



Spiritual Lessons from the life of Moses

Lesson 19 -
Departing Mt
Sinai

Exodus 33 to 40,
Leviticus 16,
Numbers 10.

<https://d3h6k4kfl8m9p0.cloudfront.net/stories/PIDbOjryanTSIM9gDRKhQw.jpg>

(1)Background: God had punished their Israelites for their sin of idolatry.

(2)Going forward:

S/No.	Chapter	Description
1.	33	God's humiliation of the Israelites. Exod 33:2-6. Moses interceded for the Israelites for God's accompaniment. God agreed to go with the Israelites. (Exodus 33:12-17)
	34	God gave Moses the 10 commandments on new stone tablets.
	35	Moses requested offering for the building of the Tabernacle, Ark and holy items.
	36	The building of the Tabernacle.

S/No.	Chapter	Description
1.	37	The building of the Ark of the Covenant The building of the Table of the Bread of the Presence The building of the Lampstand The building of the Altar of Incense
	38	The building of the Altar of Burnt Offering The building of the Courtyard
	39	The making of the Priestly Garments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ephod • The Breastpiece/Breastplate • Others
	40	Setting up the Tabernacle

Breastpiece/
Breastplate

Ephod



A special breastplate was made for the High priest. It had 12 precious stones each one engraved with the name of one of the 12 tribes of Israel. (A list of the stones is found in Exodus 39:10-13).

S/No.	Book	Description
1.	Leviticus	(a) Deals with the worship of the Israelites (b) Deals with regulations pertaining to daily living and practical holiness of the Israelites.
2.	Numbers	(a) Census (chap 1-2) (b) Instructions to the Levites (chap 3-4) (c) Cleansing and consecration (chap 5-6) (d) Tabernacle service (chap 7-8) (e) The accompaniment of the Lord (chap 9-10)

(3) The Book of Leviticus is about rules for holy living for the Israelites. God gave these rules to Moses at Mt Sinai.

(4) The rules in the Book of Leviticus are not applicable to us today.

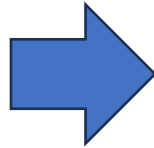
(5) An important holy event is the Day of Atonement in Leviticus 16.

- Watch video

Note: The act of sprinkling of blood on the mercy seat foreshadows the shedding of blood by Christ on the cross as atonement for all our sins.



Sprinkling of blood on the mercy seat for the atonement of sin



Christ shed His blood on the cross for the atonement of sin

Hebrews 9:12-
Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

Source: FreeBibleImages

(6) What is the significance of the shedding of blood of Christ for atonement for us?

- Due to our sin, we are heading for hell.
- Christ died and shed His blood on the cross as atonement ('cover') for our sin.
- Since our sin had been atoned by Christ, we have eternal life in heaven.

Text: Hebrews 9: 12

(7) Though required in the Mosaic Law, the offering of animal sacrifices cannot atone for our sins. Only by the death and shedding of blood by Jesus Christ could sin be atoned for.

Text: Hebrews 10: 11-12



Cartoon caricature:

God the judge acquitting the prisoner as Christ has paid for his sin by dying and shedding His blood on the cross.

Image generated using:
www.zdnet.com/article/best-ai-image-generator/



(7) Num 10:11

The Israelites stayed in Mt Sinai for about a year.

(8) During which, God instructed them:

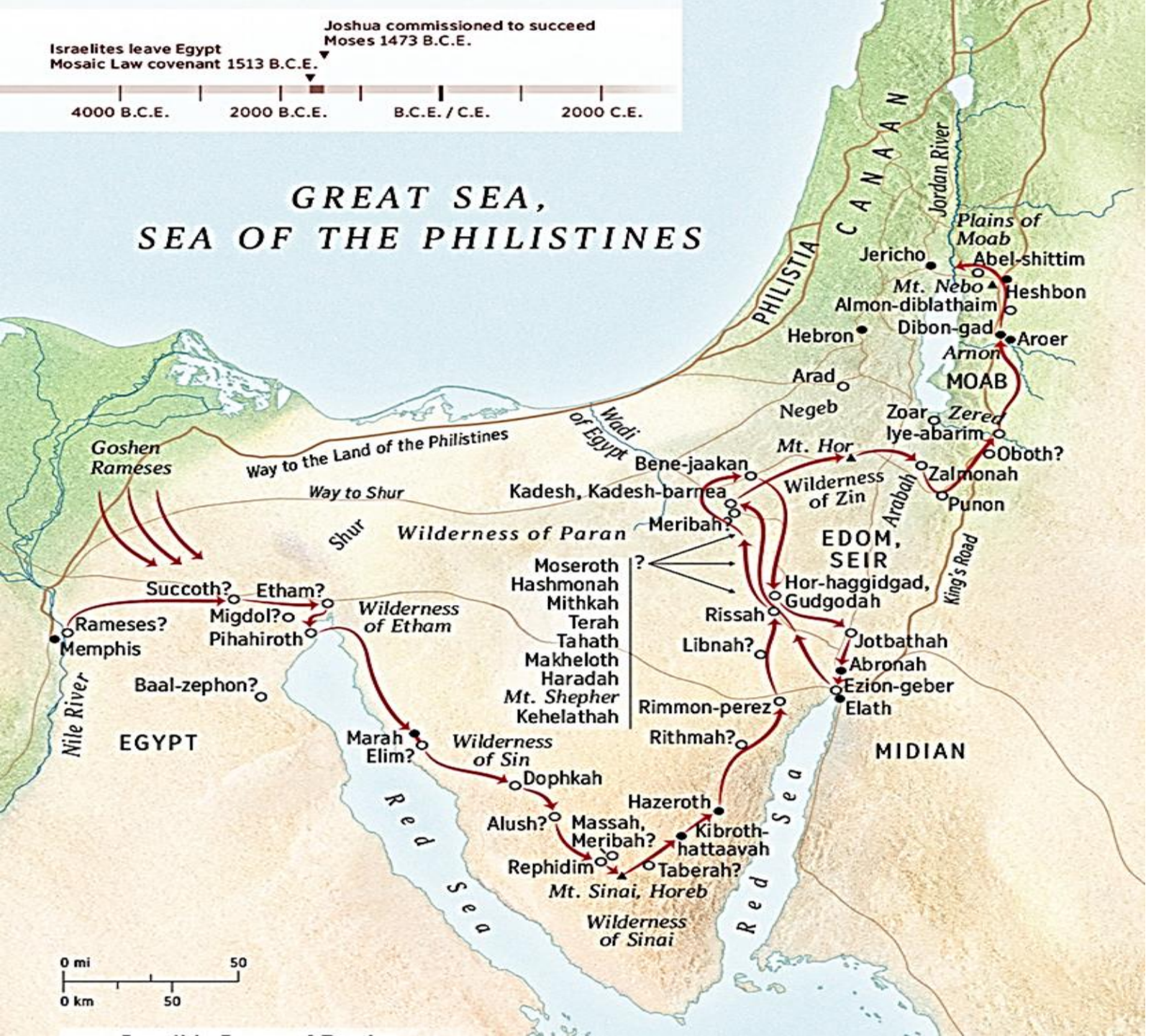
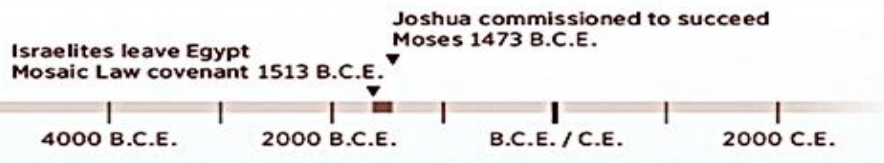
- The Ten Commandments
- The Book of the Covenant
- Religious Ceremonies & regulations
- Rules for holy living in Leviticus



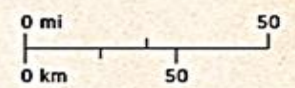
(8) Numbers 10:11-12
The Cloud lifted from the Tabernacle on the twentieth day of the second month of the second year of Israel's leaving Egypt.

The Israelites left the wilderness of Sinai, and followed the Cloud until it stopped in the wilderness of Paran.

[Order of moving:
Num 10:11-28.]



The route of the Israelites



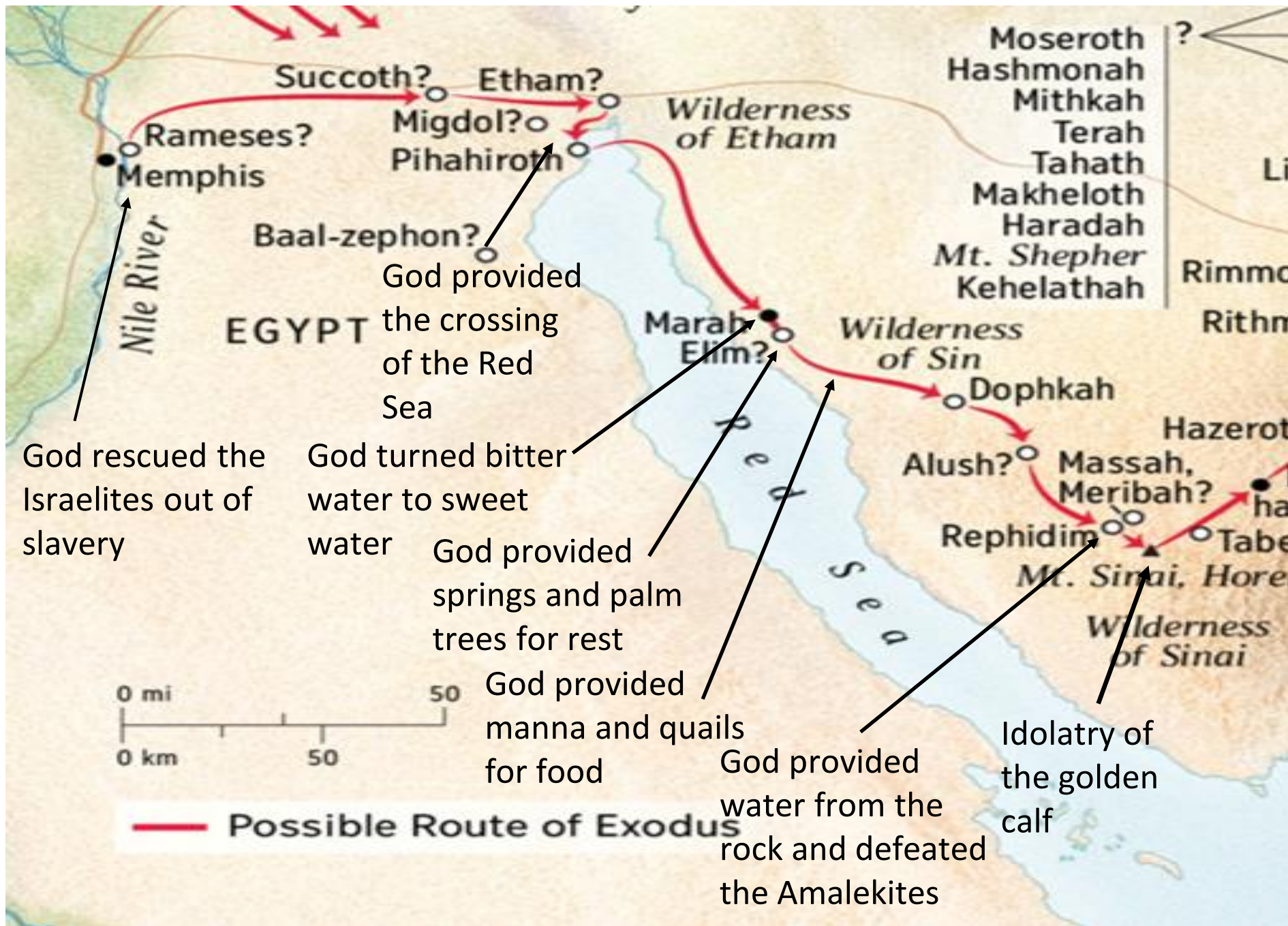
(9) What is the significance of the order of movement for the Tabernacle equipment in front of the Ark?

- The tribe of Judah
- The tribe of Issachar
- The tribe of Zebulun
- The Gershonites and Merarites (Levites) carried the tabernacle equipment
- The tribe of Reuben
- The tribe of Simeon
- The tribe of Gad
- The Kohathites (Levites) carried the Ark and holy ornaments

- The tribe of Ephraim
- The tribe of Manasseh
- The tribe of Benjamin
- The tribe of Dan
- The tribe of Asher
- The tribe of Naphtali

(a) The Gershonites and Merarites carrying the tabernacle equipment would build the tabernacle first at the new location before the arrival of the Kohathites bringing the Ark and other holy ornaments.

(a) The significance for us is that we learn that God favours proper order and method in organisation. We must also plan ahead to do our task with proper order and method.



(10) The journey of the Israelites was difficult, but God took care of them despite their bad behaviour.

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

Idolatry of the golden calf

https://assetsnffrgf-a.akamaihd.net/assets/m/1001061223/E/art/1001061223_E_sub_xl.jpg

(11) What is the significance of the journey to Sinai by the Israelites to us?

- The troubles, complaints and fears of the Israelites in their journey are much like our journey of life.
- Further, God led them by the pillar of cloud through:
 - Pi Hahiroth – hemmed in between the sea and the Egyptian forces
 - Marah- No water for 3 days. Bitter water at Marah.
 - Wilderness of Sin – Not enough food.
 - Rephidim – No water. Attacked by the Amalekites.
 - Etc...

- God did not lead them up a 'garden path' where conditions were comfortable and easy. Their route was difficult and through the desert.
- This was part of God's spiritual lessons for the Israelites:
 - They must trust and obey God under difficult conditions.
- Similarly, God is also leading us through an uneasy route in life:
 - Trouble at work with bosses, colleagues
 - Conflicts at home
 - Sickness, disease and health issues
 - Relationship problems
 - etc

- God is also teaching us spiritual lessons in our journey of life.
 - John 15:10:
If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love;...
 - If we keep God's commandments, He will love us and take care of us.
- The Israelites rebelled and rejected God in the idolatry of the golden calf.
- God punished them severely.

- If we are stubborn in refusing to admit our sin and seek forgiveness:
 - Pride and arrogance
 - Refusal to forgive and reconcile
 - Love for money and materialism
 - Etc...

we will also face discipline from God when we stray away from Him in our journey of life.