

SUNDAY 8TH JANUARY 2023.

- TRANSITION:
- **‘Don’t get stuck in your transitions’**
- Deuteronomy 2:

- Life is full of change and transitions. Many times, transition exposes cracks in our journey, in our faith and in areas where we're not fully trusting God. But through the difficulty of change, we can still rely on God.

Today we are going to look at the story of Moses and the Israelites from the Bible who experienced seasons of transition and trials of life. These families experienced times of frustration, pain, suffering, and difficult questions.

- We too experience these seasons of transition, and it's vital that we rely on God when life gets tough.
- During these times of transitions, knowing the time **'To move Forward'** is very important.

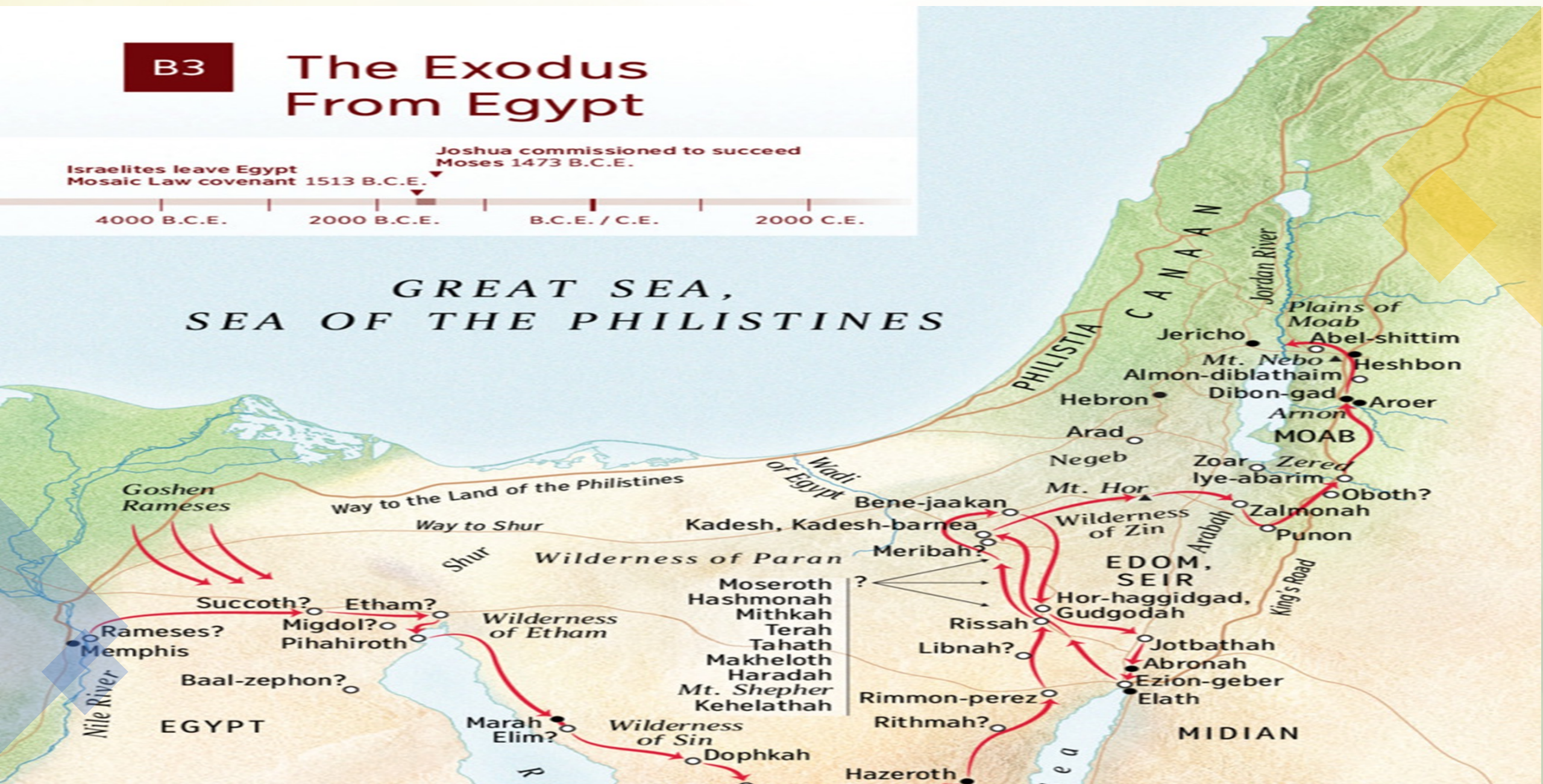
Moses was now 120 years old, and the promised land lay ahead. He had led the Israelites out of captivity from Egypt and through the wilderness to receive God's law at mount Sinai,

- Because of Israel's disobedience in refusing to enter the land of Canaan (Numbers 14:4), which God had promised them, they wandered aimlessly between Kadesh-Barnea and Zered Valley for 38 years.

- Deuteronomy 2 records Israel's first act of obedience since they left Sinai. After remaining "in Kadesh many days" (Deuteronomy 1:46), the people finally decided to obey God's previous command to "turn around and set out for the wilderness by the way of the Red Sea" (1:40).

B3

The Exodus From Egypt



Deuteronomy 2:1-3.

- Then we turned back and set out toward the wilderness along the route to the Red Sea, as the Lord had directed me. For a long time, we made our way around the hill country of Seir. 2 Then the Lord said to me, 3 “You have made your way around this hill country long enough; now turn north.

1)Keep moving, it's a new season, it's a new year.

a)There's only one way to go through a transition – and that's to keep moving!
Don't stop.

b)You have been on this mountain for too long.

c)The revival of 2001 was good, but God is inviting you into a new revival.

- The Israelites had so many encounters during this transition with God, but God was inviting them into a new season.
- God is doing a new thing today.

d) Sometimes transition can be painful. It can be hard to be hopeful during a transition – especially when the destination is unclear.

e) It can be hard to trust when God's promises take longer to come about than we want.

Sometimes transition messes with our expectations and can ruin our contentment.

2) Embrace the Process. *Verse 4-6*

- Give the people these orders: ‘You are about to pass through the territory of your relatives the descendants of Esau, who live in Seir. They will be afraid of you but be very careful.

5 Do not provoke them to war, for I will not give you any of their land, not even enough to put your foot on. I have given Esau the hill country of Seir as his own. 6 You are to pay them in silver for the food you eat and the water you drink.””

a) Hey, what happened to the free manna and the free water from the rock? Now you want us to pay? God, I don't understand you anymore.

b) Many of us get stuck because we don't like the process.

3) Remember the Lord's presence. *Verse 7.* The Lord your God has blessed you in all the work of your hands. He has watched over your journey through this vast wilderness. These forty years the Lord your God has been with you, and you have not lacked anything.

a) Its very hard to see God especially when you're going through hard times.

b) The Lord reminded the Israelites rather than conquering the land of the Edomites or provoking them in any ways, the Israelites were to engage in honest trade with them. God specifically stated,
“You shall buy food from them with money so that you may eat, and you shall also purchase water from them with money so that you may drink.”

(2:5-6)

c) So, He encouraged His people to press on toward Canaan by reminding them of the many blessings they received from Him, stating “*For the LORD your God has blessed you in all that you have done; He has known your wanderings through this great wilderness.*” During that difficult time, the Israelites had not lacked a thing because the LORD their God had been with them.

Conclusion:

- God is inviting you to move into what He called you to do. Jesus said that “*Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.*” (Luke 22:42) some transitions are not easy, some of us God has been calling us into a new season, maybe ministry.

- For others this mountain has been so big and wide, this mountain has cleaned your bank account, it has isolated you from your friends, and now it is stopping you from your Canaan. Your prayer life is dead because of this mountain.

- Transitions are not always easy. In fact, most of the time they are painful. But transition is also necessary. It is a vital and inevitable part of our lives. Everything is in a constant state of transition. The greatest transition is our way to our Canaan.
- Are you stuck at your Kadesh Barnea? Israel was there for 38 years.

- Paul said in II Corinthians 3:18 (NASB) that we are transitioning into Christ's image from "glory to glory." Jeremiah told the nation of Moab that unlike Israel they had not transitioned from "vessel to vessel" and, therefore, retained a sinful taste and scent before God (Jeremiah 48:11).