

Unit Four

The Exodus through Sinai
(Ex 12.37 – 40.38; Leviticus)

The Exodus Begins (12.37 – 13.22)

MEMORIALS OF THE EXODUS & PASSOVER

- Feast of Unleavened Bread
 - Memorial of the urgency of the exodus
- The Dedication of the First-born to God
 - Of flock
 - Of children

The Exodus Begins

The People (12.37-40)

- 600,000 *men* twenty years and older
- With women and children (i.e., < 20 years) \approx 2,000,000+
- A minority group (“mixed multitude”)
- Very much flocks and herds
- At the end of 430 years

The Route through Egypt

Assembled at Rameses (ancient Tanis) (12.37)

- → Succoth (13.17-18)



The Route through Egypt

On to Etham (13.20)

Site unknown

- perhaps the area along both sides of the northern Red Sea

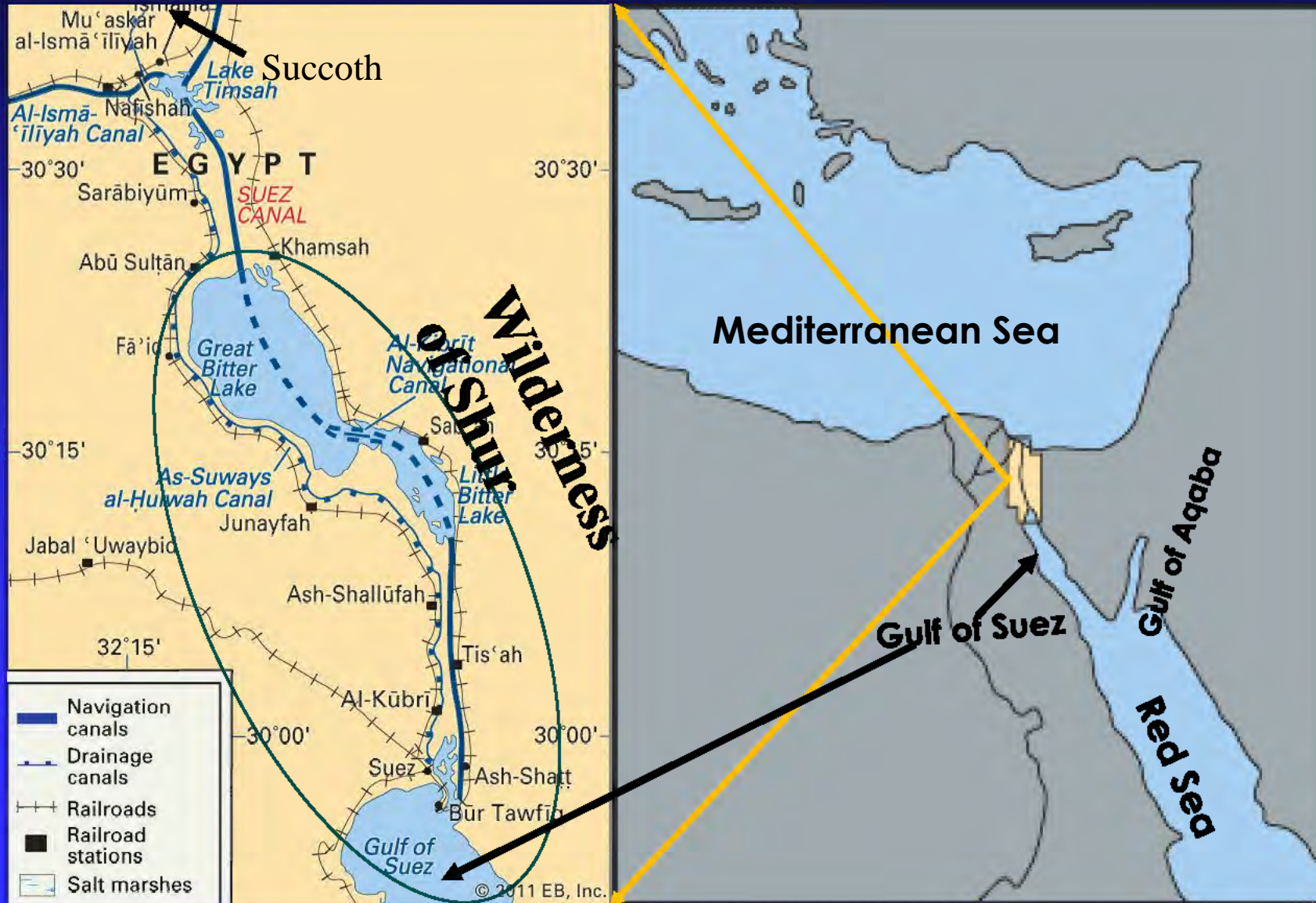


The Route through Egypt

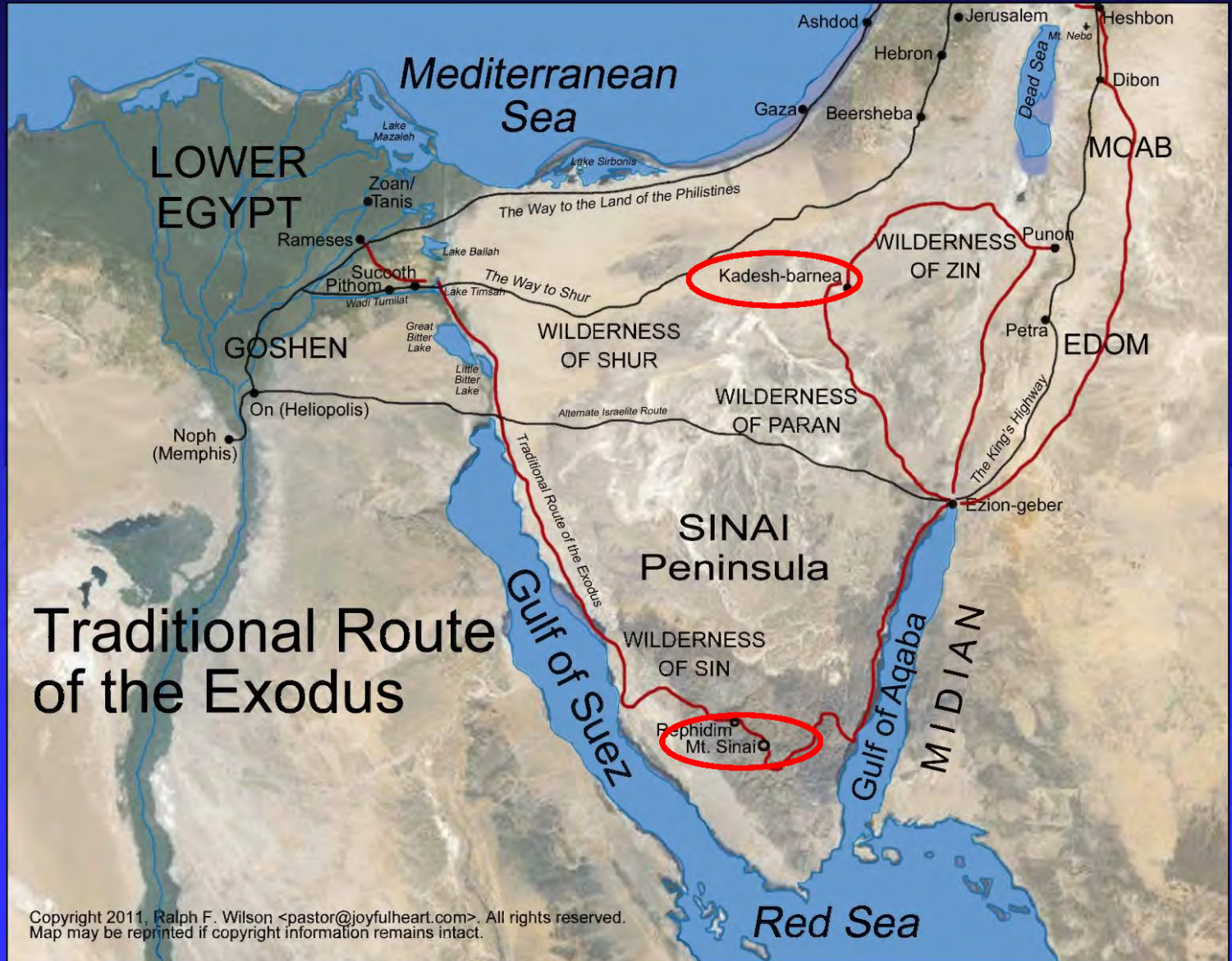
THE PRESENCE

- Guided by a pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night (Ex 13.21-22)

Excursus on the controversy about identification of the sea



Traditional Route of the Exodus



Traditional Route of the Exodus

OUT OF EGYPT AND ON TO SINAI

Exodus 14 – 40

Crossing the Red Sea (14.1 – 15.21)

The Event (14.1-31)

- Blocked by the sea, pursued by pharaoh (10-12)
- Three great miracles (19-29)
- Pharaoh was probably not among this group

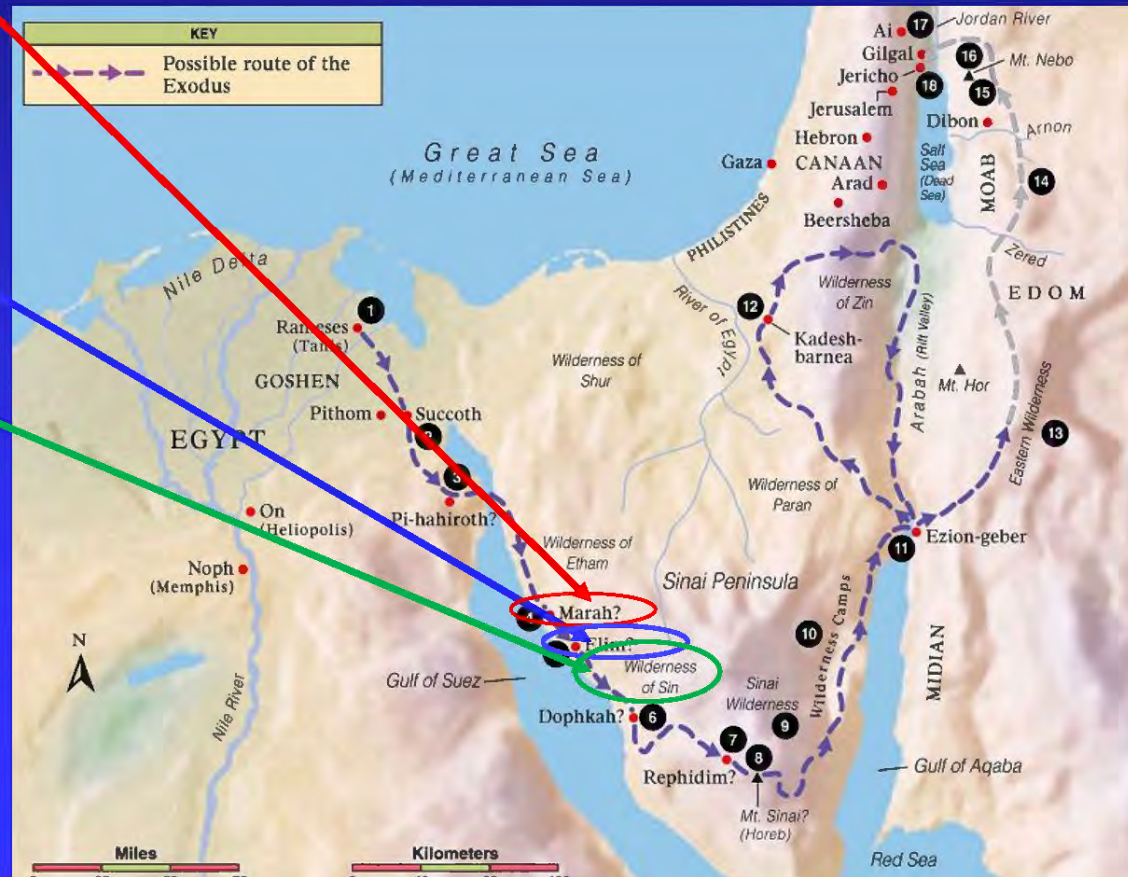
The Song of Moses . . . Echo by Miriam (15.1-21)

Travel to Mt. Sinai (15.22 – 19.2)

- At **Marah** (Marah means “bitterness”): Bitter water (15.24-26)

At Elim
Wilderness
of Sin (16.1-36)

- Manna and Meat (16.2-3)



Travel to Mt. Sinai

Turned inland to Rephidim (17.1-18)

- Water from the rock

Attack by Amalekites (17.8-16)

- Joshua's introduction in the biblical record
- Hur



Travel to Mt. Sinai (15.22 – 19.2)

- Jethro (18.10-12)
 - Worship
 - Zipporah, sons
 - Division of labor
- Arrival at Mt. Sinai
 - On 15th day of the third month (19.1)

Giving of the Law (19.3 – 23.33)

- Preparation of the People (19.3-25)
 - God's goal is to make them a people that will reflect to the world who, what, and how God is
 - Kingdom of priests/holy nation
- Moses goes up the mountain (3-11)

Giving of the Law

- 2 days of preparation
 - People declare willingness to obey the laws of God
 - Purification of the people
- 3rd day: given to people orally
- People once again declare intended obedience

Giving of the Law

The Ten Commandments

1. You shall have no other gods before me
2. You shall not make for yourself an idol
3. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain
4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy
5. Honor your father and your mother
6. You shall not murder
7. You shall not commit adultery
8. You shall not steal
9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor
10. You shall not covet

Exposition of the Law (21 – 23)

- Given over the next 3 months
- **Civil Laws** (21.1 – 23.9)
 - Social relationships
 - Care for widows, poor
 - Family relationships
 - Administration of justice
 - Property rights
 - Criminal punishment

Exposition of the Law

- **Ceremonial Law** (Religious matters)
 - Priestly functions
 - Sacrifices & offerings
 - Sabbaths and Feasts (23.10-19)

Instructions for the Conquest (23.20-33)

- Iniquity of Amorites completed!
(Gen 15.16)
- God commands against worshipping Canaanite gods
 - God will drive out the Canaanites
 - Make no covenant with the Canaanites (see Joshua 9)
 - **No** Canaanites to live in your land
(so you will not serve their gods)

Ratification of the Covenant (24)

- A most important day for Israel
- The most appropriate day to point to when Israel truly became a “nation”
- Moses as mediator: received the “Book of the Covenant” and read it to the people

Giving the Law

- Moses on the mountain 40 days
 - With Joshua
 - Decalogue inscribed by God onto tablets
 - *Instructions* for the Tabernacle and Priesthood (25 – 31)

False Worship: The Golden Bull (32-34)

- Apostasy (32.1-14)
 - golden bull
 - wrath of God (32.10)
 - Moses pleads with God₁
 - The LORD “changed his mind” (anthropomorphism)

False Worship: The Golden Bull (32-34)

- Discipline by Moses (32.15-28)
 - Tablets of Law broken (as the people had broken the Law)
 - Destroyed bull, put it in water and made the people drink it
 - Moses hated sin

The Golden Bull

- Moses and Levites discipline 3,000 with the sword (32.28)
- The LORD smites the people (32.35; same?)
- Moses' prayer for forgiveness (32.31-32)

The Golden Bull

- Preparation for proceeding (33.1-23)
 - The Lord threatens to withdraw his Presence (1-4)
 - Tent of meeting with The Presence (7)
 - not the tabernacle
 - Moses commendable spirit and prayer focused on The Presence (12-16)

Restoration and Renewal

- Second 40 days on the mountain
- Moses' request to see God's glory (33.18-23)
- Renewal of the tablets of the Law (34)
- *Construction* of the Tabernacle (35-40)