

## Exodus 13

Verses 1-2

**Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Sanctify to me every firstborn, the first offspring of every womb among the sons of Israel, both of man and beast; it belongs to me.”**

When a Jewish woman gives birth to her first-born son the father is obligated to redeem the child

The father “buys” his son from the priest to redeem him

The redemption price for firstborn non-Levites was set at 5 shekels

See Numbers 3:44-47

The firstborn animals were to be sacrificed.

The exception to this was the donkey which was an unclean animal

Verses 3-10

**<sup>3</sup> Moses said to the people, “Remember this day in which you went out from Egypt, from the house of slavery; for by a powerful hand the Lord brought you out from this place. And nothing leavened shall be eaten. <sup>4</sup> On this day in the month of Abib, you are about to go forth. <sup>5</sup> It shall be when the Lord brings you to the land of the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Amorite, the Hivite and the Jebusite, which He swore to your fathers to give you, a land flowing with milk and honey, that you shall observe this rite in this month. <sup>6</sup> For seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, and on the seventh day there shall be a feast to the Lord. <sup>7</sup> Unleavened bread shall be eaten throughout the seven days; and nothing leavened shall be seen among you, nor shall any leaven be seen among you in all your borders. <sup>8</sup> You shall tell your son on that day, saying, ‘It is because of what the Lord did for me when I came out of Egypt.’ <sup>9</sup> And it shall serve as a sign to you on your hand, and as a reminder on your forehead, that the law of the Lord may be in your mouth; for with a powerful hand the Lord brought you out of Egypt. <sup>10</sup> Therefore, you shall keep this ordinance at its appointed time from year to year.**

**It shall be when the Lord brings you to the land of the Canaanite, that you shall observe this rite in this month.**

Most of this paragraph is a repeat of chapter 12; however, two important details have been added

The Feast of unleavened bread, which included the Passover, was to be observed after the Israelites were settled in Canaan

The original group that left Egypt knew from experience what had happened and they would remember it the rest of their lives

However, future generations would need to be told of the events that took place

And God wanted it to be a yearly reminder of what he had done

**And it shall serve as a sign to you on your hand, and as a reminder on your forehead**

The Jews use four O.T. texts from which phylacteries are made

Exodus 13:1-10

Exodus 13:11-16

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Deuteronomy 11:13-21

These passages were written on pieces of parchment and made into compact little rolls which were encased in tiny boxes

They were worn on the forehead and fastened to the left arm above the elbow

The hand phylactery has one compartment with the texts written on a single parchment

The head phylactery has four compartments, each with one text.

See Video 1305 Tefillin (phylacteries)

<http://www.levickfamily.com/9.1.html>

See pics 1310      Tefillin (phylacteries)



## **That the law of the Lord may be in your mouth**

God wanted his words to be remembered, on the tips of their tongue

However, there is no evidence that this was practiced until much later in their history.

Verses 11-16

**"<sup>11</sup> “Now when the Lord brings you to the land of the Canaanite, as He swore to you and to your fathers, and gives it to you, <sup>12</sup> you shall devote to the Lord the first offspring of every womb, and the first offspring of every beast that you own; the males belong to the Lord. <sup>13</sup> But every first offspring of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, but if you do not redeem *it*, then you shall break its neck; and every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. <sup>14</sup> And it shall be when your son asks you in time to come, saying, ‘What is this?’ then you shall say to him, ‘With a powerful hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery. <sup>15</sup> It came about, when Pharaoh was stubborn about letting us go, that the Lord killed every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of beast. Therefore, I sacrifice to the Lord the males, the first offspring of every womb, but every firstborn of my sons I redeem.’ <sup>16</sup> So it shall serve as a sign on your hand and as phylacteries on your forehead, for with a powerful hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt.”**

**Now when the Lord brings you to the land of the Canaanite, you shall devote to the Lord the first offspring of every womb**

The regulation pertaining to the first-born was to be observed after the Israelites were settled in Canaan and it included both humans and animals

They entered Canaan after 40 years in the wilderness but it would take another 7 years to end the war and 7 more years to parcel out the land.

**But every first offspring of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb**

The firstborn of clean animals (cattle, sheep, goats) were to be sacrificed

See Numbers 18:15 - 17

The firstborn of unclean animals (donkey) were to be redeemed by sacrificing a lamb

**And every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem.**

The firstborn sons of Israel were redeemed by their parents for five shekels (about two ounces of silver)

See Numbers 3:44-47

There were two legal requirements of the Law involved in making the trip to the temple

1. The mother was considered unclean for forty days after giving birth to a son.

See Leviticus 12:1-4

The woman was to bring a sin offering and a burnt offering.

2. The second requirement was the redemption of the firstborn son

This is what is meant by the phrase to present him to the Lord.

Joseph and Mary observed this custom

See Luke 2:27

**It came about, when Pharaoh was stubborn about letting us go, that the Lord killed every firstborn in the land of Egypt. Therefore, I sacrifice to the Lord the males, the first offspring of every womb, but every firstborn of my sons I redeem**

During the Passover God passed over the Israelites and did not kill the firstborn male of man or beast

Since God spared them all future generations were expected to offer them to the Lord

Animals were sacrificed and first born sons were redeemed

There were 3 memorials to commemorate their deliverance from bondage

1. The Passover
2. The Feast of Unleavened Bread
3. The Sanctification or Consecration of the first-born

**So it shall serve as a sign on your hand and as phylacteries on your forehead, for with a powerful hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt.**

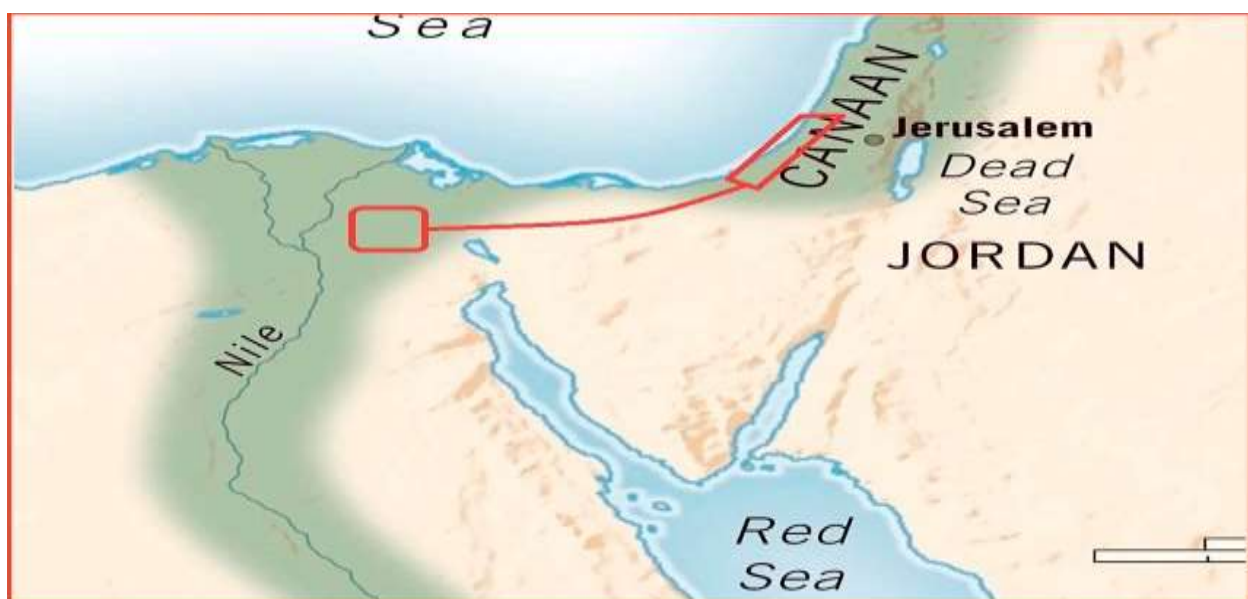
Originally Tefillin were worn all day, but not during the night. Now the prevailing custom is to wear them during the daily morning service only.

Verses 17-22

**<sup>17</sup> Now when Pharaoh had let the people go, God did not lead them by the way of the land of the Philistines, even though it was near; for God said, “The people might change their minds when they see war, and return to Egypt.” <sup>18</sup> Hence God led the people around by the way of the wilderness to the Red Sea; and the sons of Israel went up in martial array from the land of Egypt. <sup>19</sup> Moses took the bones of Joseph with him, for he had made the sons of Israel solemnly swear, saying, “God will surely take care of you, and you shall carry my bones from here with you.” <sup>20</sup> Then they set out from Succoth and camped in Etham on the edge of the wilderness. <sup>21</sup> The Lord was going before them in a pillar of cloud by day to lead them on the way, and in a pillar of fire by night to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night. <sup>22</sup> He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people.**

**God did not lead them by the way of the land of the Philistines**

See pic 1320



From Succoth in Egypt to Philistia in Canaan was about 160 miles

The Israelites could have been in Canaan within days if not for their fear

But the Israelites were not ready to face the conflict of war because they had been sheltered from this as slaves in Egypt

We also know this generation will never see Canaan because of their lack of faith

Secular historians say the Philistines didn't appear in Canaan until the 12<sup>th</sup> century BC

But God says they were there during the Exodus in 1446 BC

Man's understanding of history is very limited and often based on dating methods that are not reliable

**Hence God led the people around by the way of the wilderness to the Red Sea**

See pic 1325      The Red Sea



How did the Red Sea get its name?

Normally, the Red Sea is an intense blue-green

Occasionally, however, it is populated by massive blooms of algae

Which, upon dying off, turn the sea a reddish brown color

At its northern end, the Red Sea splits into two parts; the Gulf of Suez on the left and the Gulf of Aquabah on the right.

See map 1330



Israel was lead to the Gulf of Aquabah on the right side



## The sons of Israel went up in martial array

There is some debate about what this means

Some think they marched in a way that resembled an army going to battle

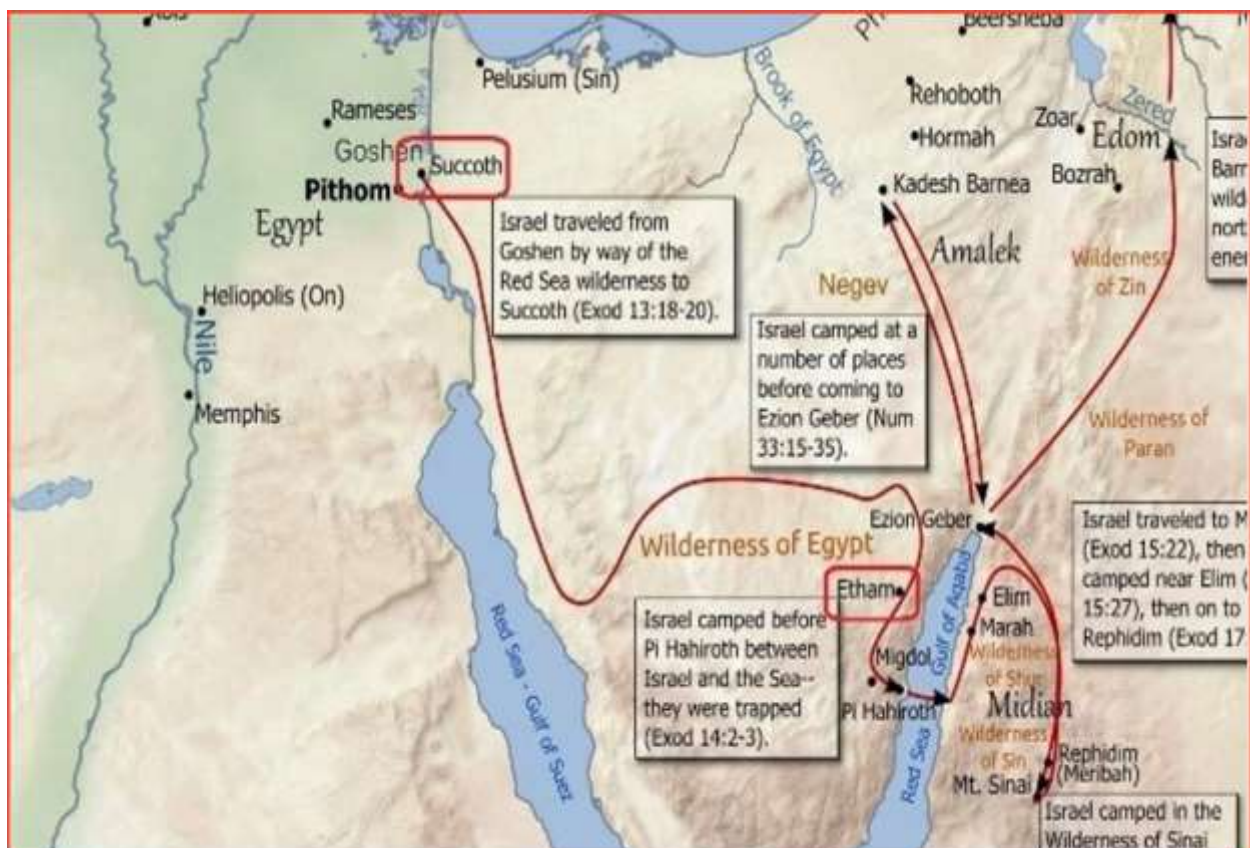
The Israelites were not ready to fight the Philistines but they might have been prepared to defend themselves to some degree

## Moses took the bones of Joseph with him

See Genesis 50:25

## Then they set out from Succoth and camped in Etham on the edge of the wilderness

See map 1335



**The Lord was going before them in a pillar of cloud by day to lead them on the way**

The pillar of cloud showed them the way and it may have given them some protection from the hot sun

**And in a pillar of fire by night to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night.**

Traveling at night with 3 million people and their herds of animals would have been impossible without this light.