

The Mountain  
of ʼʼʼʼʼ

# The Mountain of אֱלֹהִים in Midian Arabia

- Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro... of Midian... led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of Elohiym to Horeb... And the angel of אֱלֹהִים appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush... When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve Elohiym upon this mountain. (Exodus 3:1-2/12)
- And אֱלֹהִים said to Aaron, Go into the wilderness to meet Moses. And he went, and met him in the mount of Elohiym... (Exodus 4:27)
- They... come to the desert of Sinai... and there Israel camped before the mount. (Exodus 19:2)
- ...Elijah... arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of Elohiym. And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of אֱלֹהִים came to him... (1 Kings 19:2/8-9)
- I Esdras received a charge of אֱלֹהִים upon the mount Oreb, that I should go unto Israel; but when I came unto them, they set me at nought, and despised the commandment of אֱלֹהִים. (2 Esdras 2:33)
- Neither went I up to Jerusalem... but I went into Arabia, and returned again unto Damascus... mount Sinai in Arabia... (Galatians 1:17/ 4:25)

# Eloth On The Red Sea

- And I will set thy bounds from the Red sea... (Exodus 23:31)
- And king Solomon made a navy of ships in Eziongeber, which is beside **Eloth, on the shore of the Red sea**, in the land of Edom. And Hiram sent in the navy his servants, shipmen that had knowledge of the sea, with the servants of Solomon. And they came to Ophir, and fetched from thence gold... and brought it to king Solomon. (1 Kings 9:26-28)
  - Eloth (H359, אלות), town and harbor, northeast arm of the Red Sea, hence called Ianic Gulf (Gulf of Aqaba)

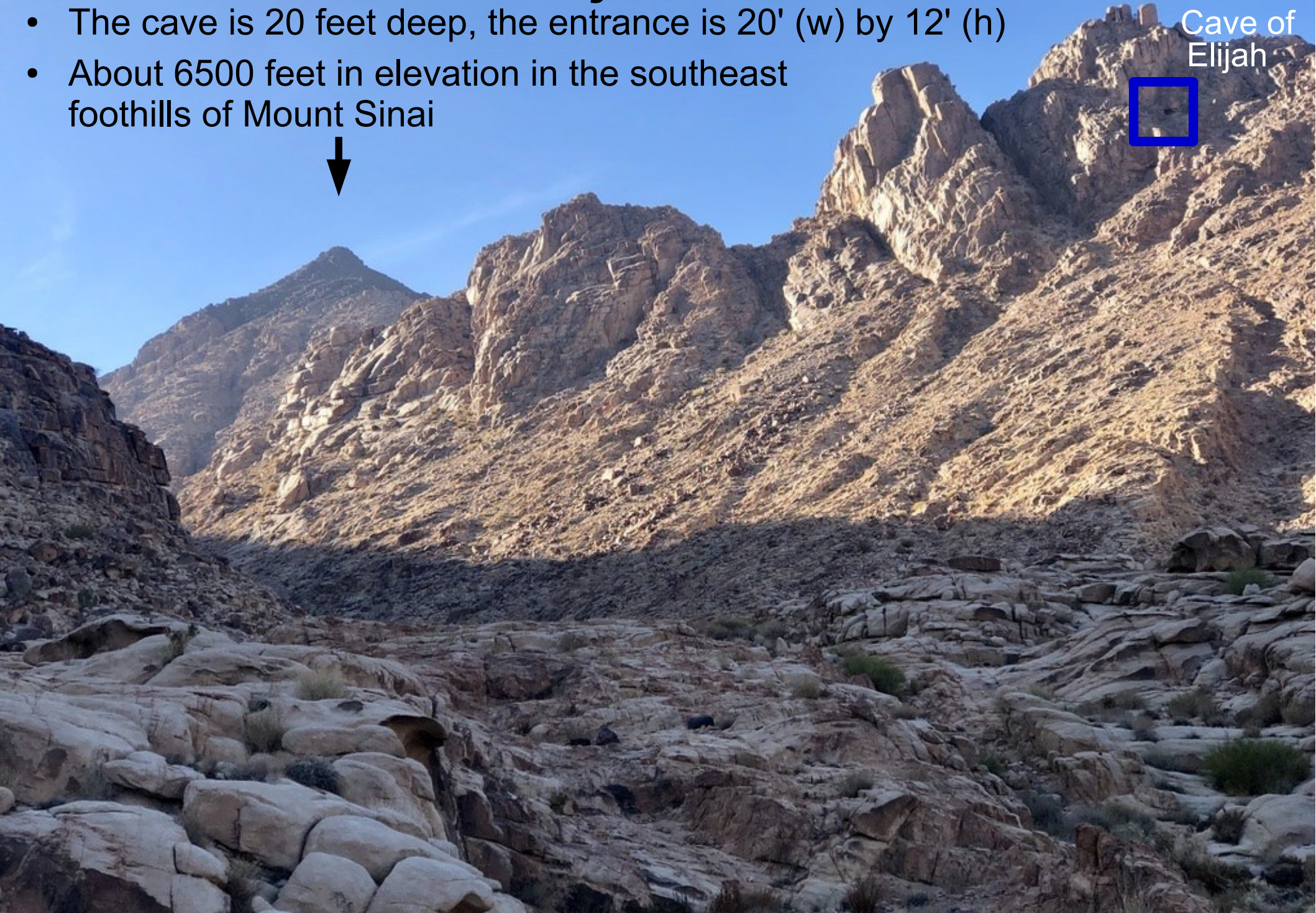


# The Cave of Elijah

- The cave is 20 feet deep, the entrance is 20' (w) by 12' (h)
- About 6500 feet in elevation in the southeast foothills of Mount Sinai



Cave of  
Elijah



# Moses Fled To A Well in Midian

- ...Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh, and dwelt in the land of Midian: and he sat down by a well. Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters: and they came and drew water, and filled the troughs to water their father's flock. And the shepherds came and drove them away: but Moses stood up and helped them, and watered their flock. And when they came to Reuel their father, he said, How is it that ye are come so soon to day? And they said, An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds, and also drew water enough for us, and watered the flock. And he said unto his daughters, And where is he? why is it that ye have left the man? call him, that he may eat bread. And Moses was content to dwell with the man: and he gave Moses Zipporah his daughter. (Exodus 2:15-21)
  - Reuel (H7467, רעואל), “friend of El”, Moses's father-in-law, elsewhere called Jethro (H3503, יתרו), “his abundance”

# The Well of Moses (Al-Sauaidani Well)



# Caves of Jethro

(Mugha'ir Shu'ayb)



# The Caves and The Well

- The Caves of Jethro (Mugha'ir Shu'ayb) and The Well of Moses is located in the town of Al-Bad'a (ancient Madyan)
- Both are Saudi Arabian archeological sites



<https://www.saudiarabiaturismguide.com/mughair-shuayb-madyan/>  
<https://welcomesaudi.com/activity/the-ancient-city-of-madyan-tabuk-province>



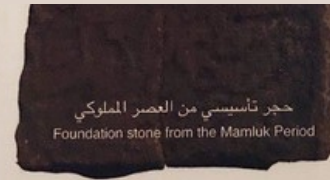
# Caves of Jethro and The Well of Moses

## From the Al-Bad'a Midian Museum

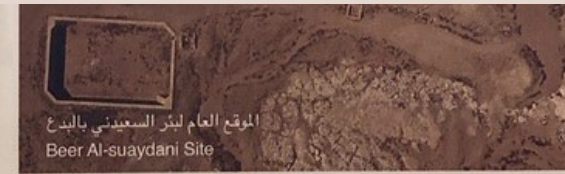
المقابر النبطية بمغارة شُعَيْب (البدع)  
Nabatean Tombs Maghair Shu'ayb (Al-bad'a)

### The Tombs (Shuayb Caves)

- ♦ located on the west bank of Wadi Efal, which are collective carved tombs in an average height mountain formation of sandstone, some of which have beautiful motifs similar to the Nabataean tombs in Madain Saleh, it was known as Shu'ayb Caves among the pilgrims and travelers during the middle and later Islamic periods, these tombs are dated back to Nabataean period, some of them are dated back to earlier periods.
- ♦ The facades of these tombs are adorned with architectural elements executed in a prominent sculpting, including: columns, (Corinthian, Ionic, and Nabataean) Crowns, friezes.
- ♦ The tombs site is the most distinguished archaeological sites in Al-Bad'a oasis, some people thought that it belonged to Shu'ayb's horde, so they called it Shu'ayb caves, considering that Al-Bad'a is located in Midian. Up to date, there is no historical or archaeological evidence linking these tombs to Shu'ayb or his people. The facades of the tombs are greatly influenced by the erosion factors as their sandstone contains a rate of lime.



حجر تأسيسي من العصر المملوكي  
Foundation stone from the Mamluk Period



الموقع العام لبئر السعيدني بالبدع  
Beer Al-suaydani Site

### Al-Suaidani Well (Moses Well)

located on the eastern bank of the Wadi Efal opposite to Al-Malhad and the Caves, separated by the valley. It is a pecked well in the formation of small mountain in the site, using stairs to reach the water is similar to Nabataeans' wells pattern.

This well was the main source of water in Al-Bad'a oasis, it seems that it was repaired during the Nabataeans period, and it may date back to before their era. As it has been repaired in the Islamic Period and in the sources of the middle Islamic period it was named as Shu'ayb cavern, the name of cavern is given to each pecked well in the rock in the form of a cave but not dug and folded.

The early Muslim geographers, who described the oasis of Midian (Al-Bad'a) in the early Islamic period, called this well "the well of Moses", considering that the oasis was called Midian in their period, and their conviction that Moses lived there and watered for the Daughters of Shu'ayb Peace be upon him.

# At The Mountain of אֶרְאֵל

- Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of Elohiym, even to Horeb. And the angel of אֶרְאֵל appeared unto him in **a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush:** and he looked, and, behold, **the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.** (Exodus 3:1-2)

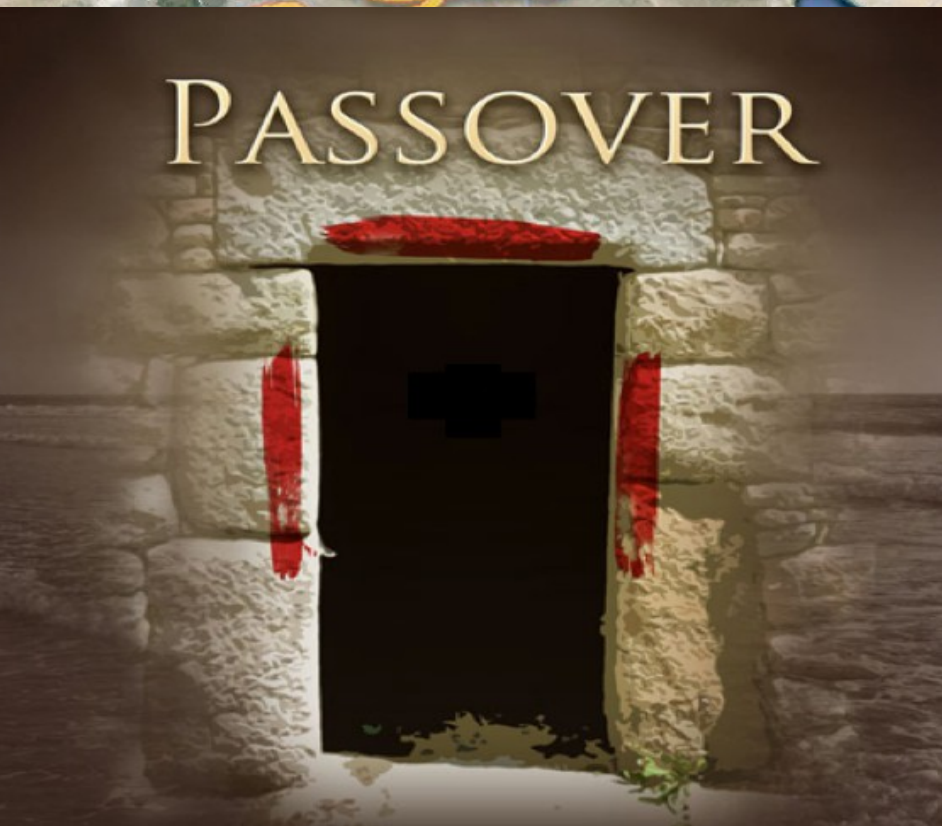
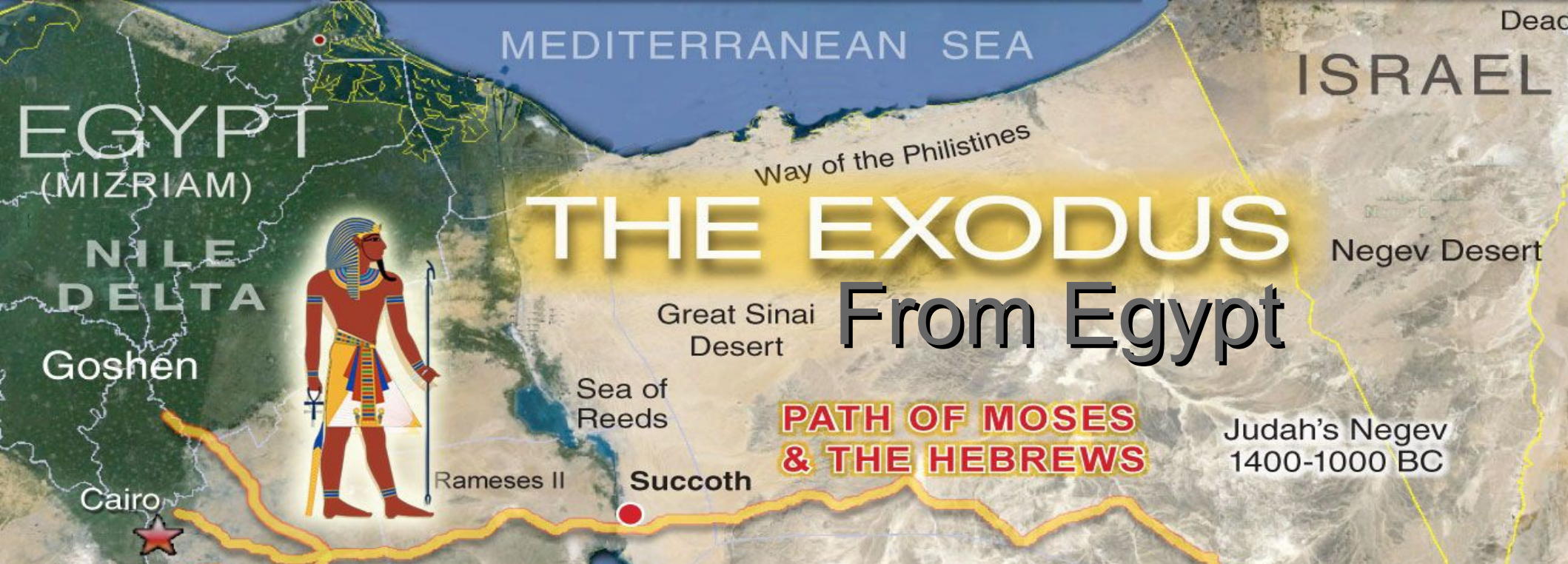


The Mountain of אֶרְאֵל as seen from the Well of Moses  
(looking eastward)

# The Mountain

- Moses could see the mountain of **الديع** from the caves and well.
- The valley to the mountain is known as Wadi Musa (The Valley of Moses)

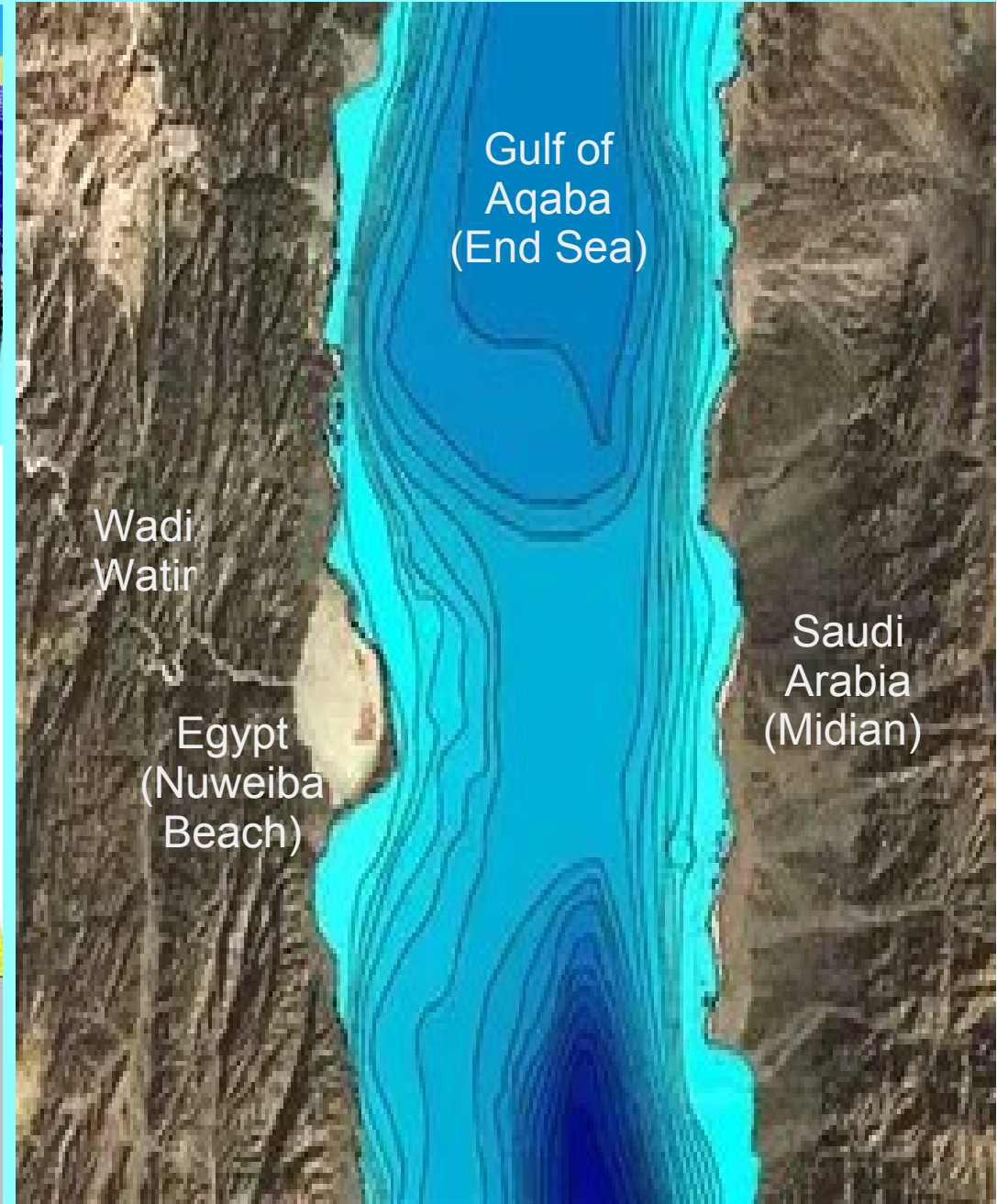
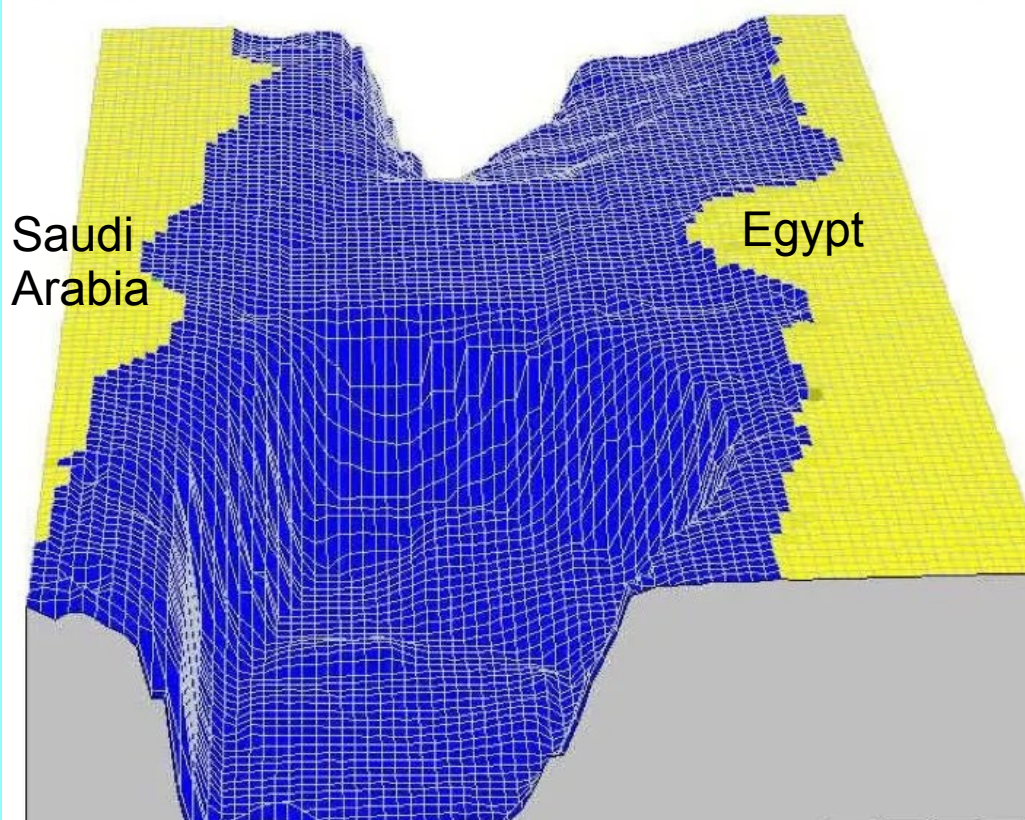
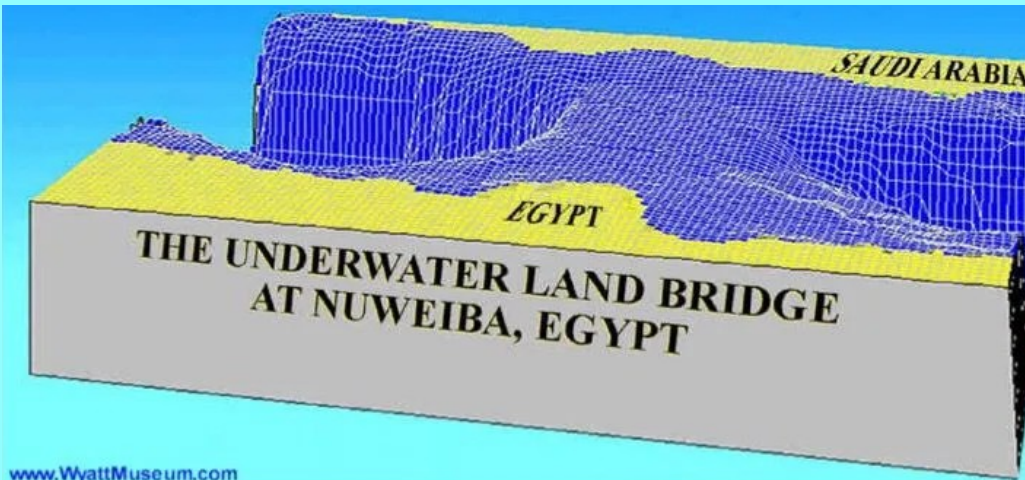




# On The Shore Of The Sea

- But the children of Israel walked upon dry land in the midst of the sea; and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left. (Exodus 14:29)
- ...Moses, command the children of Israel to observe... the festival of Unleavened Bread... For ye celebrated this festival with haste when ye went forth from Egypt till ye entered into the wilderness of Shur; for on the shore of the sea ye completed it. (Jubilees 49:22-23)

# The Bridge Under The Sea





MEDITERRANEAN SEA

ISRAEL

EGYPT  
(MIZRIAM)

# THE EXODUS From Egypt

NILE  
DELTA

Goshen



Cairo

Ramses II

Great Sinai  
Desert

Sea of  
Reeds

**PATH OF MOSES  
& THE HEBREWS**

Judah's Negev  
1400-1000 BC

This is where  
academia  
wants you to  
think the  
crossing site is.

Etham

Eilat

Wilderness  
of the Red Sea

## PASSOVER

### SINAI PENINSULA

Baal  
Zephon

Traditional  
Mount Sinai

St. Catherine's  
Monestary

OF SUEZ · RED SEA

GULF OF AqABA · RED SEA

# On The Shore Of The Sea

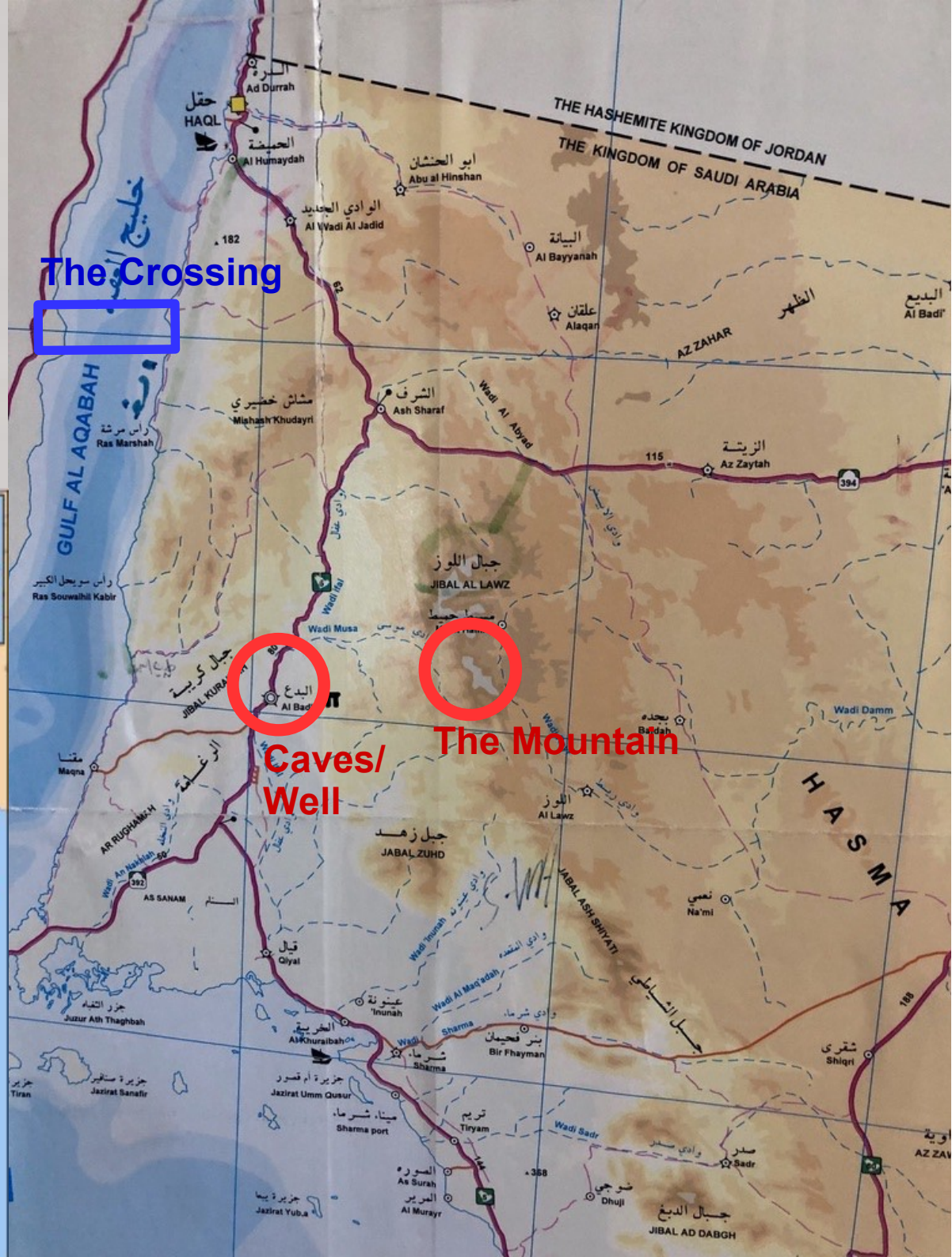


The End Sea crossing site in Saudi Arabia, looking west towards Egypt



# The Crossing

- The Sea crossing site from Egypt (Nuweiba Beach) to Midian (Saudi Arabia).
- An undersea land bridge with a gentle slope (5-12 degrees) is the only possible crossing site along the entire Gulf

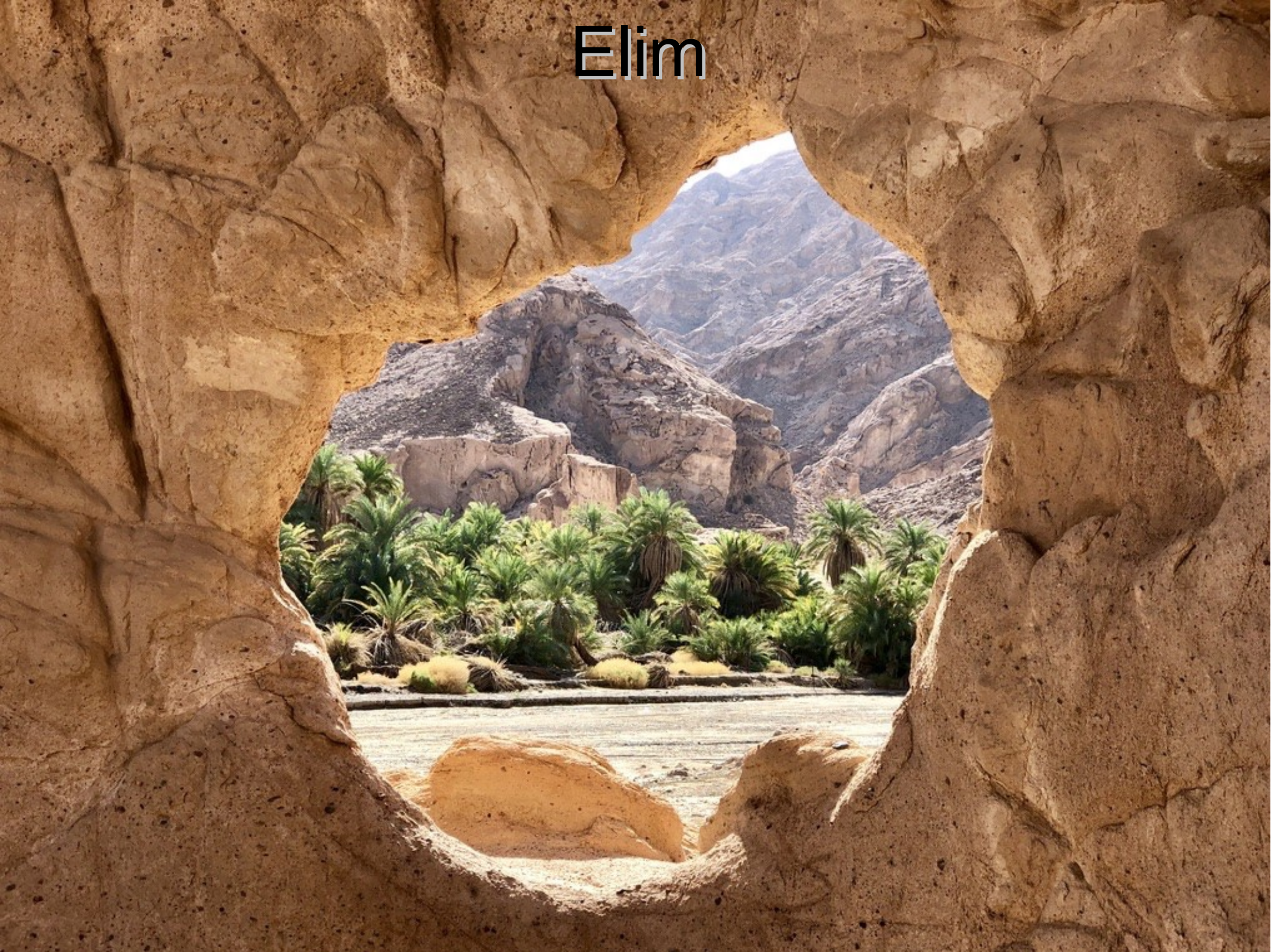


# An Oasis With 12 Wells

- And they came to Elim, where were twelve wells of water, and threescore and ten palm trees: and they encamped there by the waters. (Exodus 15:27)

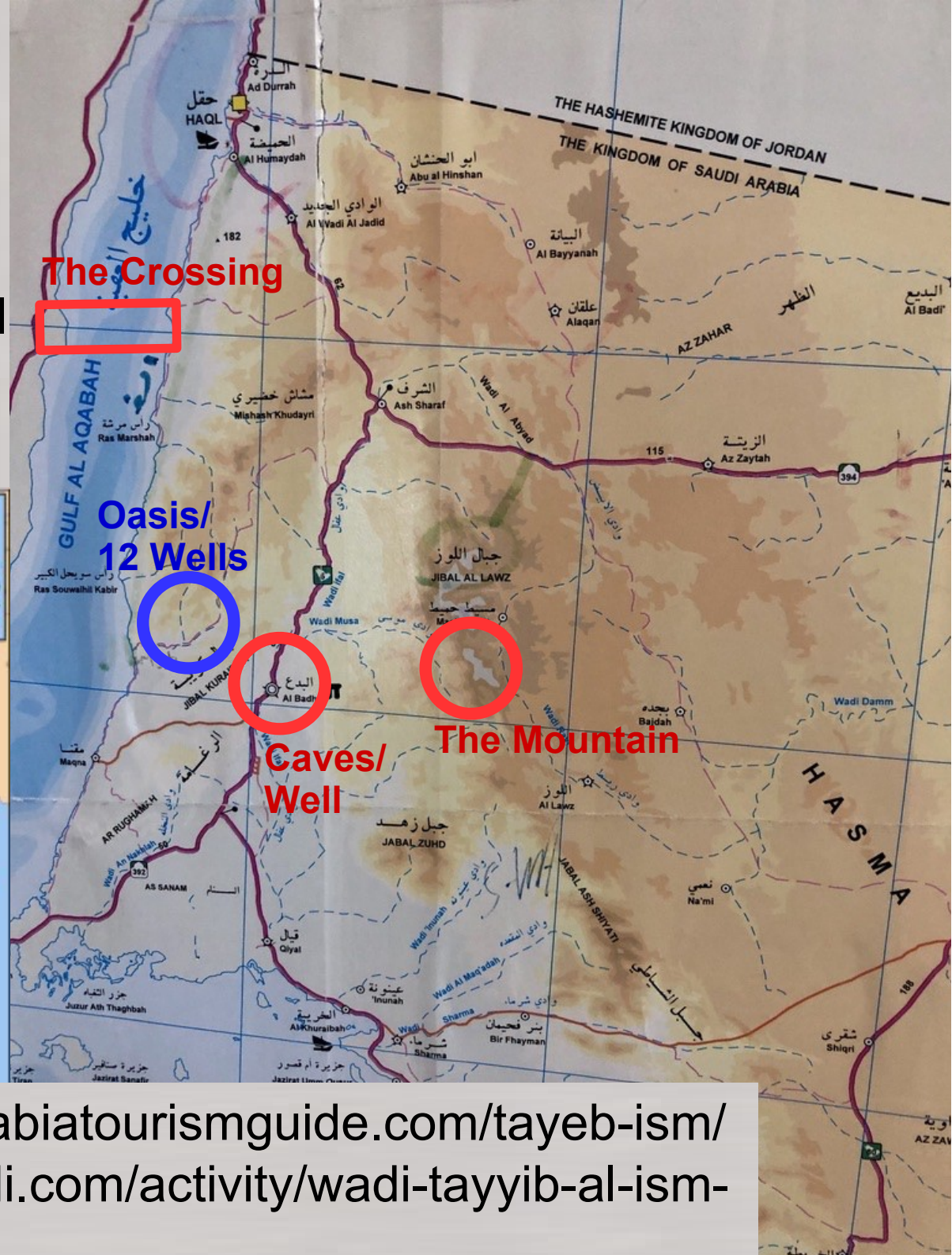


Elim



# Elim

- Known as Tayeb Al-Ism
- Has twelve wells, with dozens of palm trees
- Surrounded by cliffs and small mountains but easy access via the wadi plains



<https://www.saudiarabiaturismguide.com/tayeb-ism/>  
<https://welcomesaudi.com/activity/wadi-tayyib-al-ism-tabuk-province>

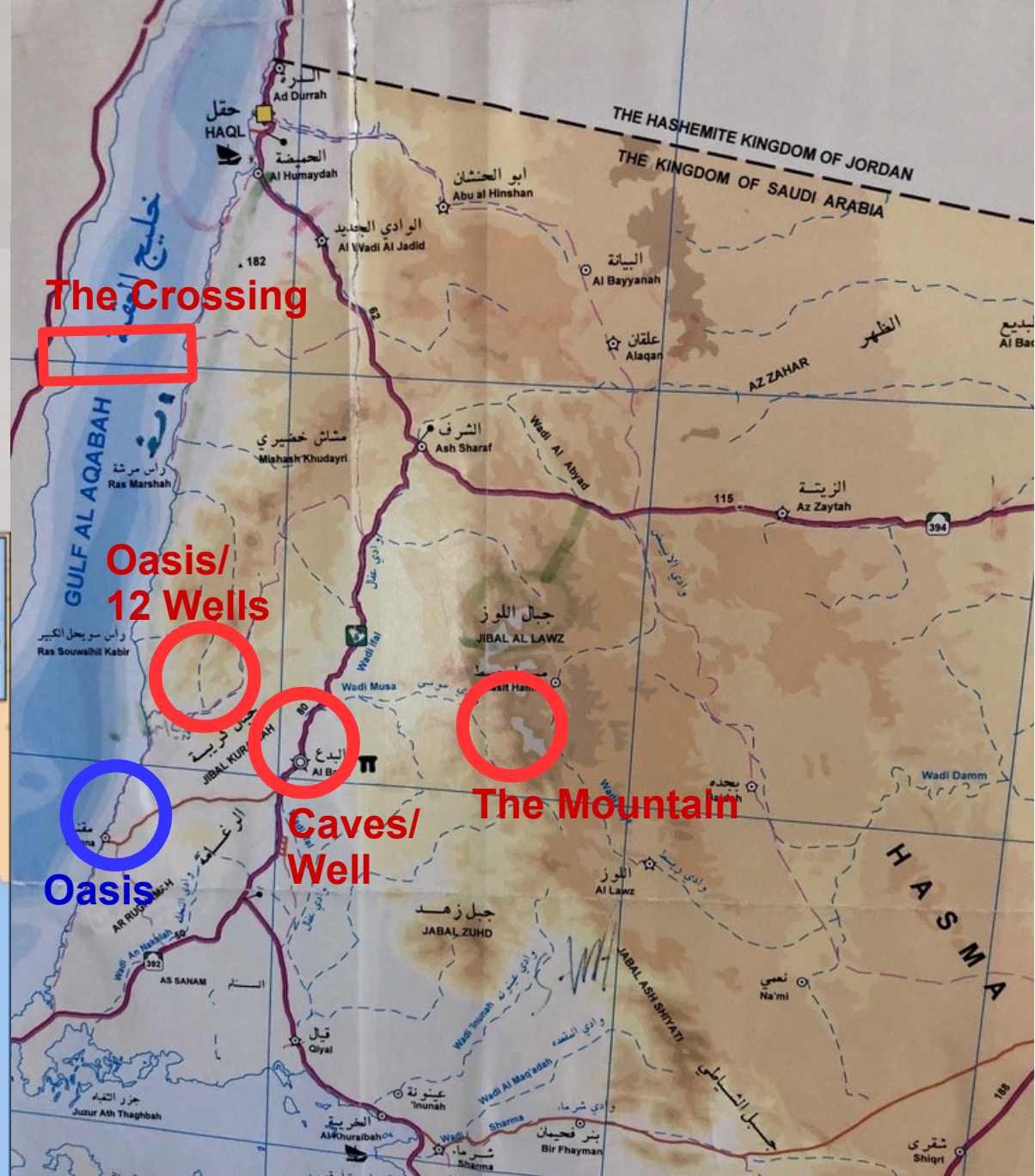
# Oasis By The Sea

- And they removed from Elim, and encamped by the End Sea. (Numbers 33:10)



# An Oasis By The Sea

- Located at the outskirts of Maqna, known as Bir Sa'idani (The Springs of Moses)
- About 1 km away from the Gulf of Aqaba



<https://www.saudiarabiaturismguide.com/maqna-bir-saidani/>  
<https://welcomesaudi.com/activity/12-springs-of-prophet-moses-as-tabuk-province>

# Bread From Heaven

- This the bread which אִפֹּאֵז has given you to eat. This is that which אִפֹּאֵז has appointed: gather of it each man for his family, a homer for each person... And Moses said to them, Is not this the word which אִפֹּאֵז spoke? Tomorrow the Sabbath, a set apart rest to אִפֹּאֵז: bake that ye will bake, and seethe that ye will seethe, and all that is over leave to be laid by for the morrow. (Exodus 16:16/23, LXXE)
- And the manna is as coriander seed, and the appearance of it the appearance of hoar-frost. And the people went through the field, and gathered, and ground it in the mill, or **pounded it in a mortar**, and baked it in a pan, and made cakes of it; and the sweetness of it was as the taste [of] wafer made with oil. (Numbers 11:7-8, LXXE)

# Bread From Heaven

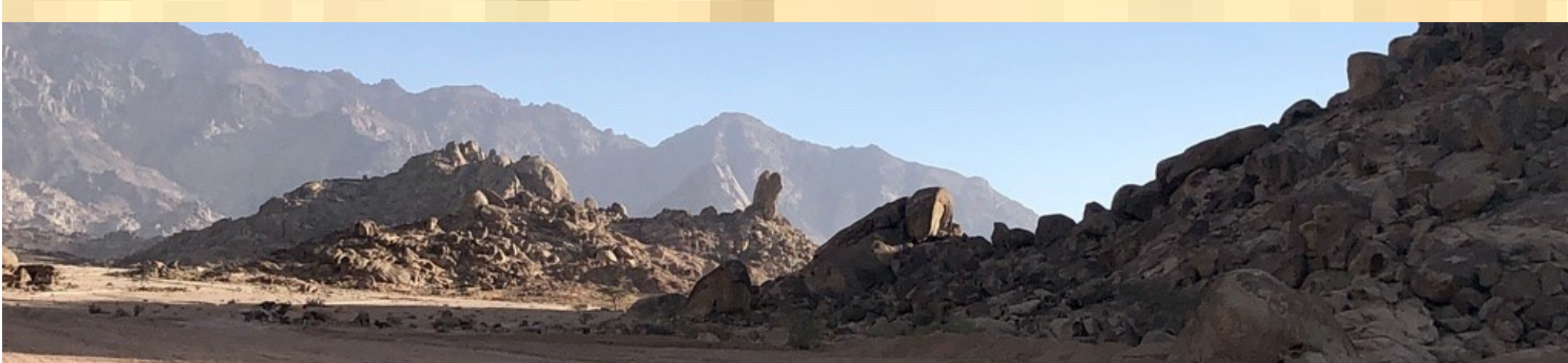
- Ground in mortars with pestles
- Multiple mortars were left outside the camp by the mountain foothills



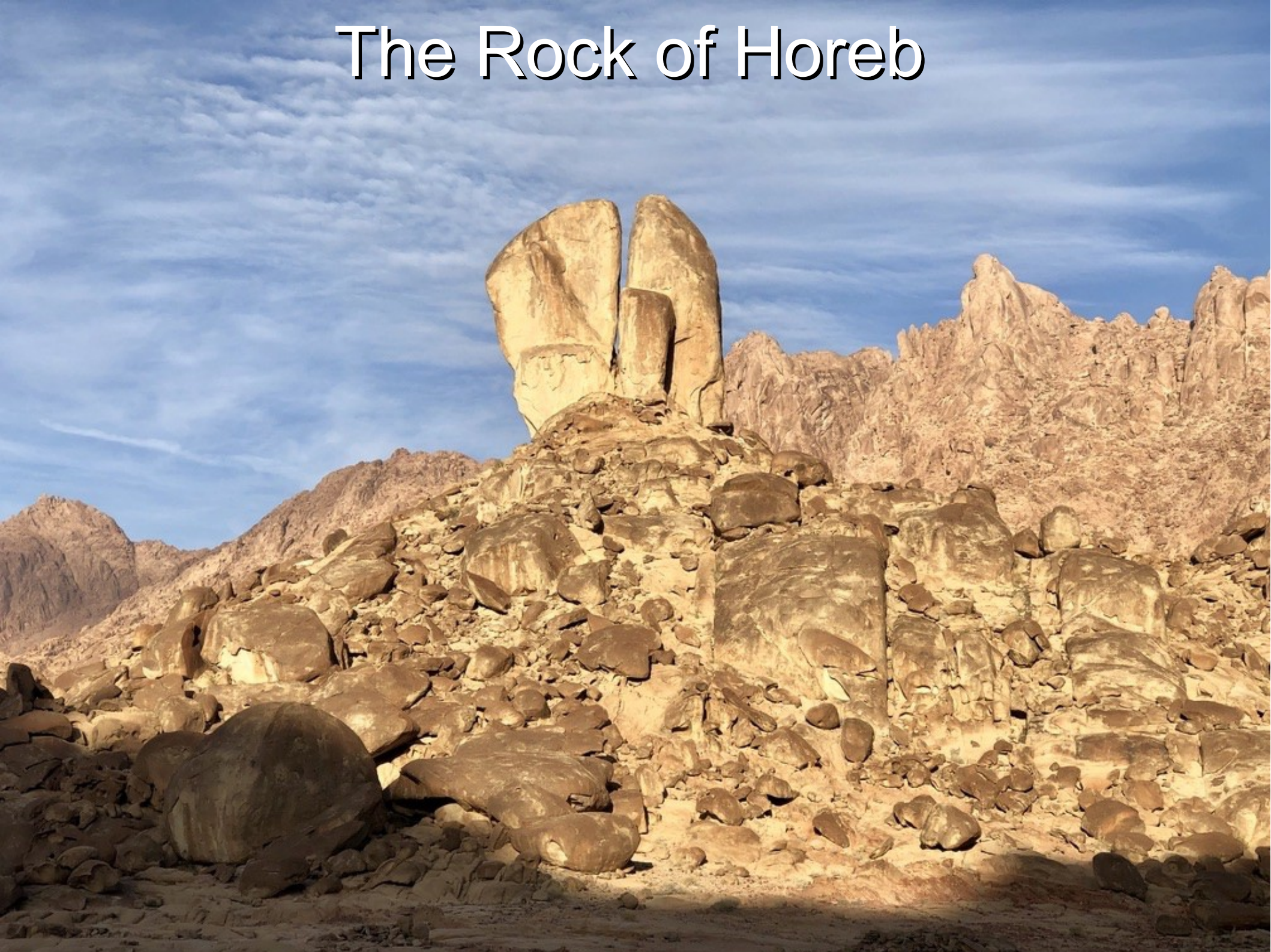


# The Rock of Horeb

- And they removed from Alush, and encamped at Rephidim, where was no water for the people to drink. (Numbers 33:14)
- And all the congregation of the children of Israel journeyed from the wilderness of Sin, after their journeys, according to the commandment of אֱלֹהִים, and pitched in Rephidim: and there was no water for the people to drink... And אֱלֹהִים said unto Moses, Go on before the people, and take with thee of the elders of Israel; and thy rod, wherewith thou smotest the river, take in thine hand, and go. Behold, I will stand before thee there upon **the rock in Horeb**; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel. (Exodus 17:1/5-6)



# The Rock of Horeb



# The Rock of Horeb and The Wadi

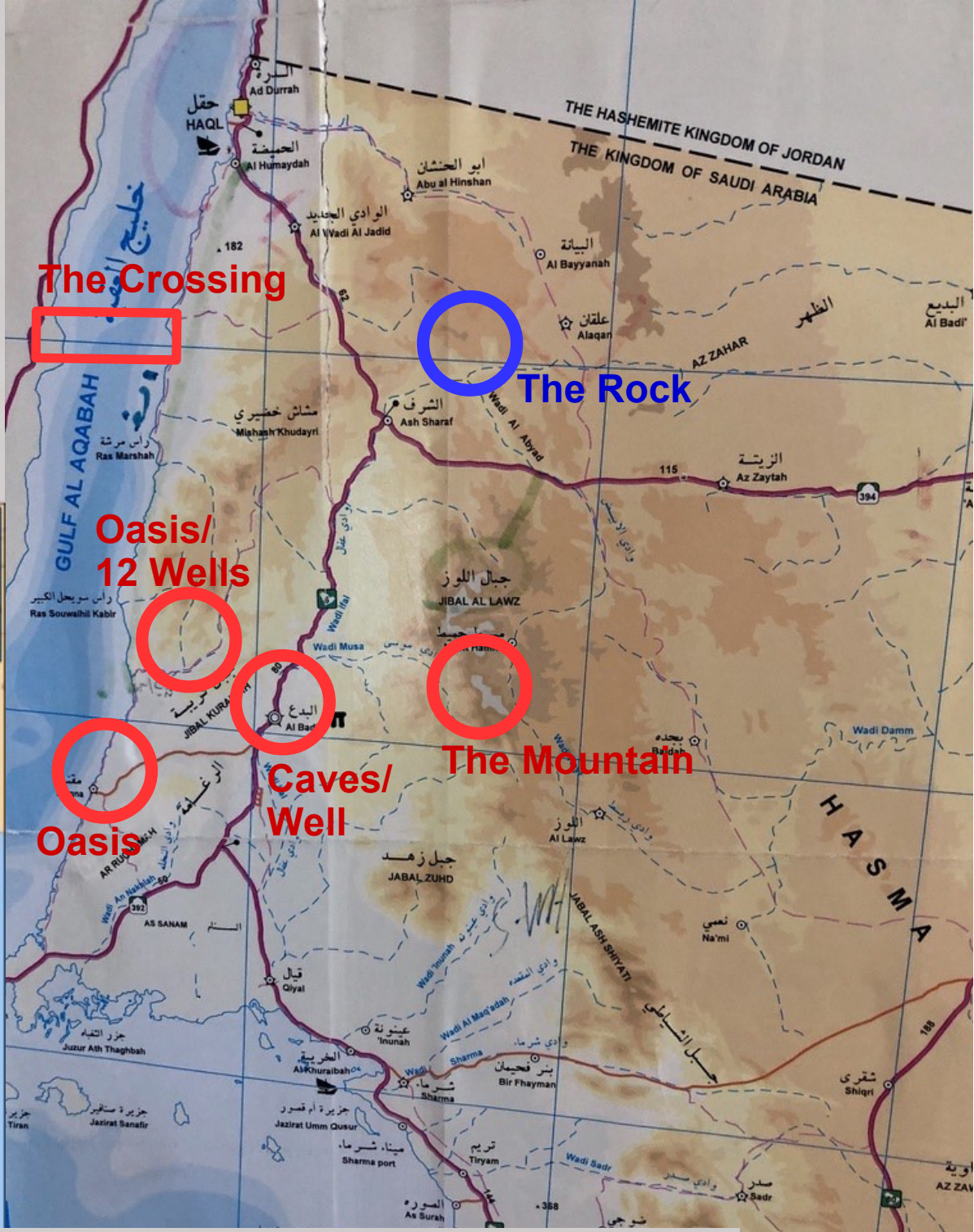


# The Rock of Horeb



# The Rock

- The Rock of Horeb is about 65 feet tall with a split all the way down the middle
- There is evidence of water erosion on the rocks below
- A large valley (wadi) directly connects it to Mount Sinai



# The Camp Site Before The Mountain

- In the third month, when the children of Israel were gone forth out of the land of Egypt, the same day came they into the wilderness of Sinai. For they were departed from Rephidim, and were come to the desert of Sinai, and had pitched in the wilderness; and there Israel camped before the mount. (Exodus 19:1-2)
  - And they departed from Rephidim, and pitched in the wilderness of Sinai. (Numbers 33:15)

# The Camp Site Before The Mountain



Looking west at Mount Sinai from the camp site

# The Camp Site Before The Mountain

Huge camp site plain, just  
beyond the small ridges

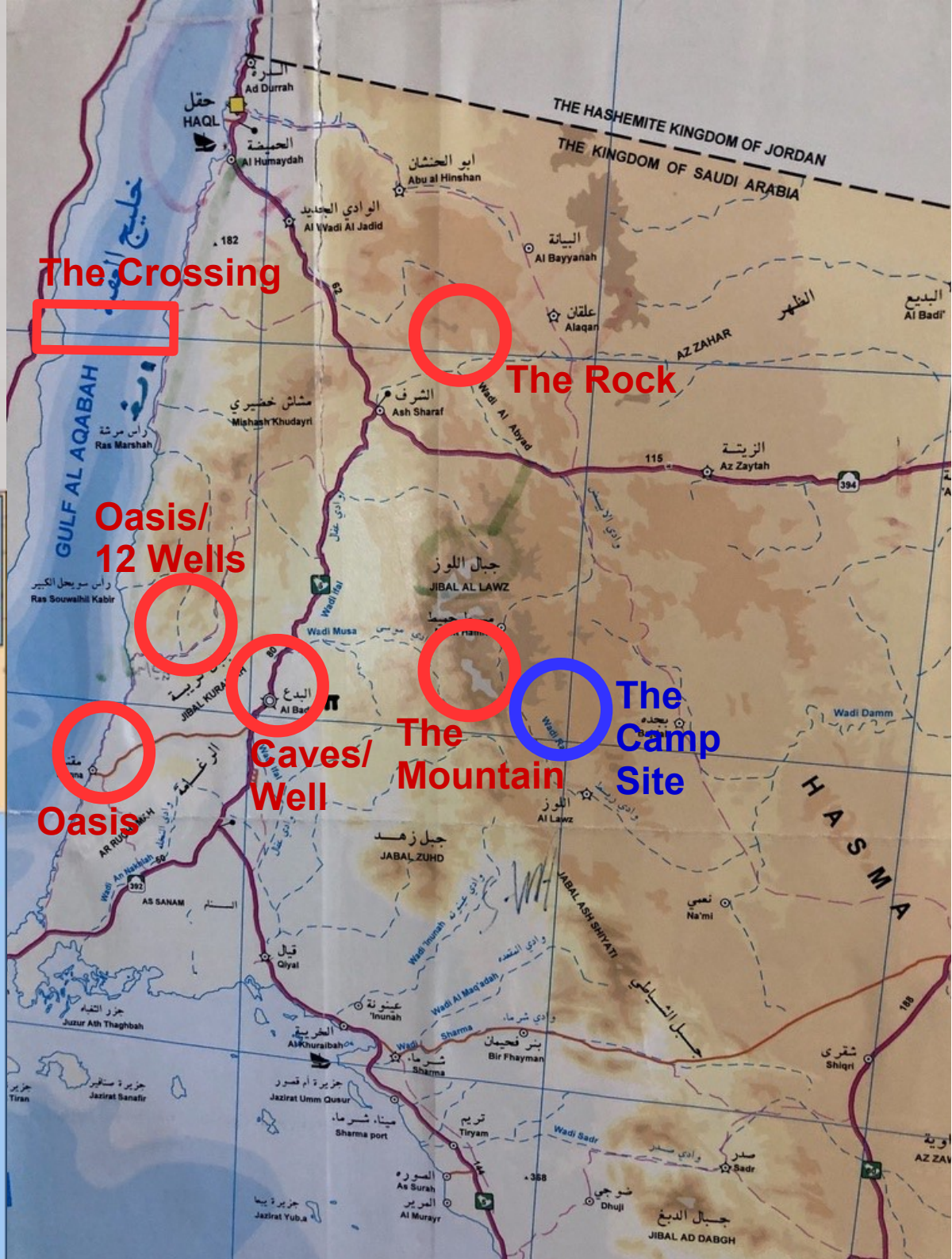
Looking east from the  
base of Mount Sinai  
towards the camp site





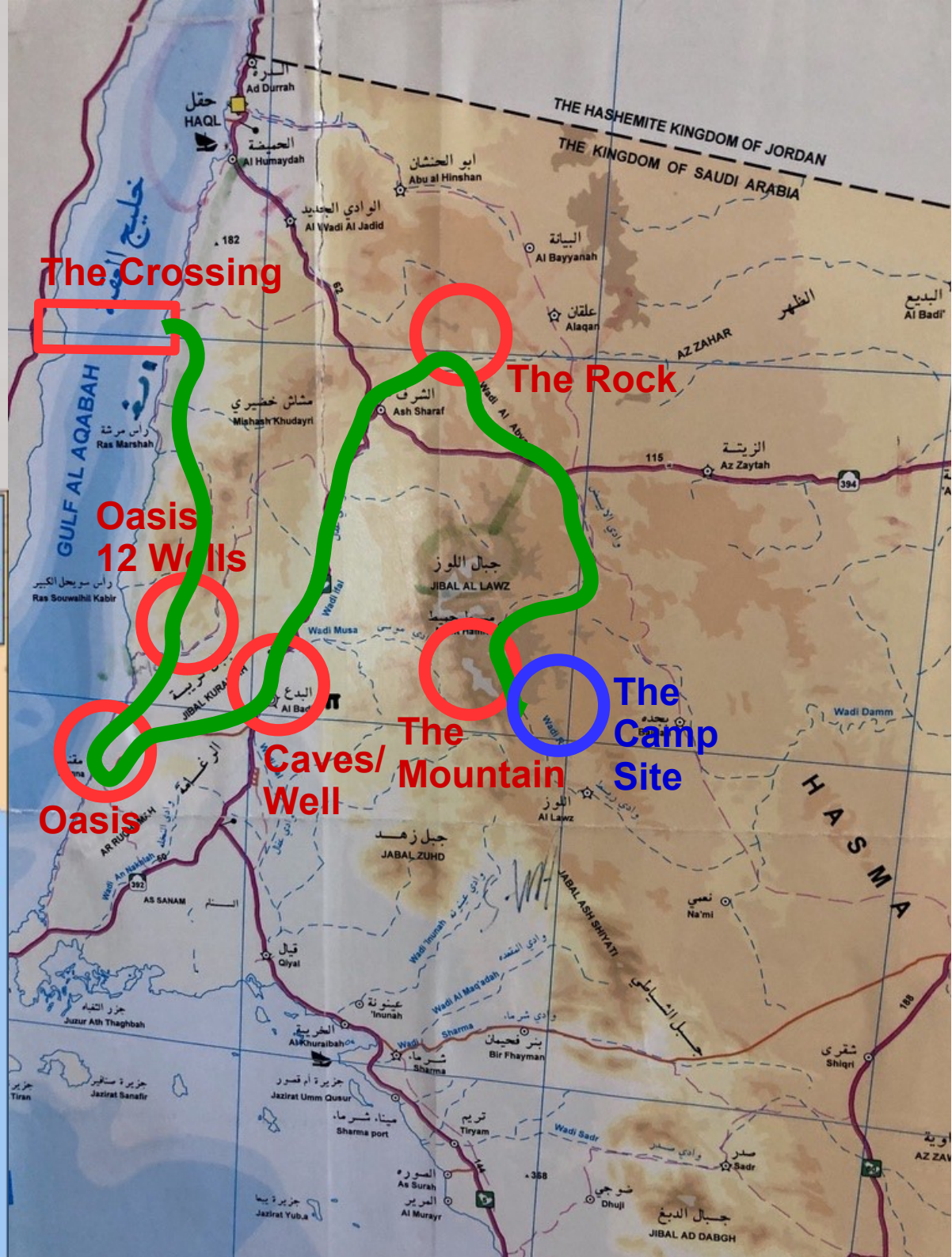
# The Campsite

- Located in a very large valley (wadi) directly in front of the southern peak of Mount Sinai to the east



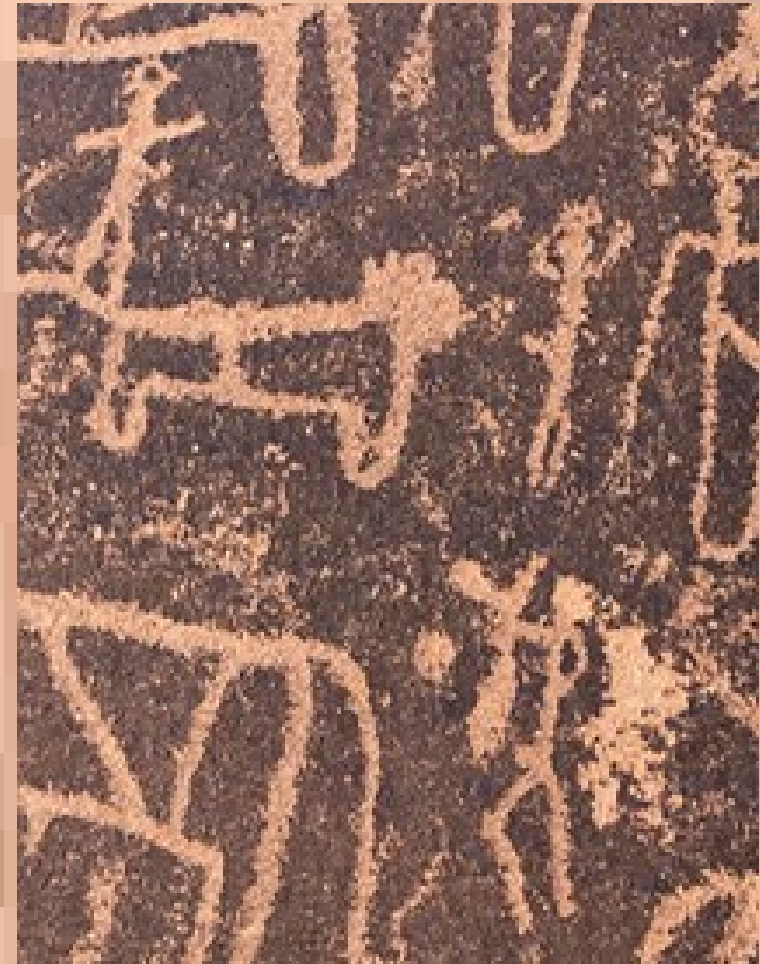
# The Route To Sinai

- This is a **very approximate estimate** of the journey made by Israel from the End Sea to Mount Sinai based on the known camp sites and wadis



# The Border of The Mountain

- And אָפְּרָאֵז said unto Moses, Go unto the people, and sanctify them to day and to morrow, and let them wash their clothes, And be ready against the third day: for the third day אָפְּרָאֵז will come down in the sight of all the people upon mount Sinai. And **thou shalt set bounds unto the people round about**, saying, Take heed to yourselves, that ye go not up into the mount, or touch the border of it: whosoever toucheth the mount shall be surely put to death: There shall not an hand touch it, but he shall surely be stoned, or **shot through**; whether it be beast or man, it shall not live: when the trumpet soundeth long, they shall come up to the mount. (Exodus 19:10-13)



- Petroglyph of an archer found near the base of the mountain (one of at least three locations around the mountain)

# Archer Petroglyphs

Huge camp site plain, just  
beyond the small ridges

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 Archer  
Petroglyphs

Looking east from the  
base of Mount Sinai  
towards the camp site

# Burnt Mountain

- And it came to pass on the third day in the morning, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; so that all the people that was in the camp trembled... And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because אֶלֶּל descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly. (Exodus 19:16-18)
- The mountains melted from before אֶלֶּל, even that Sinai from before אֶלֶּל Elohiym of Israel. (Judges 5:5)
  - Jabal Maqla (“Burnt Mountain”) in Saudi Arabia is about 4 miles south of Jabal al-Lawz with a southern ridge peak of 7494 feet, about 2500 feet taller than the surrounding plain.
  - Jabal Maqla is easily identified by a peak covered with blackened rocks (but only on the top of the rocks)
  - Local Bedouins have historically pointed this single mountain out as Jabal Musa (“Mountain of Moses”).

Burnt Mountain →



A fenced archeological site (some fencing is down)

# Burnt Mountain

- These rocks from the top of Jabal Maqla are blackened on the top and with their natural brown color on the bottom.
- A volcanic fully formed by lava would be completely black. Mountaintop rocks burned by volcanic activity would be blackened from the bottom.
- These rocks were blackened/ burnt from **above**.
- This mountain is the **only one** in the mountain range/ area with a blackened peak.

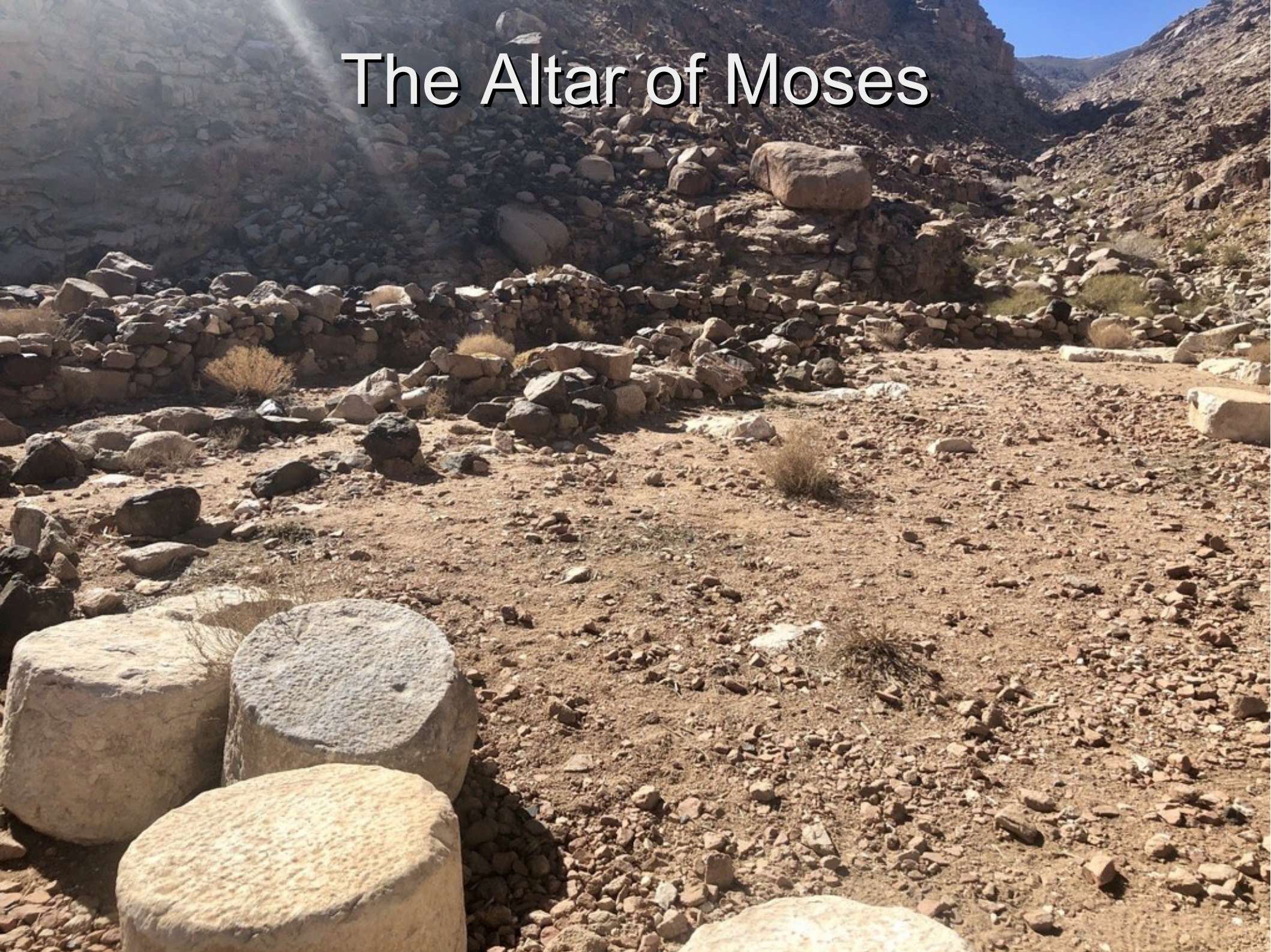


# The Altar of Moses

- And Moses wrote all the words of אף אַז, and rose up early in the morning, and buildded an altar under the hill, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel. And he sent young men of the children of Israel, which offered burnt offerings, and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen unto אף אַז. And Moses took half of the blood, and put it in basons; and half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar. And he took the book of the covenant, and read in the audience of the people: and they said, All that אף אַז hath said will we do, and be obedient. And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant, which אף אַז hath made with you concerning all these words. (Exodus 24:4-8)



# The Altar of Moses



# The Altar of Moses



# The Altar of Moses



# The Altar of Moses

Huge camp site plain, just  
beyond the small ridges

 Archer  
Petroglyphs

Altar of  
Moses

Looking east from the  
base of Mount Sinai  
towards the camp site



# The Elders Eat On The Mountain

- And He said unto Moses, Come up unto אף אע, thou, and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel; and worship ye afar off. And Moses alone shall come near אף אע: but they shall not come nigh; neither shall the people go up with him... Then went up Moses, and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel: And they saw the Elohiym of Israel: and there was under His feet as it were a paved work of a sapphire stone, and as it were the body of heaven in His clearness. (Exodus 24:1-2/9-10)
- And of the chosen ones of Israel there was not even one missing, and they appeared in the place of Elohiym, and did eat and drink. (Exodus 24:11, LXXE)
- And Moses rose up, and his minister Joshua and Moses went up into the mount of Elohiym. And he said unto the elders, Tarry ye here for us, until we come again unto you: and, behold, Aaron and Hur are with you... (Exodus 24:13-14)

# A Plateau For The Elders To Eat and Rest



# A Plateau For The Elders To Eat and Rest

- The plateau area is about 6500 feet in elevation.
- The main plateau is on the north side of south ridge and encompasses the equivalent of many sports fields
- A smaller secondary plateau is adjacent on the south side and slightly above the main plateau and has many stone escarpments suitable for sitting
- Both plateaus have unobstructed views of the final climb and peak of the mountain



# The Plateau of Mount Sinai

- When looking to the west from the camp site plain, the plateau area is on the right side of the mountain





# The Top Of The Mountain

- And Moses alone shall come near אֱלֹהִים... (Exodus 24:2)
- And אֱלֹהִים said unto Moses, Come up to Me into the mount, and be there: and I will give thee tables of stone, and a law, and commandments which I have written... And Moses rose up, and his minister Joshua: and Moses went up into the mount of Elohiym. And he said unto the elders, Tarry ye here for us, until we come again unto you... And Moses went up into the mount, and a cloud covered the mount. And the glory of אֱלֹהִים abode upon mount Sinai... And the sight of the glory of אֱלֹהִים was like devouring fire on the top of the mount in the eyes of the children of Israel. And Moses went into the midst of the cloud, and gat him up into the mount: and Moses was in the mount forty days and forty nights. (Exodus 24:12-18)
- And He gave unto Moses, when He had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of Elohiym. (Exodus 31:18)

# The Blackened Top Of The Mountain



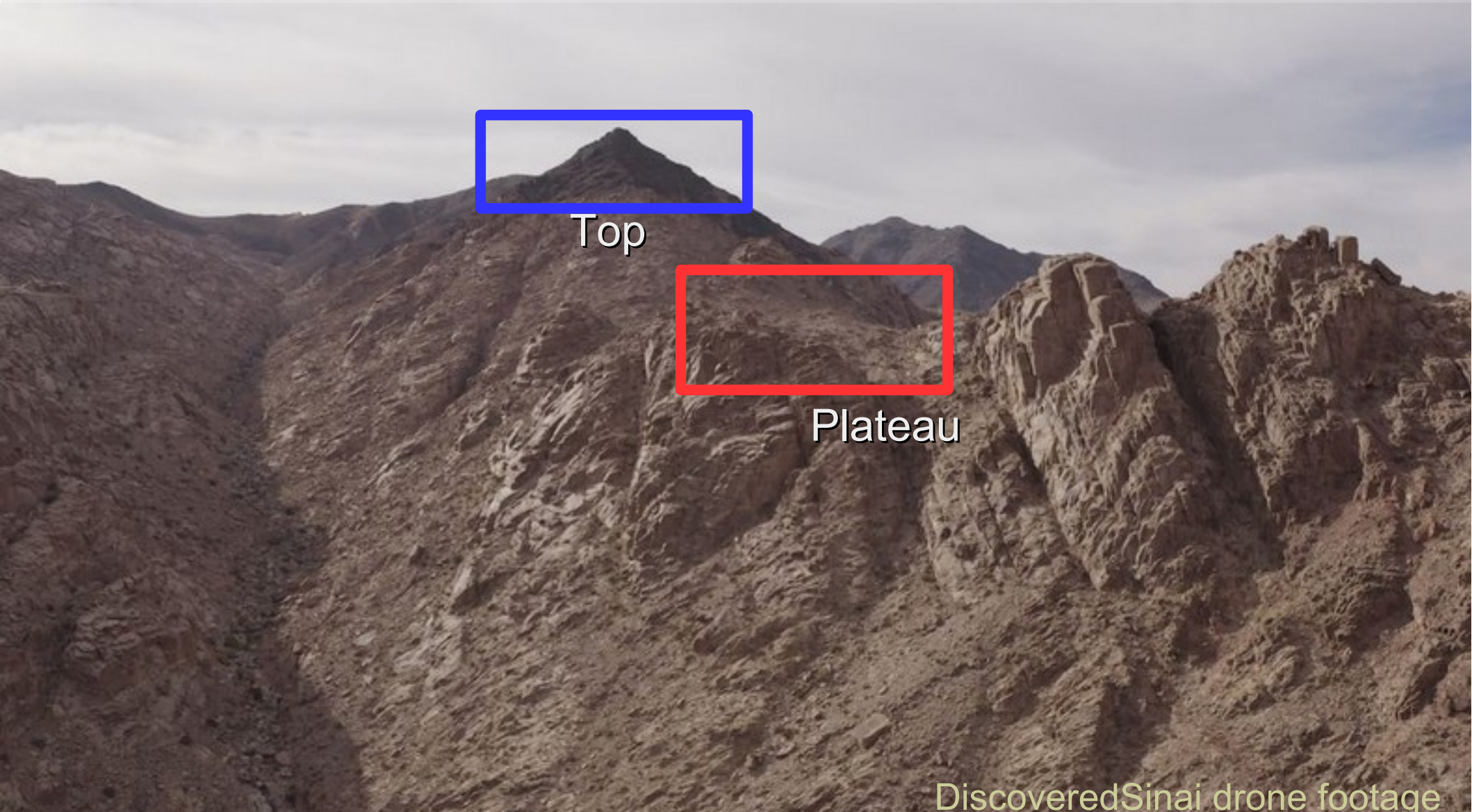
# The Peak of Mount Sinai

(Jabal Maqla, southern ridge)



# The Plateau of Mount Sinai

- When looking to the west from the camp site plain, the plateau area is on the right side of the mountain



# The Golden Calf Altar

- And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, make us gods... And all the people brake off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them unto Aaron. And he received them at their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, after he had made it a molten calf... And when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation, and said, Tomorrow is a feast to אפאז. (Exodus 32:1/3-5)



# The Golden Calf Altar



The golden calf is not really still there!

# The Golden Calf Altar



# The Golden Calf Altar

A fenced in Saudi archeological site  
Many petroglyphs on the site boulders





# The Golden Calf Altar



Looking towards Mount Sinai from the top of the Golden Calf Altar

# Golden Calf Altar

Huge camp site plain, just  
beyond the small ridges

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Golden Calf  
Altar



Archer  
Petroglyphs



Altar of  
Moses



Looking east from the  
base of Mount Sinai  
towards the camp site

# The People Corrupted Themselves

- ...Aaron made proclamation, and said, Tomorrow is a feast to אֶלֶל. And they rose up early on the morrow, and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play. And אֶלֶל said unto Moses, Go, get thee down; for thy people, which thou broughtest out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves ...Now therefore let Me alone, that My wrath may wax hot against them, and that I may consume them... (Exodus 32:5-7/10)



# “Playing” Petroglyphs

Huge camp site plain, just beyond the small ridges

Golden Calf

Altar

Archer  
Petroglyphs

Playing  
Petroglyphs

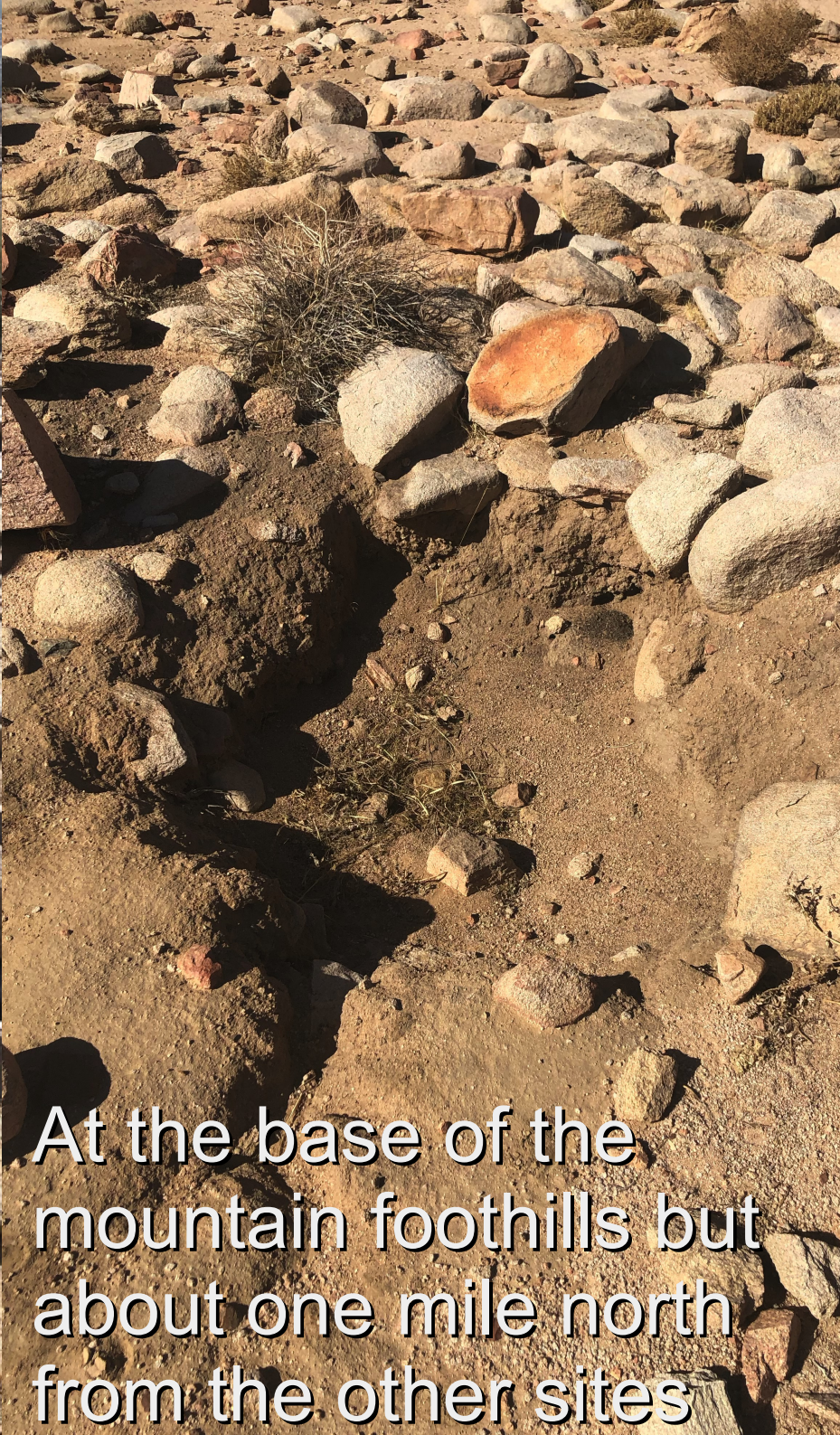
Altar of  
Moses

Looking east from the  
base of Mount Sinai  
towards the camp site

# Punished by Death

- And when Moses saw that the people was scattered, (for Aaron scattered them a rejoicing to their enemies) then stood Moses at the gate of the camp, and said, Who is on אִיִּזְרָאֵל's side? let him come to me. Then all the sons of Levi came to him. And he says to them, Thus saith אֱלֹהֵיִם Elohiym of Israel, Put every one his sword on his thigh, and go through and return from gate to gate through the camp, and slay every one his brother, and every one his neighbour, and every one him that is nearest to him. And the sons of Levi did as Moses spoke to them, and there fell of the people in that day to the [number of] three thousand men. (Exodus 32:25-28, LXXE)

# The Graveyard



At the base of the mountain foothills but about one mile north from the other sites

# The Graveyard

The graveyard was fenced off, “guarded” by donkeys... this is where the mortars were found



# Water

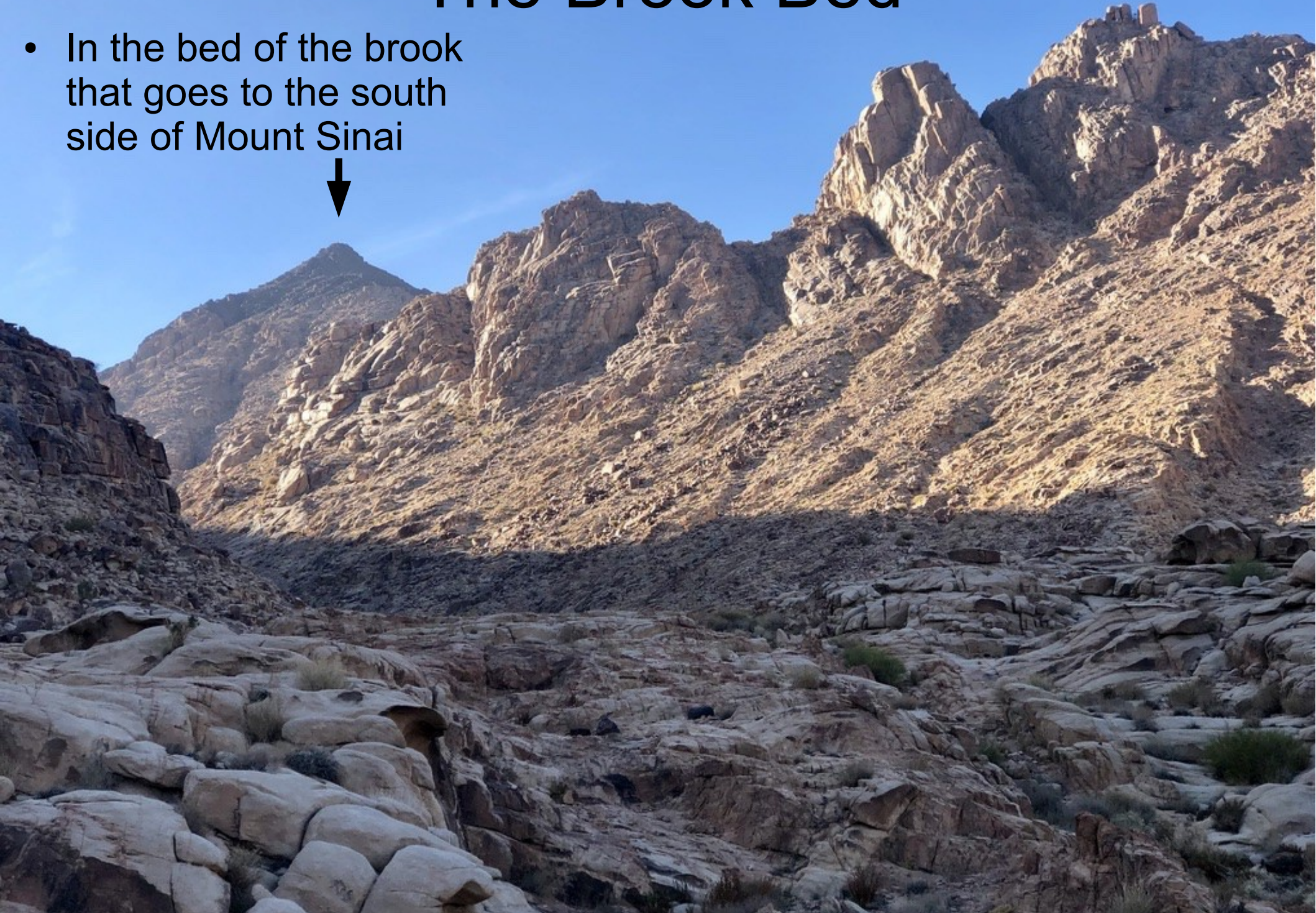
## From The Mountain

- And it came to pass, as soon as he came nigh unto the camp, that he saw the calf, and the dancing: and Moses' anger waxed hot... And he took the calf which they had made, and burnt it in the fire, and ground it to powder, and strawed it upon the water, and made the children of Israel drink of it. (Exodus 32:19-20)
- And I took your sin, the calf which ye had made, and burnt it with fire, and stamped it, and ground it very small, even until it was as small as dust: and I cast the dust thereof into the brook that descended out of the mount. (Deuteronomy 9:21)



# The Brook Bed

- In the bed of the brook that goes to the south side of Mount Sinai



# The Brook Bed

- Smoothed rocks in the bed, evidence of water erosion



# Water From The Mountain

Huge camp site plain, just beyond the small ridges

Golden Calf

Altar

Archer

Petroglyphs

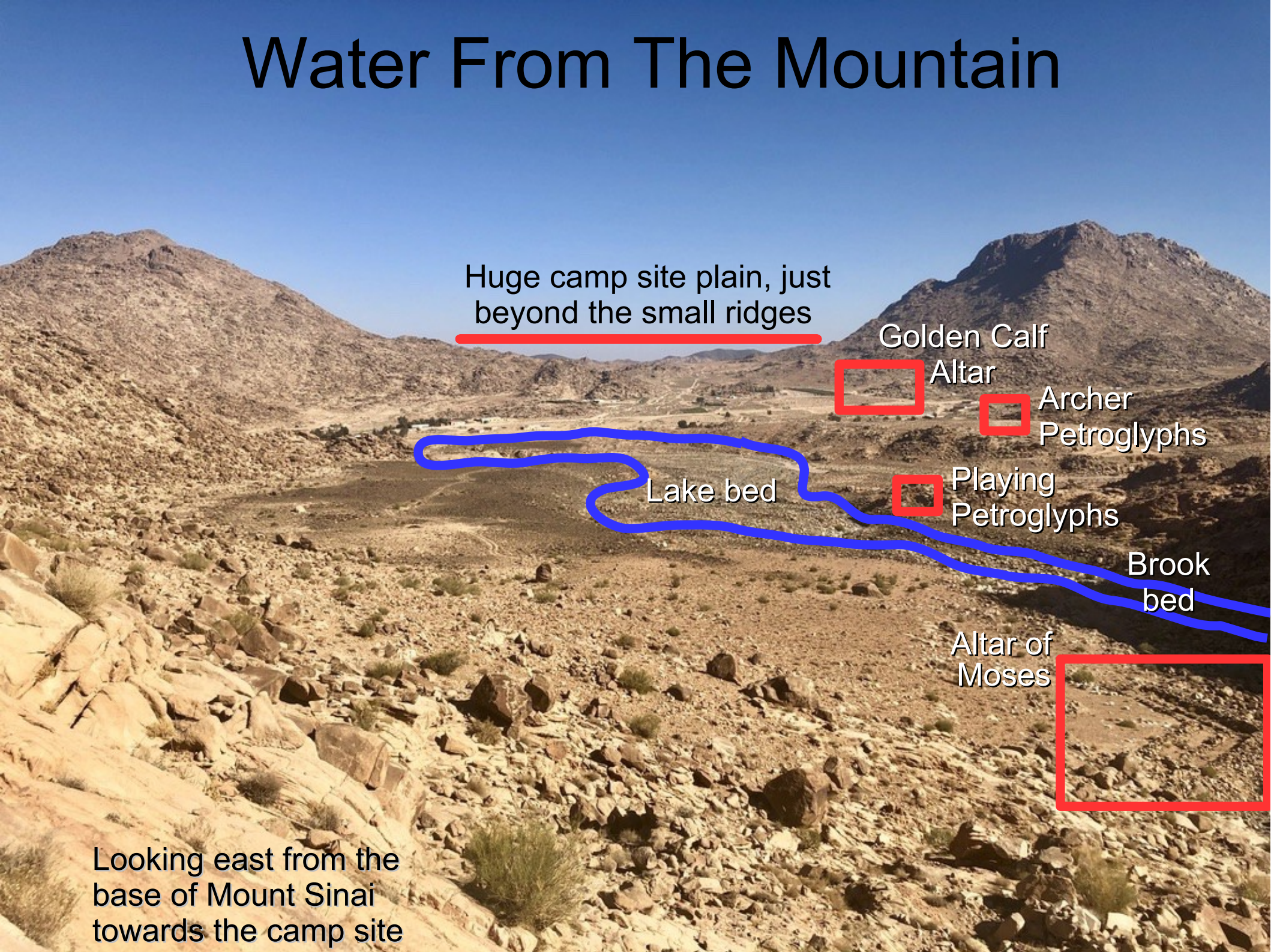
Lake bed

Playing  
Petroglyphs

Brook  
bed

Altar of  
Moses

Looking east from the  
base of Mount Sinai  
towards the camp site



# The Brook Bed From The Mountain

- When looking to the west from the camp site plain, the plateau area is on the right side of the mountain



# Make The Tabernacle

- And אִתָּאֵל spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring Me an offering: of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart ye shall take My offering. And this is the offering which ye shall take of them; gold, and silver, and brass... And let them make Me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it. (Exodus 25:1-3/8-9)
- See, I have called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah: And I have filled him with the spirit of Elohiym, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, To devise cunning works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass, And in cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving of timber, to work in all manner of workmanship. (Exodus 31:1-5)

# Metal Works Area

- Discovered on December 15, 2022
- A furnace with at least two nearby stone slab forms



# Metal Works Area

- Can see Mount Sinai from the working area →
- Along the boundary ridge before the camp site



# Metal Works Area



- Hollow furnace with possible regulated oxygen flow and ash residue
- Molds close to the furnace

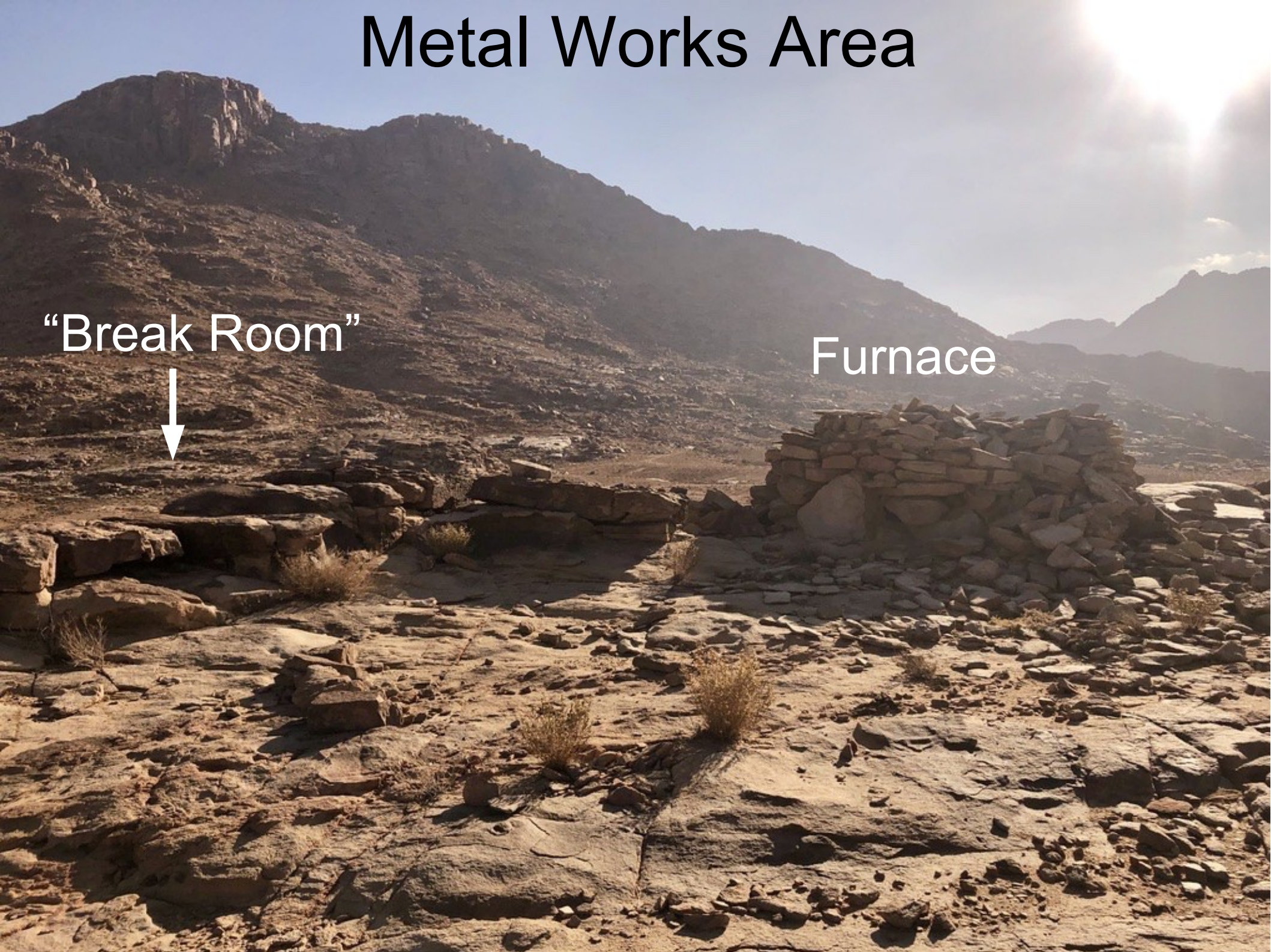


# Metal Works Area

“Break Room”



Furnace



# Make The Ark of Testimony

- And thou shalt make the ark of testimony of incorruptible wood; the length of two cubits and a half, and the breadth of a cubit and a half, and the height of a cubit and a half... And thou shalt make two cherubs graven in gold, and thou shalt put them on both sides of the propitiatory... The cherubs shall stretch forth their wings above, overshadowing the propitiatory with their wings; and their faces shall be toward each other, the faces of the cherubs shall be toward the propitiatory. (Exodus 25:9/17/19, LXXE)



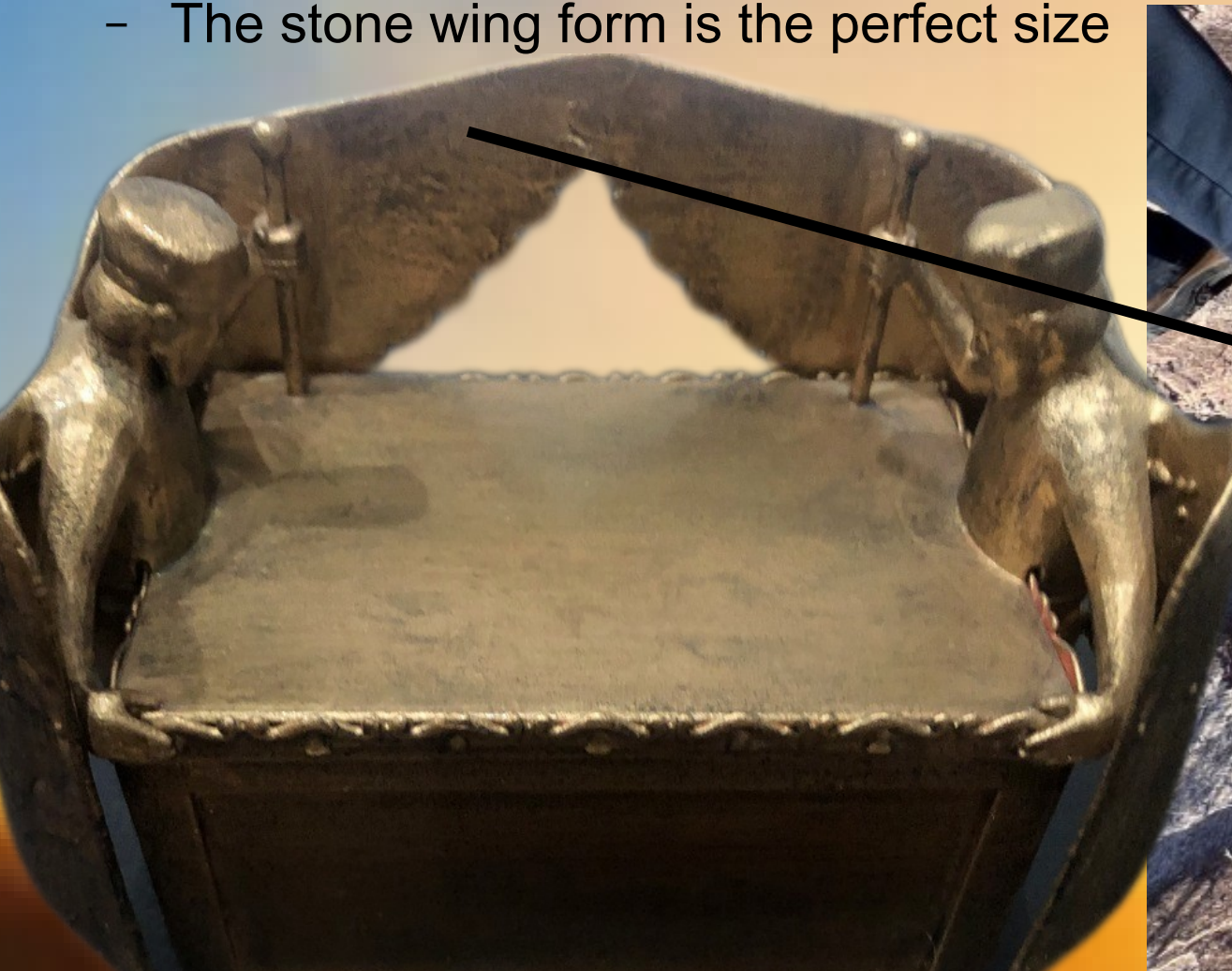
# Make The Ark of Testimony

- The stone form used to make a hammered cherub wing for the ark of the covenant



# Make The Ark of Testimony

- And thou shalt make the ark of testimony... the length of two cubits and a half... (Exodus 25:9, LXXE)
  - 1 royal cubit = 20.62 inches, thus the ark was 51.5 inches across.
  - Each wing would be about 36 inches to span half of the ark's width
  - The stone wing form is the perfect size



# Final Evidence

Exodus 20:1-17

I thou shall have no  
other gods before Me

II thou shall not make  
any graven images

III thou shall not take  
the name of יהוה  
thy Elohiym in vain

IV Remember the Sabbath  
day, to keep it set  
apart

V honor thy father

mit

**EVIDENCE**



# Noah's Ark



- Discovered: 1959/ 1977

# Gomorrah



Discovered: 1989

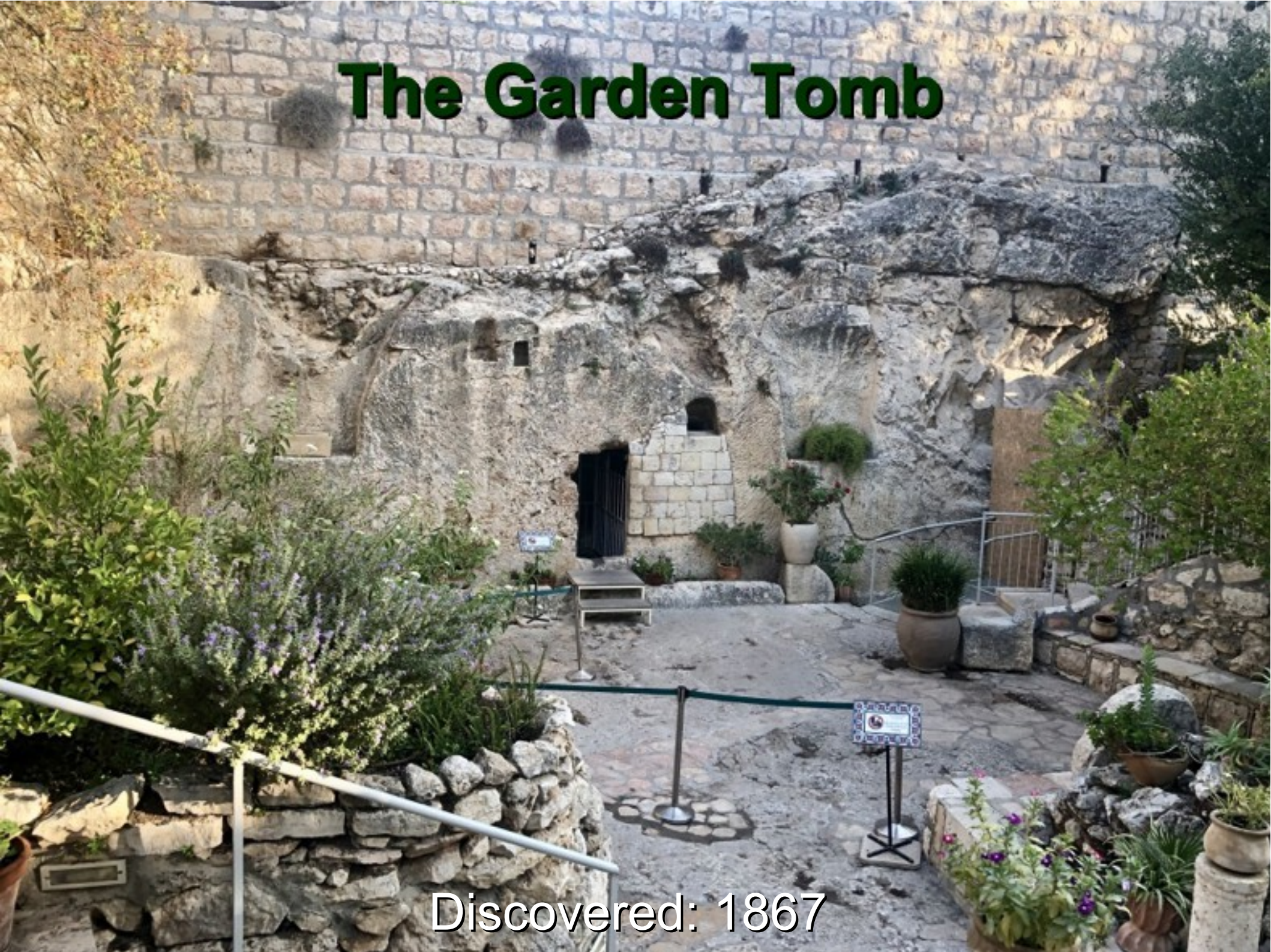
# The Pool of Siloam

A photograph showing a stone-paved walkway leading to a pool of water. The walkway is made of large, rectangular stone blocks, some of which are dark and appear to be covered in water or mud. The pool is on the right side of the frame, and the water is dark and still. The background shows more stone structures, possibly part of the pool's walls or surrounding architecture.

Discovered: 2004



# The Garden Tomb



Discovered: 1867

# The Mountain of ʾAḏʾaḏ

