Exodus 28	The Priestly Garments
10.	Exodus 29	Consecration of the Priests
11.	Exodus 30	The Altar of Incense
12.	Exodus 31	Craftsmen Bezalel and Oholiab

(2) When the people saw that Moses took a long time coming down, they asked Aaron to build them gods. (Exod 32:1)

(3) Watch video: 01:15 –04:10. The Ten Commandments 1956 Mount Sinai 00:58-end. The Ten Commandments 1956

[Bible Movie apps, Chap 32, Start-05:27](#)

<https://biblemovie.subspla.sh/ddeb6e0>

Moses receives the Ten Commandments

Please watch with discernment as the movie makers made the video for entertainment and not strictly according to the Bible.



Moses and the Golden Calf

Exodus 32



Exodus 32:1

Moses was on Mount Sinai for 40 days and nights (Exodus 24:18) and the people below wondered if he would ever come back.



Exod 32:1

They came to Aaron and demanded, 'We don't know what has happened to Moses. Let us make gods to lead us.'



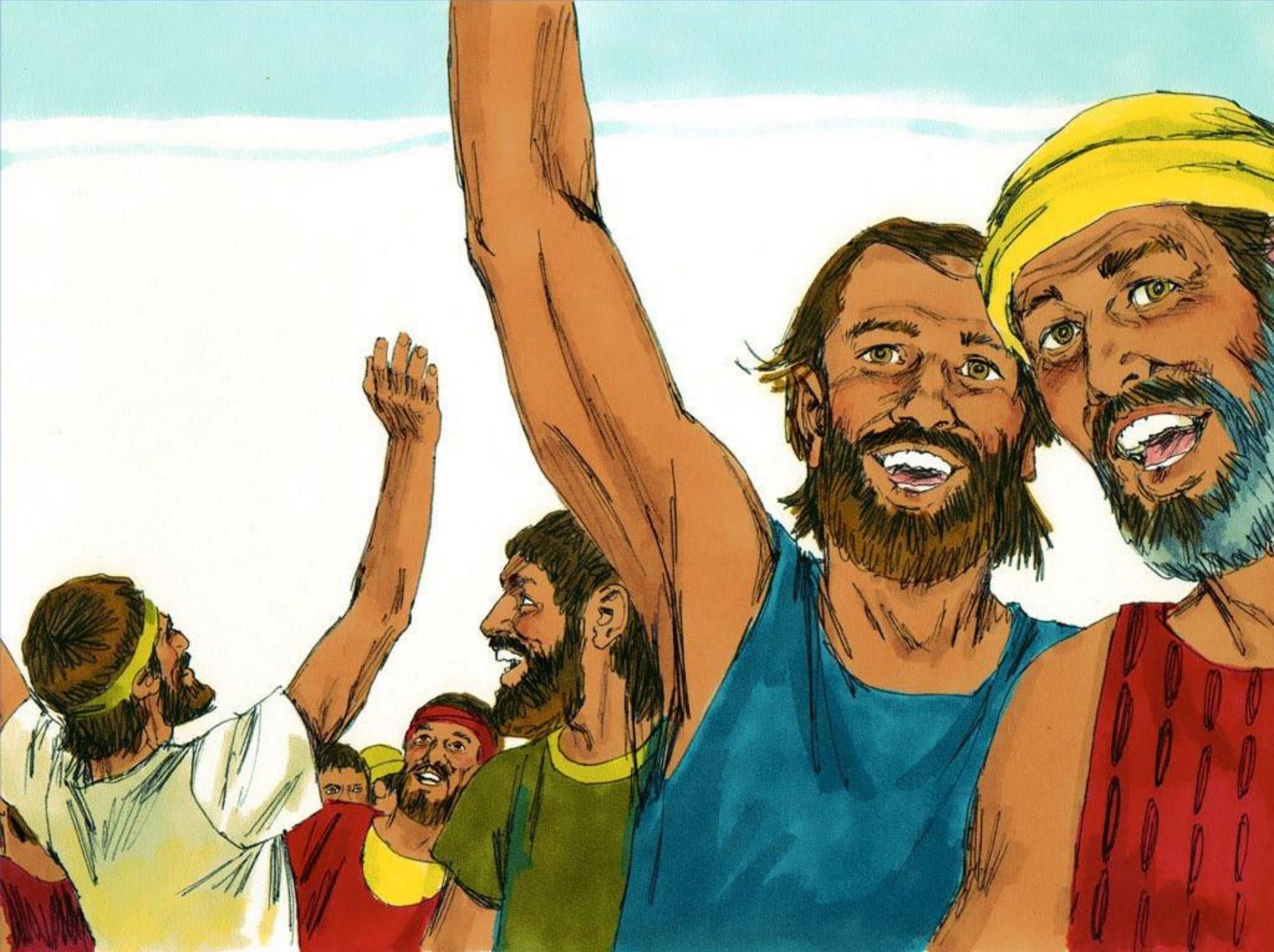
Exod 32:2

Aaron told them to take off the gold earrings the women and children were wearing and give them to him so they could be melted down to make an idol.



Exod 32:3-4

The gold was melted down and shaped into a golden calf.



Exod 32:4

The people responded by declaring, 'These are our gods who brought us up out of Egypt.'



Exod 32: 5

Tomorrow
there will be a
festival,'
declared
Aaron.



Exod 32:6

Early the next day, people sacrificed burnt offerings, ate, drank and started a wild, noisy party worshipping the golden calf.



Exod 32: 7

Meanwhile, Moses, who was still high on Mount Sinai, was instructed by God. 'Go down immediately. The people I brought out of Egypt have become corrupt.'



Exod 32: 8

They have made an idol cast in the shape of a calf and are bowing down and offering sacrifices. They are saying, 'These are our gods who brought us out of Egypt.'



Exod 32: 9-10

God was so upset by their disobedience he told Moses He wanted to destroy them.



Exod 32: 11

Moses pleaded with God not to destroy the people He had rescued them from Egypt. He knew God had promised to make them into a great nation.



Exod 32: 15

Moses took hold of the two stones on which God had engraved His commandments and started walking down the mountain.

Events in the idolatry of the golden calf

Idolatry of the
Israelites

Exodus 32:1-6

God wanted to
destroy the
Israelites

Exodus 32:10

What is the significance of the idolatry?

- God repeatedly showed His power and compassion to the Israelites (in Egypt, Marah, Elim, wilderness of Sinai and Rephidim) but they were soon forgotten.
- Despite God's commandment to them that they should not worship idols the Israelites went ahead to make and worship the golden calf.
- Due to the Israelites' stubbornness and rebellion, God wanted to destroy the Israelites.

- It was only for a short month or so that Moses were at the top of the mountain, that the Israelites rebelled against God. (Exodus 32:1).

- Exodus 32:1-

“And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, make us gods, which shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him.”

(violation of the 1st & 2nd commandment)

1st commandment Exodus 20:3

³ Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

2nd commandment Exodus 20:4-5

⁴ Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

⁵ Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;

- Exodus 32:2-5:

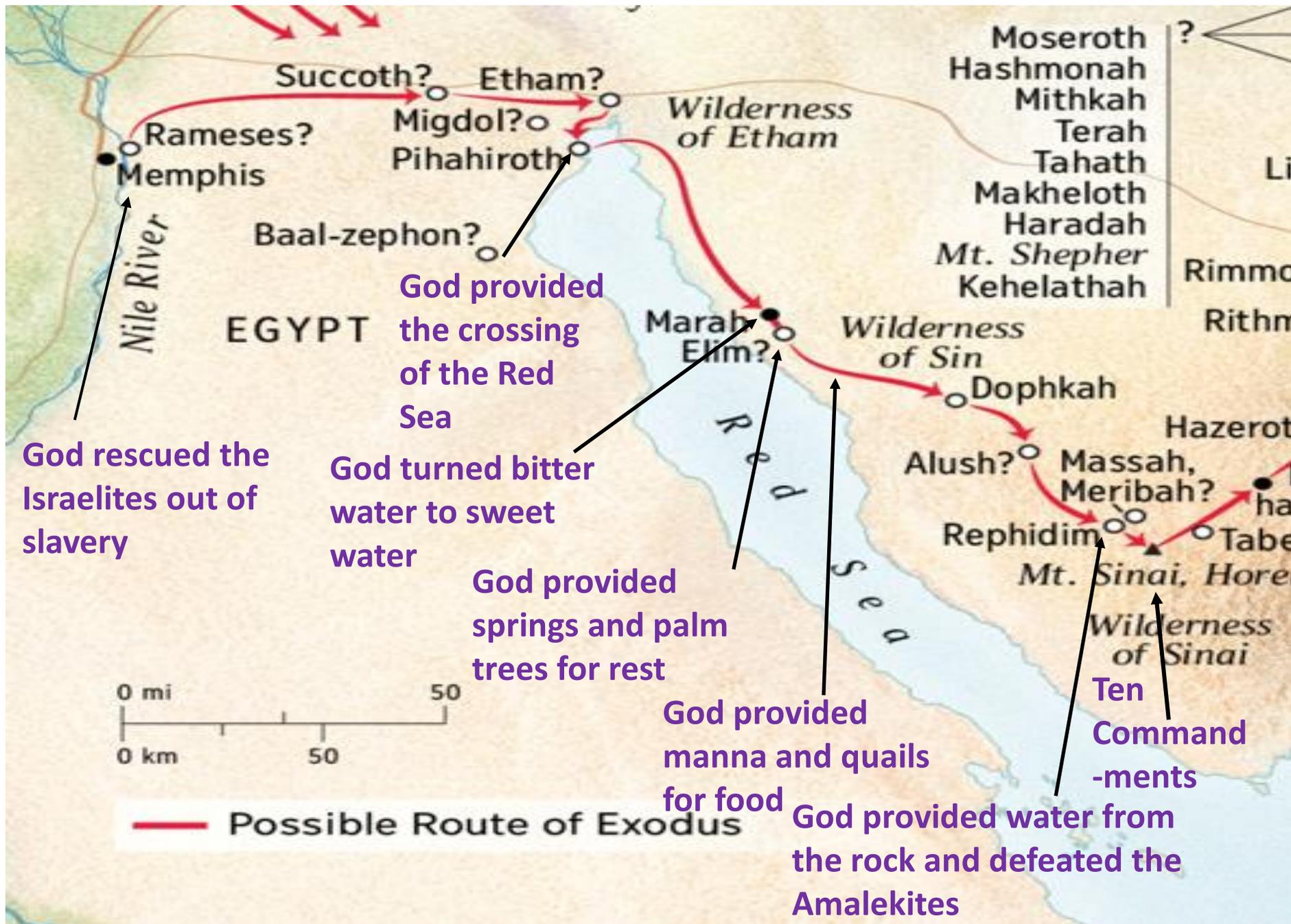
Aaron, a priest of God and 2nd in command to Moses, led in the making of the golden calf.

(A priest and leader in violation of the 1st & 2nd commandment)

- After the idol of the golden calf was made, the Israelites said in Exodus 32:4

“These be thy gods. O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.”

(violation of the 1st and 2nd commandment).



God rescued the Israelites out of slavery

God provided the crossing of the Red Sea

God turned bitter water to sweet water

God provided springs and palm trees for rest

God provided manna and quails for food

God provided water from the rock and defeated the Amalekites

Ten Commandments

(2) God's provision and protection along the Sinai route.

(3) Yet, the Israelites were ungrateful to God and turned away to worship the golden calf.

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↓
Moses interceded for
the Israelites

Exodus 32:11-14

- ↓
- God did not destroy the Israelites.
 - Moses went down the mountain with the 2 tablets.

Exodus 32:14-15

What is the significance of Moses' intercession?

- God told Moses that the Israelites have become corrupt and stiff-necked.
- God wanted to destroy the Israelites for their disobedience.
- Moses pleaded for mercy on the Israelites. (Exodus 32:11-14)
- As a result, God relented and did not destroy the Israelites.
- The important significance is that God listens to our prayers.

(4) What we should do:

Our golden calf and sins:

- Love of money and other material things.
- Sexual immorality
- Pride
- Lust
- Covetousness
- Hatred and unforgiveness
- Jealousy
- Gossip
- Etc.

(4) What we should do:

(a) The golden calf

- Men's sinful nature is to violate God's laws. The Israelites committed idolatry when Moses was not supervising them.
- Similarly, if we are not supervised, we are likely to go astray and sin against God.
- We should:
 - Quiet Time
 - Maintain fellowship
 - Attend worship service
 - Seek christian advice if necessary
 - Bible study, etc...



Source: Angel Devil Tug War (google images)

Psalm 34:12-14

Who is someone who desires life, and loves many days, that he may see good? Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking lies. Depart from evil, and do good. Seek peace, and pursue it.



(b) What we should do:

- We should be righteous:
Psalm 34:15-20

(c) Who are the righteous?

- Those who:
 - Do not lie
 - Do not slander or speak ill of others
 - Do not do evil
 - Do good
 - Seek and pursue peace.
- Psalm 34:12-14

(d) The Israelites quickly forgot about God's commandments, goodness and protection. Similarly, we are likely to quickly forget about God's goodness and protection to us. We should

- Regularly remind ourselves the occasions God has delivered us from trouble.
- Seek forgiveness and repent of our sins.
- Observe daily prayer and reading of the bible.



**The sacrifices of God
are a broken spirit, A
broken and a contrite
heart— These, O God,
You will not despise.
Psalms 51:17**

- When we have sinned and God is dealing with us for our sin, we must:
 - Seek forgiveness with a broken spirit and contrite heart,
 - Repent,
 - Appeal to God's nature as our loving heavenly Father who will always love and forgive His children.

https://www.google.com/imgres?q=broken%20spirit%20and%20contrite%20heart&imgurl=https%3A%2F%2Flookaside.fb.com%2Flookaside%2Fcrawler%2Fmedia%2F%3Fmedia_id%3D945613279299256&imgrefurl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fkroonstadvolleevangeliekerk%2Fphotos%2Fa.427377234456199%2F945613279299256%2F%3Ftype%3D3&docid=jdoM_YJ_UP9SpM&tbnid=RymRObUrakMleM&vet=12ahUKEwi27ljFkJuGaxV_wjgGHZJDAEIQM3oECBMQAA..i&w=1280&h=1280&hcb=2&ved=2ahUKEwi27ljFkJuGaxV_wjgGHZJDAEIQM3oECBMQAA