

Appendix F: Illustrations Concerning the Exodus

Evidence of the Crossing of the Red Sea

The following images were gathered from various Internet imagery sources, under such headings as "Crossing the Red Sea," "Israel and the Red Sea," "The Exodus," and the Web site, www.wyattmuseum.com.



In Exodus 14, the crossing of the Red Sea is one of the most exciting miracles to read. Here we find the nation of Israel walking through the Red Sea on dry ground for eleven miles, with water on both sides of them standing as much as 900 feet high. Then, when they had finished crossing, God closed the waters over their Egyptian enemies, who were pursuing them. Psalms 136:10-15 declares that this event is to stand in the hearts and minds of believers as a testimony to God's lovingkindness, which endures forever. Any evidence found supporting this event would be incredible testimony to the believer and unbeliever alike.



The image above shows the Exodus, looking from the western shore of Egypt (bottom of picture) toward the dry ground in the midst of the Red Sea as the people move toward the eastern shore (beyond top of picture).



(Above) The Exodus Route, with the crossing site in the Gulf of Aqaba (Red Sea).
 (Below) Looking through the western hills of Egypt toward the crossing site on the Red Sea.



Josephus gives an additional bit of information in his *Antiquities of the Jews*, Book 2, Chapter 15. Speaking of pharaoh's army pursuing the multitude, he states: "They also seized upon the passages by which they imagined the Hebrews might fly, shutting them up between the inaccessible precipices and the sea; for ... (their flight was obstructed)... wherefore they there pressed upon the Hebrews with their army, where [the ridges of] the mountains were closed with the sea... "



Exodus 14:9 (KJV) – "But the Egyptians pursued after them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, and his horsemen, and his army, and overtook them encamping by the sea, beside Pihahiroth, before Baal-zephon."

In the picture above (looking from north to south) the arrow indicates the path taken by the Israelites from between the hills to the right (west) of the Red Sea (Gulf of Aqaba) to the shore of the Sea.



Exodus 14:15 (KJV) – "And the Lord said unto Moses, 'Wherefore criest thou unto me? Speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward.'"

(Above) This is likely the view that the nation of Israel had as they stood on the beach with nowhere to go as the Egyptian army pressed down on them.

Pharaoh's Drowned Army



Confirmation of the actual Exodus route came when divers found coral-encrusted bones and chariot remains in the Gulf of Aqaba. One of the most dramatic records of Divine intervention in history is the account of the Hebrews' flight from Egypt. The subsequent drowning of the entire Egyptian army in the Red Sea was not an insignificant event, and confirmation of this event is compelling evidence that the biblical narrative is truly authentic. Over the years, many divers have searched the Gulf of Suez in vain for artifacts to verify the biblical account. But carefully following the biblical and historical records of the Exodus brings the searcher to Nuweiba, a large beach in the Gulf of Aqaba, as Ron Wyatt discovered in 1978.

Repeated dives, ranging from sixty to 200 feet deep (18-60m), over a stretch of almost 2.5km, has shown that the chariot parts are scattered across the seabed. Artifacts found include wheels and chariot bodies, as well as human and horse bones. Divers have located wreckage on the Saudi coastline opposite Nuweiba as well.

Since 1987, Ron Wyatt has found three gilded chariot wheels like the one shown above. Coral does not grow on gold, hence the shape has remained very distinct, although the wood inside the gold veneer has disintegrated, making them too fragile to move. The hope for future expeditions is to explore the deeper waters with remote cameras or mini-submersibles.



The photograph above shows one of the coral-encrusted chariot wheels, found off the Saudi coastline. It matches chariot wheels found in Tutankhamen's tomb (see photograph below) and is mute witness to the miracle of the crossing of the Red Sea by the Hebrews 3,500 years ago. Exodus 14:25 (KJV) - "He made the wheels of their chariots come off so that they had difficulty driving ... "

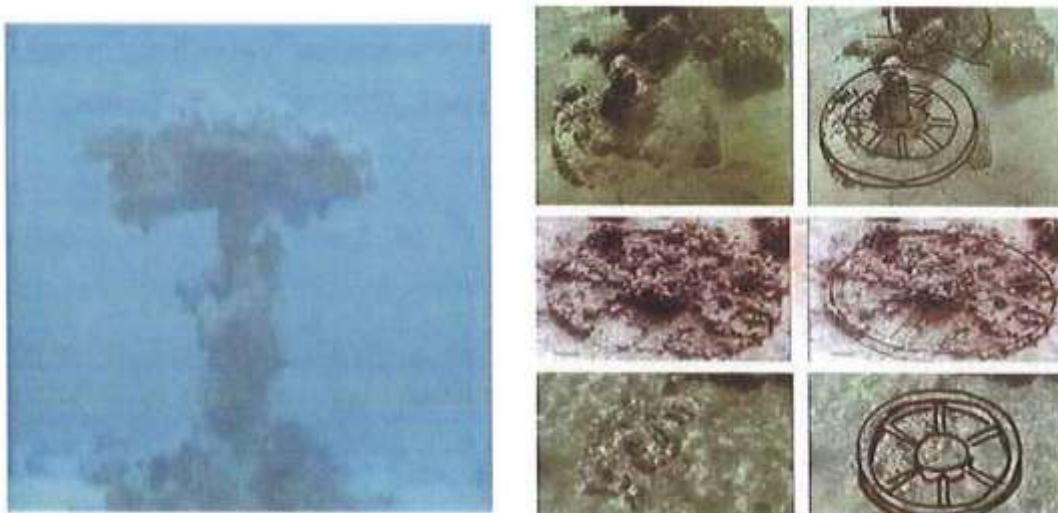


A picture of an actual Egyptian chariot, found in the tomb of King Tutankhamen.

The first image on this page shows a normal bone (left) and a mineralized bone (right), one of many found at the crossing site depicted on page. This mineralized bone, tested by the Department of Osteology at Stockholm University in Sweden, was found to be a human femur, from the right leg of a man approximately 165-170cm tall. It is essentially "fossilized," that is, replaced by minerals and coral, and thus cannot be dated by radiocarbon methods. It is evident, however, that this specimen dates from antiquity.



The images below show chariot wheels covered with coral. The image on the left shows an axle and wheels up-ended. The photographs on the right are shown with archaeologists' sketches superimposed to give a better idea of the shape and position of the wheels and spokes.



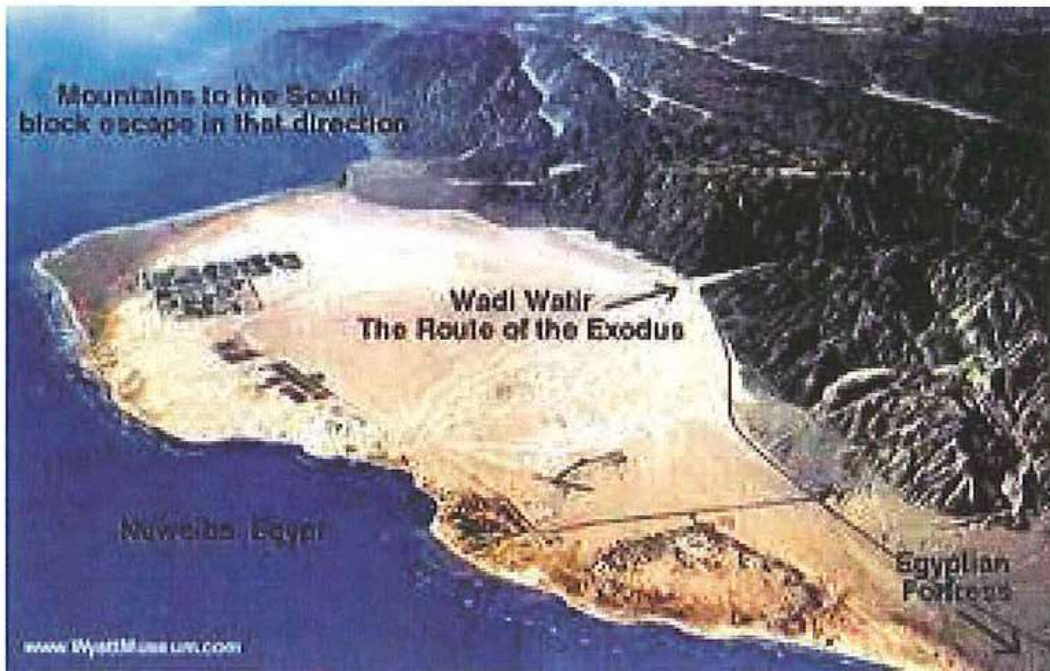
Solomon's Memorial Pillars

When Ron Wyatt first visited Nuweiba in 1978, he found a Phoenician-style column lying in the water. Unfortunately, the inscriptions had been eroded away, hence the column's importance was not understood until 1984, when a second granite column was found on the opposite Saudi coastline. It was identical to the first column, except that on this one, the inscription was still intact.

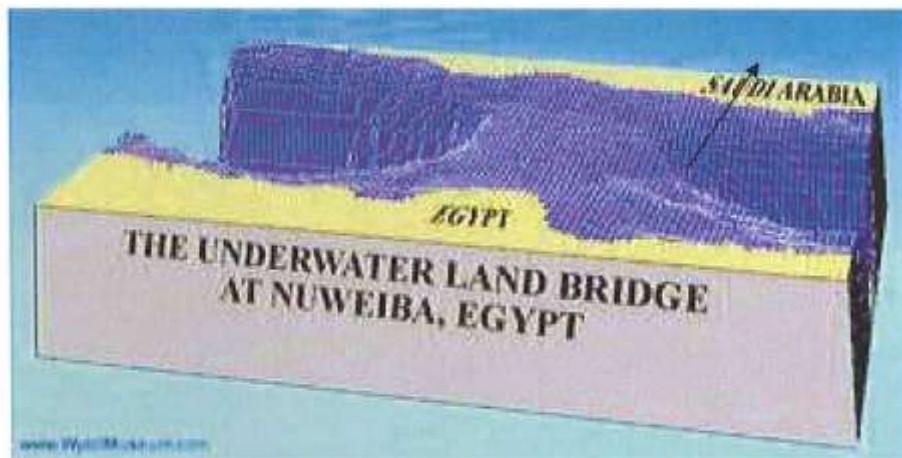


In Phoenician letters (Archaic Hebrew), it contained the following words: Mizraim (Egypt); Solomon; Edom; death; Pharaoh; Moses; and Yahweh. These words indicate that King Solomon had set up these columns as a memorial to the miracle of the crossing of the Red Sea. Saudi Arabia does not admit tourists, and perhaps fearing unauthorized visitors, the Saudi authorities have since removed this column and have replaced it with a flag marker where it once stood.

How Deep is the Water?

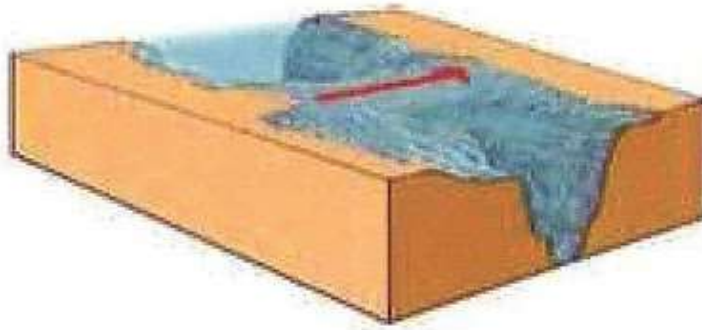


The Gulf of Aqaba is very deep, in places over a mile (1,600m). Even with the sea dried up, walking across would be difficult due to the steep grade down the sides. But there is one spot where, if the water were removed, it would be an easy descent for people and animals. This is the line between Nuweiba, in Egypt, and the opposite shore in Saudi Arabia.



Depth-sounding expeditions have revealed a smooth, gentle slope descending from Nuweiba out into the Gulf of Aqaba. This shows up almost like a pathway on depth-recording equipment, confirming its biblical description as "...a way through the sea, a path through the mighty waters" (Isaiah 43:16). The biblical writers frequently refer to the miracle of the Red Sea crossing, for it was an event which finds no equal in history.

The Hebrew prophets describe the sea at the crossing site as "...the waters of the great deep...a road in the depths of the sea..." (Isaiah 51 :16). Knowing the exact spot to which the Bible writers refer, what is the depth there? The distance between Nuweiba, Egypt, and the place where artifacts have been found on the Saudi coast (the biblical Baal-Zephon) is about eleven miles (18km). Along this line, the deepest point is about 2,600 feet (800m). It is no wonder that the Bible's inspired writers described it as the might waters. Nor is it any wonder that not a single Egyptian survived when the water collapsed in upon them.



In the image directly above, notice that the Saudi Arabian side of the Red Sea (right) has a beach area of similar size and shape as that of Nuweiba in Egypt (left).

"Scientific Study Proves (the) Exodus (was An) Historical Event"
(Quoted article from The Washington Times, November 28, 2010)

"(There is) Good news for Christians this season from Colorado State (University) researchers. Recent reports in USA Today and Telegraph citing a new US computer modeling study indicate the historical accuracy of the story of Exodus. In 1628 B.C., Thera, a large volcanic island in the Aegean Sea, erupted, causing the parting of the Red Sea. Only a thin shell of the island was left, which today is called Santorini.

"An important island trading civilization, that some have identified as ancient Atlantis, disappeared along with most of the land that had long been called home by a people who have largely disappeared. A distinct culture was snuffed out in that instant.

"Most, if not all, of the civilizations that bordered the eastern half of the Mediterranean (Sea) were disrupted. Some disappeared. Others fell into a rapid decline, sometime either at the beginning or just before the Mycenaean era of Greek history.

"In 1580 B.C., Jericho was destroyed. According to the carbon dating method of discovering the age of archaeological artifacts, a fiery conflagration coupled with probably seismic activity were the agents. This event occurred (forty-eight) years after the island of Thera disappeared. Within the Egyptian 'Kings' chronology, upon which most, if not all, ancient history dating has been based, an anomaly has been discovered. This accidental misreading of the order of succession of the Pharaohs has moved the dating of most events, reliant on this system, ahead in time by approximately four hundred years.

"Correction of this anomaly would make the explosion of Thera and the Exodus concurrent events. The close proximity of these occurrences is the basis for an enthralling and charismatic retelling of Exodus."

Gilding, Albert E., Sr. The Exodus According to G. Elderberry Press: n/d. ISBN: 978-1-934956-30-4.

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