

Israel's Deliverance from Egypt

ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE FROM EGYPT

Moses and Aaron had spoken With Pharaoh for the last time. They told him that God would bring one final plague upon the Egyptians. Moses and Aaron then returned to Goshen, where the Israelites lived.

THE LAST PLAGUE— DEATH OF THE FIRSTBORN

Moses gave the Israelites God's instructions concerning the last plague and how they could be spared from it. "A man from each family is to select a healthy, male lamb on the tenth day of the first month [Abib]. You are to keep the lamb penned up until the fourteenth day of the same month. Then it is to be killed in the evening and its blood smeared on the doorposts of your houses.

"The lamb is to be roasted whole and eaten with bitter herbs and unleavened bread. You are to eat it quickly," Moses continued.

"You are to be dressed as though you were about to take a long journey. Your shoes are to be on your feet and your staff in your hand. But no one is to leave his house until the morning.

"That night is the Lord's Passover. God will send an angel through the land of Egypt to kill all the firstborn of man and animals.

"But the angel will not harm the firstborn of your families, if you do as God has commanded. When the angel sees the blood on the doorposts, he will *pass over* your houses.

"This day shall be kept as a *memorial* throughout all your generations," instructed Moses.

WORD STUDY

Write the meanings of the following words on the lines below. Use a dictionary if you need help.

1. UNLEAVENED _____

2. MEMORIAL _____



On the fourteenth of Abib, each Israelite family roasted and ate the lamb as God had commanded. At midnight, the death angel went throughout the land of Egypt killing all the firstborn who were not protected, from Pharaoh's son to the firstborn of animals.

The land of Egypt was filled with great sorrow and crying. But, all was quiet in Goshen where the Israelites lived.

That night, Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron and said, "Get out, all of you! Go and worship your God. Take your sheep, your goats and your cattle!"

Pharaoh and the Egyptians were afraid they would die next. Now they wanted the Israelites to leave quickly.

THE EXODUS BEGINS

The Israelites went to the Egyptians, who gave them gold, silver and clothing. Then they loaded their animals with all they could carry. The people carried their unleavened dough with them.

Many other people, who were not Israelites, wanted to leave Egypt too. About two and one-half million people left that night (the fifteenth of Abib). They took all their belongings with them. They also took the bones of Joseph who had died many years before while in Egypt.

The Israelites held a joyous celebration that night as God had instructed. What is the name of this celebration?

The next morning God provided a pillar of a cloud to lead the Israelites. When the cloud moved, the people followed. When it stopped, they stopped.

At night, the cloud became a pillar of fire which gave them light.



CROSSING THE RED SEA

The Israelites noticed that the cloud was leading them toward the Red Sea. Many of them were concerned. It appeared that they would be blocked by the sea and mountains that were ahead.

Back in Egypt, Pharaoh was sorry for having allowed the Israelites to leave. He wanted them back as slaves.

"Send our fastest chariots after the Israelites and bring them back!" Pharaoh ordered. "They are trapped between the mountains and sea, and can be easily overtaken." The Israelites saw the advancing army as it neared their camp by the Red Sea. Fear quickly spread throughout the camp. The people began complaining to Moses.

"We never wanted to leave Egypt. We'd be better off there than to be murdered here!" they said. Were the Israelites trusting God? _____.

"Don't worry," said Moses. "God has promised to take care of us!"

Moses prayed to God for help and God told him what to do. Moses told the Israelites that they had seen the Egyptians for



the last time!

That night, the pillar of fire gave light to the Israelites, but to the Egyptians it was a cloud of darkness. The Egyptians could not see the Israelite camp.

As God had instructed, Moses held out his rod toward the Red Sea. Suddenly, a strong east wind began to blow. It grew stronger and stronger! It blew on the waters with a force that divided the sea! To the left and right were very high walls of water.

The next morning the Israelites were able to cross the Red Sea on dry ground!

FREEDOM AT LAST!

The Egyptian army followed the Israelites into the Red Sea. They charged in, but soon their chariot wheels were jammed. The army became confused.

"Let's go back," said some of the Egyptians. "God is for Israel and against us!" But it was too late.

The Israelites, now safely on the opposite shore, watched Moses as he held out his rod toward the sea. The waters suddenly came crashing together! The Egyptians were crushed by the walls of water and were covered by the Red Sea.

After seeing this great miracle that God performed, Moses and the children of Israel sang a song. It was a song of praise to God for all the mighty things He had done to deliver them from the Egyptians.

Then Miriam, the sister of Moses and Aaron, took a timbrel and all the women joined her in dancing and singing. There was much celebration and happiness on this last (seventh) Day of Unleavened Bread.

The Israelites then traveled for three days and came to a place called Marah. They were very thirsty and began to drink the water there.

(Continued on page 8)

ISRAEL IN THE WILDERNESS GAME

Object of the game Lead the Israelites from Pharaoh and slavery in the land of Egypt by taking them through the Red Sea, on through the desert of the Sinai Peninsula and finally to Mt. Sinai where God gave them His Ten Commandments.

Setting up the game First, cut out the playing cards (white) and tokens (gray) from the bottom of pages 6 and 7. Then place the tokens on the playing board in their proper squares and place the playing cards in a container (cup or bowl). Each person may use any small object (coin or button) as a playing piece to represent the children of Israel. (The game may be played by one to four players.)

Playing the game Before starting the game, each person must draw a playing card. The person with the highest number goes first, followed by the person to his left and so on around the board. Each person takes his or her turn by drawing a card and then returning it to the container.

To begin play, draw a playing card and move your playing piece the number of spaces shown on the card. When you land on a numbered space, answer

Questions and Statements

- 1. Pharaoh ruled the land of _____ where the ____ were in captivity.
- 2. The Israelites kept the _____ before leaving Egypt. God's people are to keep it today as a _____.
- 3. What happened on the night of the Passover?
- 4. The Israelites followed a pillar of a _____ during the day and a pillar of _____ by night.
- 5. God parted the _____ when ____ held out his rod.
- 6. Moses led the people of Israel through the sea on dry ____
- celebrated the last day of _____.
- 8. At Marah, God sweetened the bitter water water.
- 9. God was leading Israel to the _____ Land.

MOVE

10. At Elim, there were twelve wells of _____ and seventy ____

- ESCAPE FROM START £. PICK
- 11. In the wilderness, God sent _ _, which means, "_____ ___?"
- 12. The people were not to gather manna on the ____ day.
- 13. At Rephidim, what did God tell Moses to do to obtain water for the people?
- 14. Before reaching Mt. Sinai the Israelites were attacked by an army of _____.
- 15. ____ was given the responsibility of leading Israel's army against the Amalekites.
- 16. What did Moses do to help them win the battle?
- 17. _____ and _____ held up the arms and hands of Moses.
- 18. Mt. Sinai is located in the _____ Peninsula.
- 7. After crossing the Red Sea, the Israelites 19. You are not far from Mt. Sinai, but because you have complained about not receiving water you must go back two spaces.
 - after Moses threw a _____ into the 20. God wrote the Ten Commandments on two tables of ____
 - 21. God led the Israelites to Mt. Sinai where He gave them His Ten Commandments. In your own words, name the commandments.





MOVE



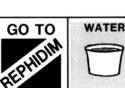


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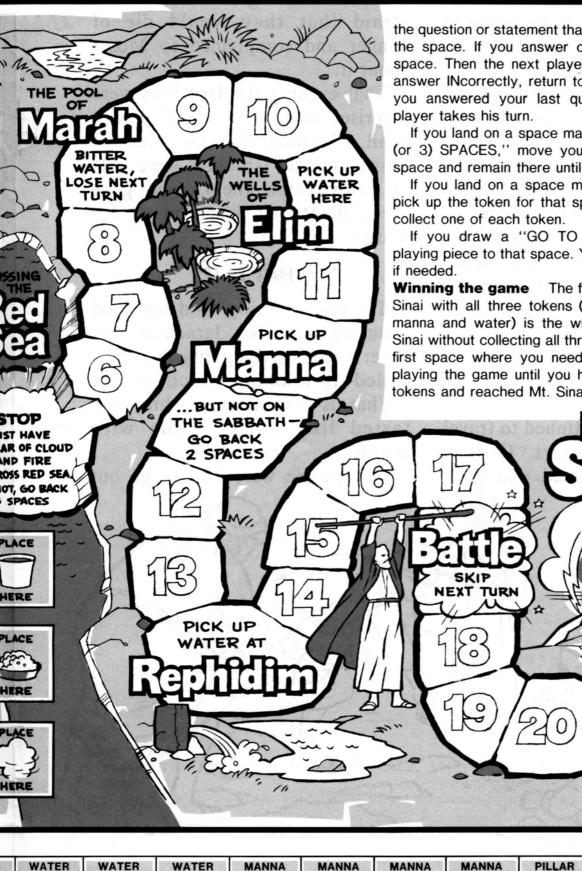
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IF NOT, GO



the question or statement that matches the number in the space. If you answer correctly, remain in the space. Then the next player takes his turn. If you answer INcorrectly, return to the space from which you answered your last question. Then the next

If you land on a space marked, "... GO BACK 2 (or 3) SPACES," move your playing piece to that space and remain there until your next turn.

If you land on a space marked "PICK UP ..., pick up the token for that space. You need only to

If you draw a "GO TO ... " card, move your playing piece to that space. You may collect a token

The first person to reach Mt. Sinai with all three tokens (pillar of cloud and fire, manna and water) is the winner. If you reach Mt. Sinai without collecting all three tokens, return to the first space where you need a token and continue playing the game until you have collected all three tokens and reached Mt. Sinai.

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OUD AND FIRE To their dismay, the water was very bitter. "What are we going to drink?" they said, complaining to Moses.

Moses asked God what to do. God showed him a tree and told him to throw it into the water. Moses obeyed and the waters became sweet! God had performed another miracle for His people.

Then God said to the people of Israel, "If you will obey me, I will put none of the diseases upon you that have fallen upon the Egyptians."

Traveling on, the Israelites came to Elim where there were twelve wells of water and seventy palm trees.

The Israelites continued to travel deeper into the desert. Over a month had now passed and their food was running low. They were afraid that they would die of hunger and complained to Moses about it.

That evening the Israelites were surprised to see the sky filled with quail. The quail flew low over the camp, and the Israelites were able to easily catch them. God gave them plenty of fresh meat for dinner!

WHAT IS IT?

The next morning, God sent food from heaven. The Israelites had never seen anything like it. They called it *manna*, which means "What is it?" It was white and tasted like wafers made with honey.

The people were told to go out



each morning and gather the amount of manna they could eat in one day. However, they were not to save any for the following day. But on the sixth day of the week, they were to gather enough for two days because God would not send any on the Sabbath, the seventh day. God wanted them to rest on the Sabbath.

Do you think everyone followed God's instructions? _____.

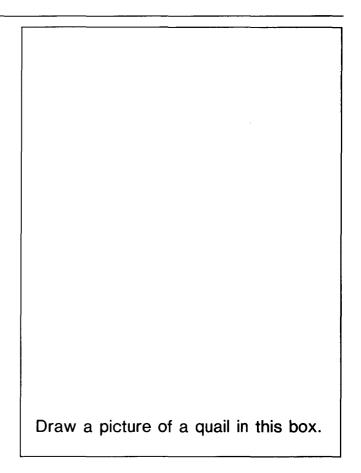
Some of the Israelites saved manna in their tents overnight.

"What is that terrible odor?" they asked the next morning. The manna had rotted and was full of worms. Everyone who disobeyed had this terrible odor in their tents.

But when the Israelites kept the manna overnight on the Sabbath, it did not have a bad odor. On the morning of the Sabbath, the manna was just as fresh as it had been when it was gathered on the morning of the sixth day.

Some people disobeyed God's instructions by going out to gather manna on the Sabbath. But there was none to be found.

Then God said to Moses, "How long will the people refuse to keep My commandments and My laws?" God was very angry with the people because of their disobe-



dience, but He was also very merciful to them.

God commanded the Israelites to put some manna in a container and keep it. Their descendants would be able to see how God fed them in the wilderness.

WATER FROM THE ROCK

The Israelites traveled to a place called Rephidim. But there was no water there for them to drink! What do you think they did? _____

[&]quot;Why did you bring us here to kill us by thirst?" they demanded of Moses.



Moses became discouraged. He did not know what to do with these complaining people. He talked to God about the problem. God told him to take his rod and strike a large rock. When he did, clear water began pouring out for all to drink.

THE AMALEKITES ATTACK

While the Israelites were camped, they were being spied on by the Amalekites. These people came from the family of Esau. Who was Esau?

Since the Israelites came from

Jacob, the Amalekites were their distant cousins.

Joshua was given the responsibility of leading the army against the Amalekites. The Amalekites attacked the next morning. The battle lasted most of the day.

During the battle, Moses stood on a nearby hill, holding his rod high in the air. The battle went in favor of the Israelites as long as Moses' arms were held toward heaven. But whenever his arms became tired and he lowered them, the Israelites did poorly.

Moses' arms grew weary, so Aaron and Hur each held up one of



his arms and kept them steady until sunset. God caused the Israelites to win a great victory over the Amalekites.

Soon the Israelites would reach Mt. Sinai where God was to give them the Ten Commandments, written on two tables of stone. Our next lesson will describe what occurred at Mt. Sinai.

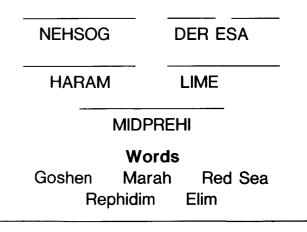
Do You Remember?

- 1. Passover is on the fourteenth day of the month of
- 2. The Days of Unleavened Bread last _____ days.

- 3. What did God have Moses do at Marah to make the bitter water sweet?
- 4. There were _____ wells and _____ palm trees at Elim.
- 5. What food did God send from heaven? _____.
- 6. When were the Israelites to gather this food? _____.
- 7. What happened if this food were kept overnight?
- 8. But did that happen on the Sabbath? _____.
- 9. Who were the Amalekites?
- 10. Who held up Moses' arms? ______ and _____.

SCRAMBLED PLACES

Unscramble the following sets of letters to form names of some of the places where the Israelites had been.



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BIBLE MEMORY Ten Commandments

You shall have no other gods before God. You shall not make any graven image of God. You shall not take His name in vain. Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. You shall honor your father and mother. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not lie. You shall not covet what is your neighbor's.

