

# SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

## AN OVERVIEW OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

JN. 5:39



Jn. 5:39 “**Search the scriptures....they are they which testify of me.**”

Jn. 5:46 For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for **he wrote of me.**

Rom. 15:4 For whatsoever things were **written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.**

Luke 24:44 And he said unto them, These *are* the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, **which were written in the law of Moses, and *in* the prophets, and *in* the psalms, concerning me.**

45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might **understand the scriptures,**

Last week, we observed in Ex. 17:4-7, the Lord Jesus being typified by the smiting of the rock in order to provide water for complaining Israel. Jesus, as the “smitten rock” was described in Isa. 53:4:

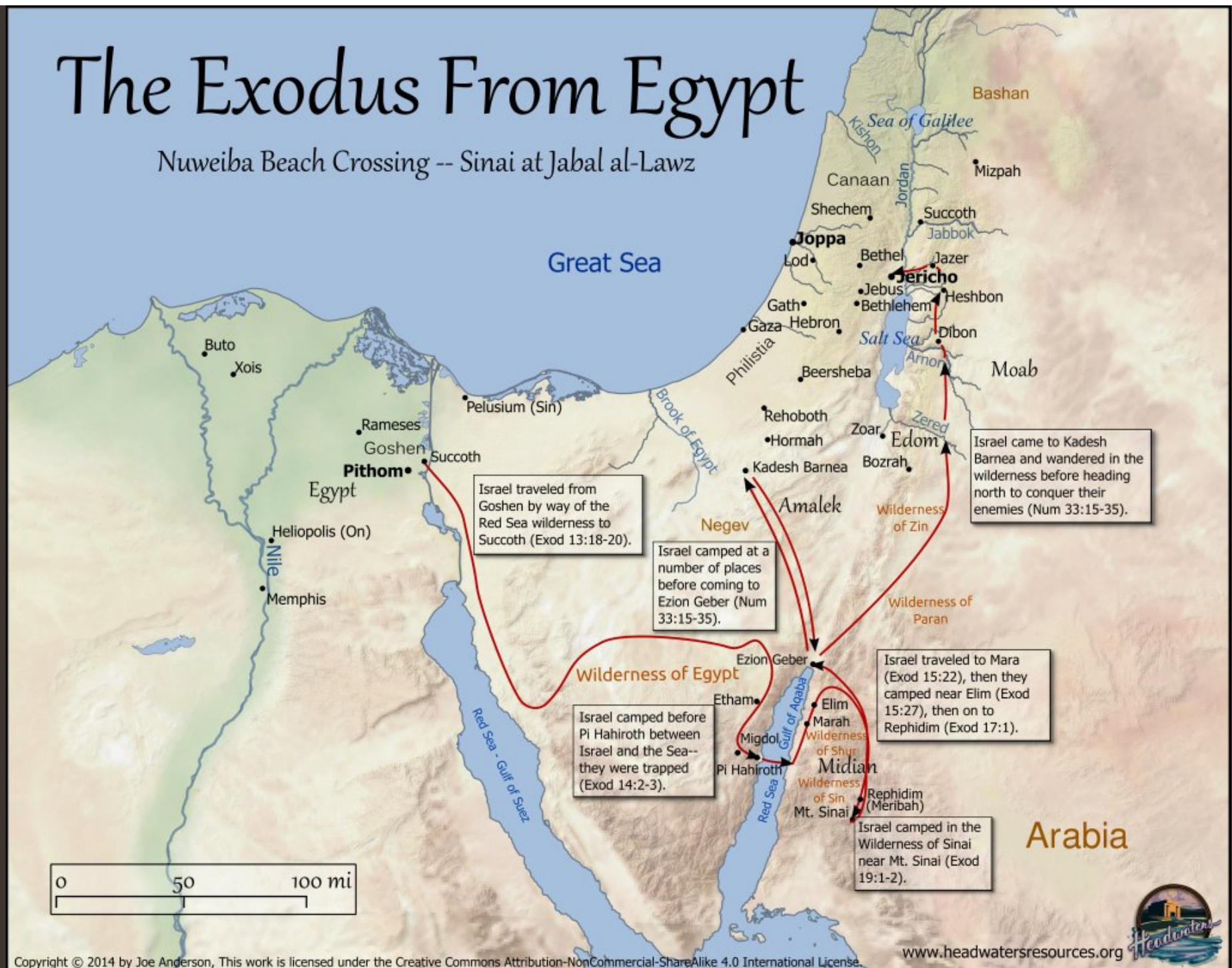
Isa. 53:4 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, **smitten of God**, and afflicted.

The children of Israel remained camped at Rephidim and while still enjoying the water from the rock, were attacked by the Amalekites.



# The Exodus From Egypt

Nuweiba Beach Crossing -- Sinai at Jabal al-Lawz



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I. THE INTERRUPTION, 17:1-3

II. THE INSTRUCTION, 17:4-7

From the redemption in Egypt, through the Red Sea and going into the wilderness, the children of Israel had the LORD fighting all their battles and providing miraculous intervention for their needs. While still at Rephidim, and enjoying God's provision of water from the rock, they were attacked by their distant relatives, the Amalekites, and required to fight.

Gen. 36:12 And Timna was concubine to Eliphaz **Esau's son**; and she bare to Eliphaz **Amalek**: these *were* the sons of Adah Esau's wife.

**Original Word:** עֲמָלֵק **Transliteration:** Amaleq

**Definition:** a descendant of Esau, also his posterity; "dweller in a valley"

<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/6002.htm>

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### III. THE INTERCESSION, 17:8-13

Ex. 17:8 Then came Amalek, and fought with Israel in Rephidim.

9 And Moses said unto Joshua, Choose us out men, and go out, fight with Amalek: to morrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in mine hand.



10 So Joshua did as Moses had said to him, and fought with Amalek: and Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill.

11 And it came to pass, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed: and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed.

12 But Moses' hands *were* heavy; and they took a stone, and put *it* under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun.

13 And **Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.**

❖ Amalek was the aggressor – “Then came Amalek...”

❖ Spiritual warfare is to be expected:

Jas. 1:2 My brethren, count it all joy **when** ye fall into divers temptations; ...

12 Blessed *is* the man that endureth temptation: for **when** he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

13 Let no man say **when** he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

1 Pet. 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, **seeking whom he may devour:**

Mt. 7:15 Beware of false prophets, **which come to you** in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

Eph. 6:11 Put on the whole armour of God, **that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.**

- ❖ The first time in the Word of God that we are introduced to Joshua is in 17:9.

17:9 And Moses said unto Joshua, Choose us out men, and go out, fight with Amalek: to morrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in mine hand.

- ❖ The name “Joshua” is synonymous with the name “Jesus.”

Acts 7:45 Which also our fathers that came after brought in with **Jesus** into the possession of the Gentiles, whom God drave out before the face of our fathers, unto the days of David;

Heb. 4:7 Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

8 For if **Jesus** had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day.

9 There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.

❖ When Joshua went into battle against Amalek, there was a cooperative effort along with Aaron, Hur, and Moses.





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- ❖ Moses lifting up his hands is a picture of intercessory prayer needed for spiritual battles.

1 Tim. 2:8 I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.

Eph. 6:18 **Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit**, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

- ❖ The value of fellowship within a local church is vitally important during times of battle.

❖ The weapon for victory was “the edge of the sword.”

Ex. 17:13 And **Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.**

Eph. 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and **the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:**

#### IV. THE INSPIRATION

Ex. 17:14 And the LORD said unto Moses, **Write this for a memorial in a book**, and rehearse *it* in the ears of Joshua: for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven.

15 And Moses built an altar, and called the name of it **Jehovahnissi:**

16 For he said, Because the LORD hath sworn *that* the LORD *will have* war with Amalek from generation to generation.

- ❖ The first time the word “write” is found in the Word of God is in Ex. 17:14.
- ❖ Joshua is also stated in Josh. 24:26 as writing in the Word of God.

Josh. 24:26 And **Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God**, and took a great stone, and set it up there under an oak, that *was* by the sanctuary of the LORD.

- ❖ Moses built an altar and named it “The Lord is my Banner” (Jehovah Nissi). Moses gives all glory to God here by proclaiming that the enemies came against God and that God would war against them “from generation to generation” (Exodus 17:16).



## Summary

- ❖ From the Exodus of Egypt until this point, God had fought for Israel. They had to fight Amalek on their own.
- ❖ After the smiting of the rock, and the drinking of the water, Amalek attacked, and Israel followed Joshua into battle.
- ❖ After a person is saved, spiritual warfare is to be expected and battles won by following Jesus.
- ❖ The battle against Amalek is a good picture of a believer's battle against the flesh.

1 Pet. 2:11 Dearly beloved, I beseech *you* as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from **fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;**

❖ Notice that Joshua “discomfited Amalek,” not destroyed him. There will be future battles with Amalek, just as believers have future battles with the flesh.

Ex. 17:13 And **Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.**

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17:9 And Moses said unto Joshua, Choose us out men, and go out, fight with Amalek: to morrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in mine hand.

- ❖ “Jesus” doesn’t show up in the Bible until the Rock was smitten.
- ❖ The introduction to Joshua includes him choosing out men for battle.
- ❖ Joshua meets the Captain of our salvation in a theophany before Jericho:

Josh. 5:13 And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, *Art* thou for us, or for our adversaries?

14 And he said, Nay; but *as* captain of the host of the LORD am I now come. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What saith my lord unto his servant?

15 And the captain of the LORD'S host said unto Joshua, Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest *is* holy. And Joshua did so.

- ❖ There is no mention of Joshua having a wife or children, which is another indication of a type of Christ.
- ❖ In the future, the Lord reminds Israel about Amalek's attack:

Deut. 25:17 Remember what Amalek did unto thee by the way, when ye were come forth out of Egypt;

18 How he met thee by the way, and smote the hindmost of thee, *even all that were* feeble behind thee, when thou *wast* faint and weary; and he feared not God.

19 Therefore it shall be, when the LORD thy God hath given thee rest from all thine enemies round about, in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee *for* an inheritance to possess it, *that* thou shalt blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven; thou shalt not forget *it*.



❖ Israel had trouble with Amalek's descendants for many years:

1 Sam. 15:32 Then said Samuel, Bring ye hither to me **Agag the king of the Amalekites**. And Agag came unto him delicately. And Agag said, Surely the bitterness of death is past.  
33 And Samuel said, As thy sword hath made women childless, so shall thy mother be childless among women. And Samuel hewed Agag in pieces before the LORD in Gilgal.

Est. 3:1 After these things did king Ahasuerus promote **Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite**, and advanced him, and set his seat above all the princes that *were* with him.

❖ Believers have battles with the flesh throughout their lives.

## Conclusion

Gal. 5:16 *This* I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

17 For **the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other:** so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

Psa. 119:9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? **by taking heed *thereto* according to thy word.**

Zech. 4:6 Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, *This is* the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, **Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.**