



Sinai:

The Burnt Mountain

Tradition tells us that
Mount Sinai is, in the
Sinai peninsula in Egypt...



Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

(1 Thessalonians 5:21)

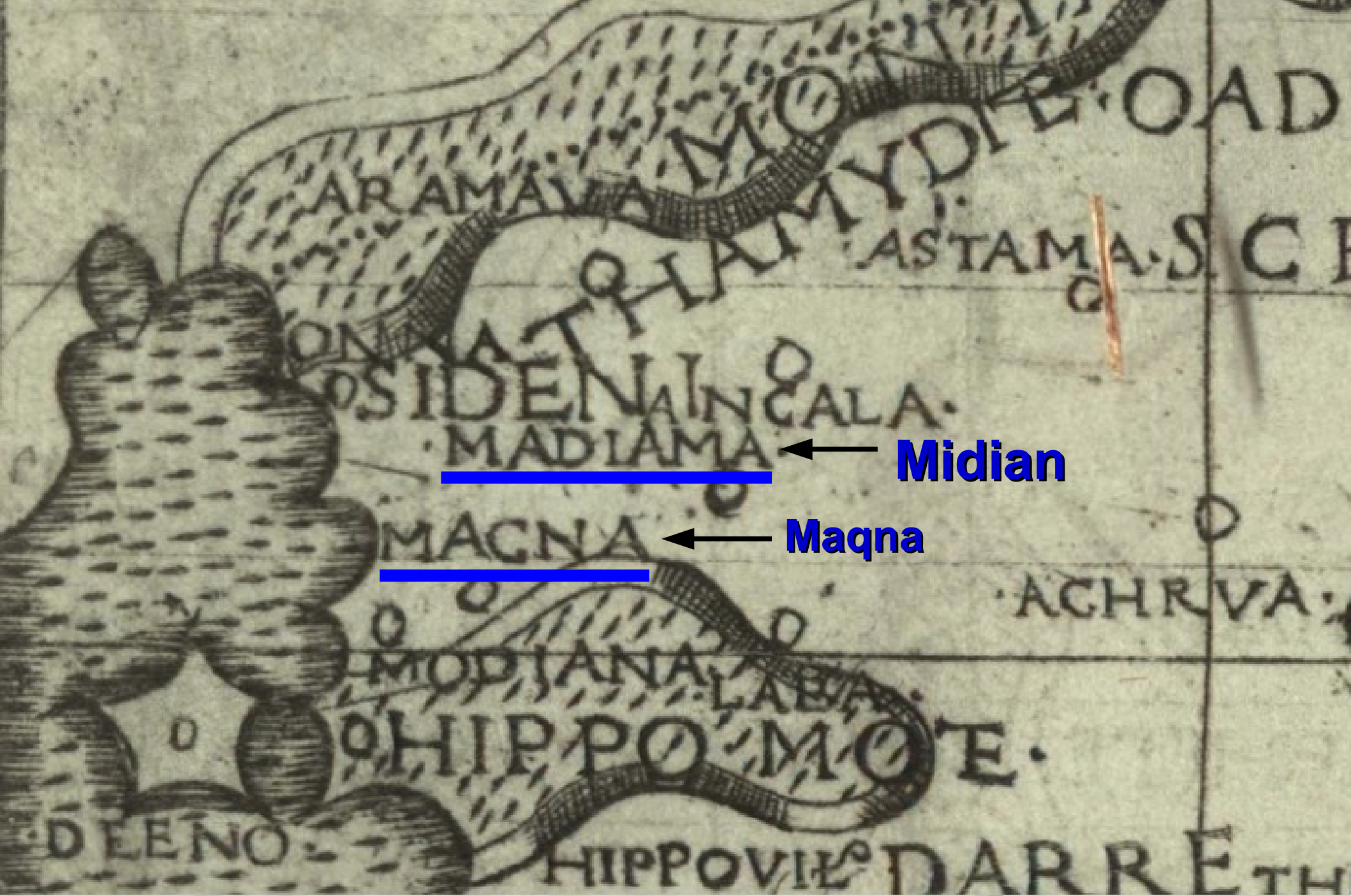
Tradition tells us that
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The Mountain of אֶרְצָאֵל in Midian

- ...Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh, and dwelt in the land of Midian... Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro... of Midian... led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of Aluhiym to Horeb... And the angel of אֶרְצָאֵל 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 Aluhiym upon this mountain. (Exodus 2:15; 3:1-2/12)
- And אֶרְצָאֵל said to Aaron, Go into the wilderness to meet Moses. And he went, and met him in the mount of Aluhiym... (Exodus 4:27)
- They... come to the desert of Sinai... and there Israel camped before the mount. (Exodus 19:2)

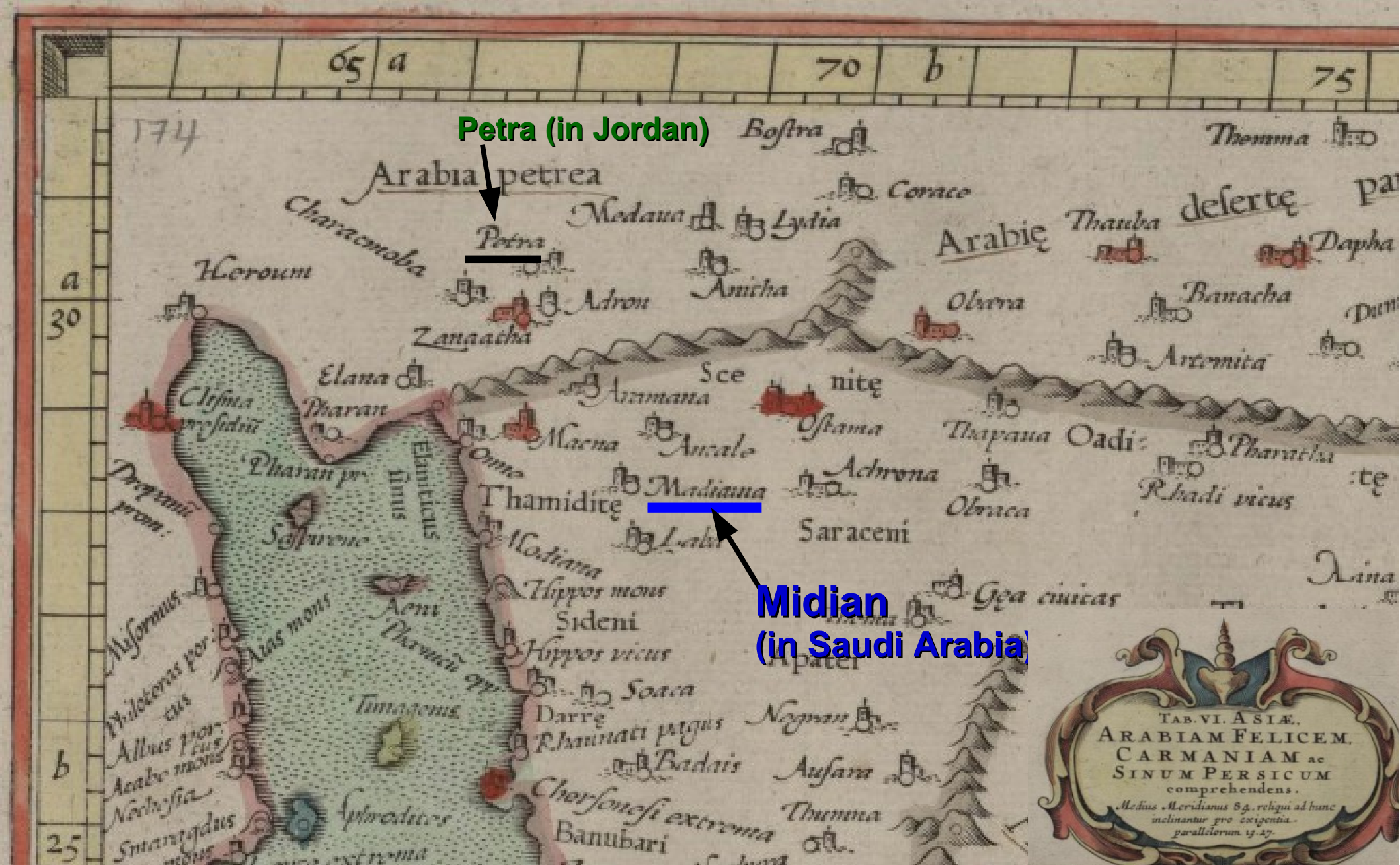




Tabvla Sexta De Asia (Sixth Map of Asia), from Claudius Ptolemy's (83AD-168AD) Geographia (published in 1482 by Francesco Berlinghieri) which contained coordinates for 6345 cities.



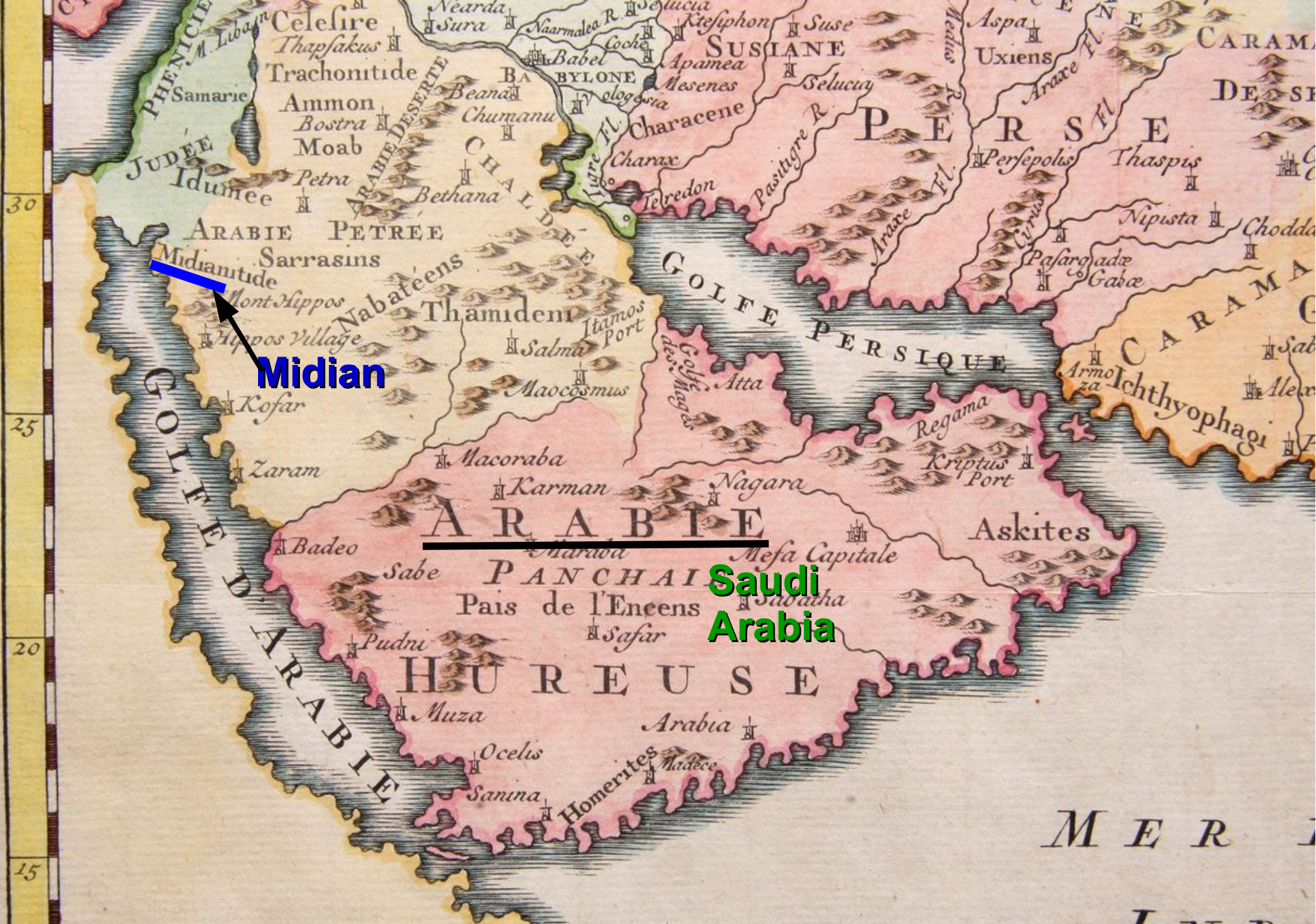
Tabvla Sexta De Asia (Sixth Map of Asia), from Ptolemy's (83AD-168AD) Geographia (published in 1482 by Francesco Berlinghieri)



Asiae Tabula VI: Arabiam Felicem, Carmaniam Ac Sinum Persicum (Sixth Map of Asia: Which Includes Arabia Felix, Carmania, and the Persian Gulf), from Ptolemy's (83AD-168AD) Geographia (published in 1578)

The Mountain of אֶרְצָא in Midian Arabia

- ...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 Aluhiym**. And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of אֶרְצָא came to him... (1 Kings 19:2/8-9)
- I Esdras received a charge of אֶרְצָא 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 אֶרְצָא. (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)



Prevost, c.1760, French cartographer Jacques-Nicolas Bellin

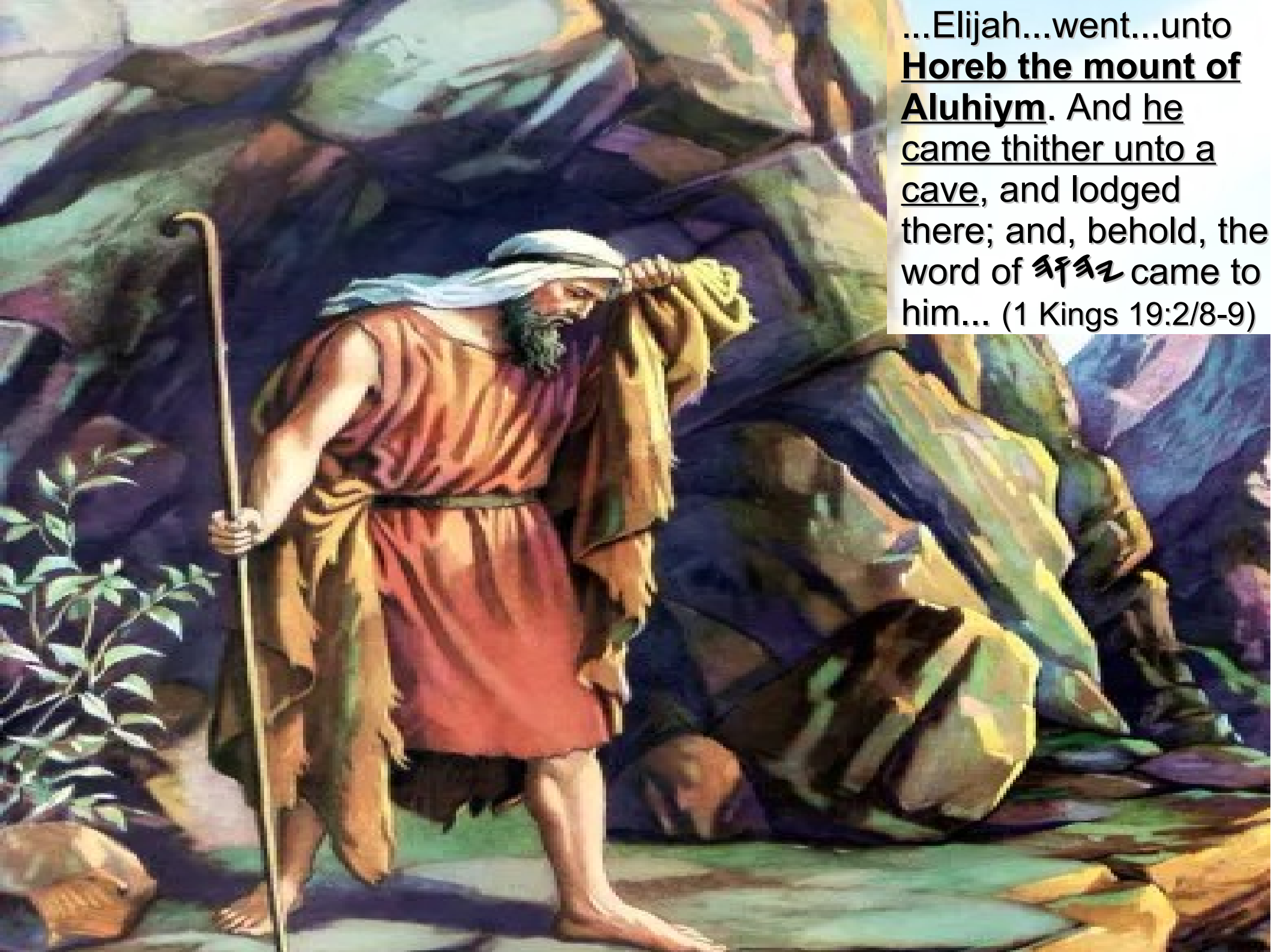
<https://franpritchett.com/00maplinks/mughal/bellinancien/ancientarabia.jpg>

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 Ianitic Gulf (Gulf of Aqaba)



...Elijah...went...unto **Horeb the mount of Aluhiym**. 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)

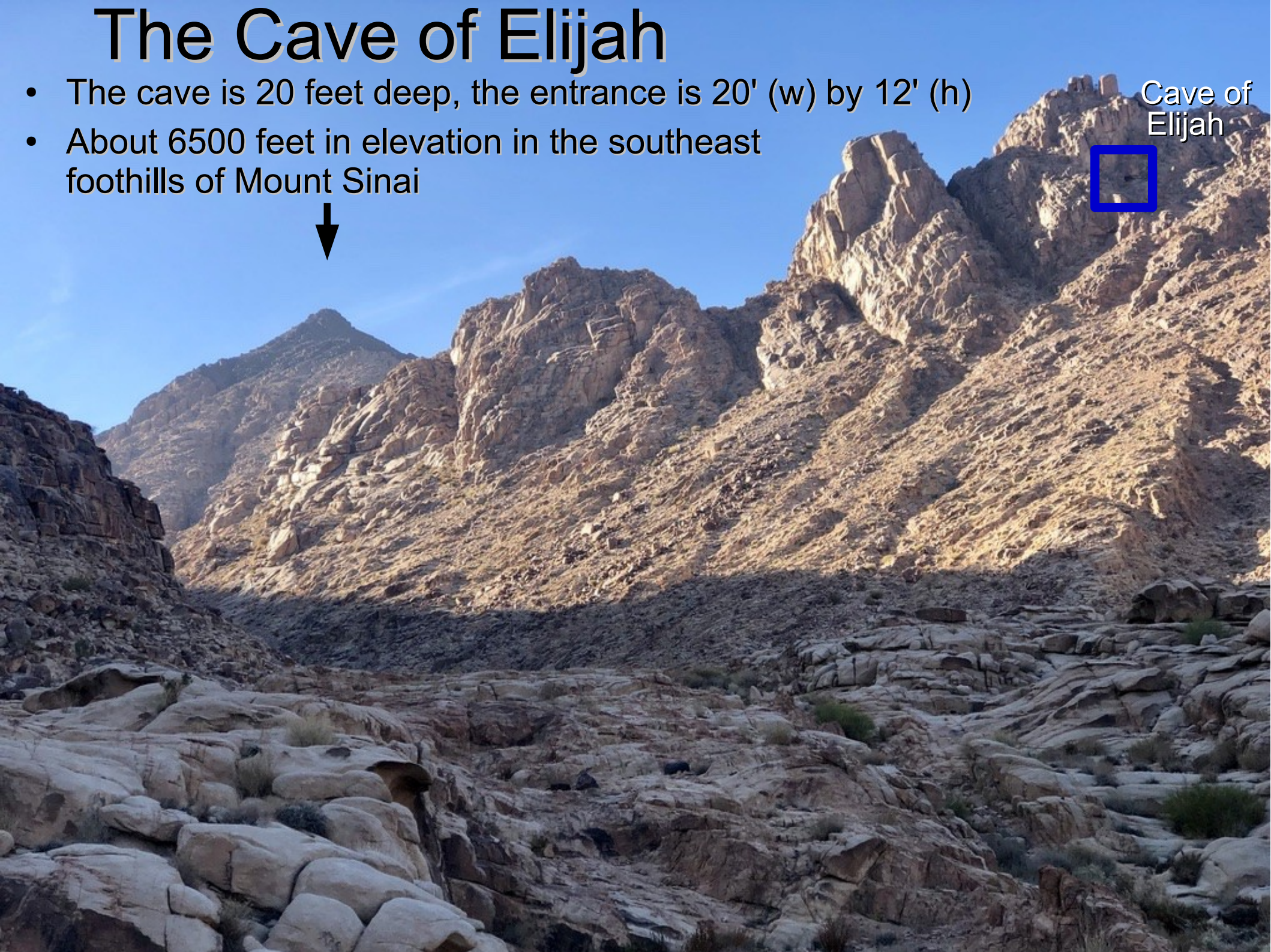


The Cave of Elijah

- 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



The Cave of Elijah



Elijah's Caves pictures taken by Scott

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)



Caves of Jethro



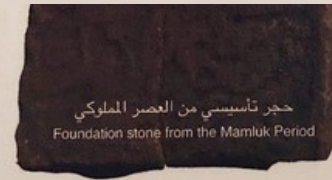
Caves of Jethro and The Well of Moses

From the Al-Bad'a Midian Museum

المقابر النبطية بمغار 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-Malhah 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.

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>

At The Mountain of אֶרְאֵל

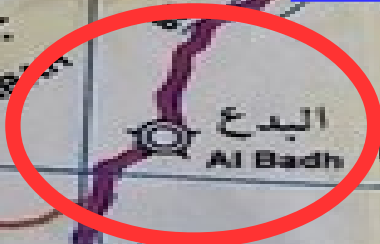
- Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of Aluhiym, even to Horeb. And the angel of אֶרְאֵל appeared unto him in **a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush:** and he looked, and, behold, **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)

Wadi Musa

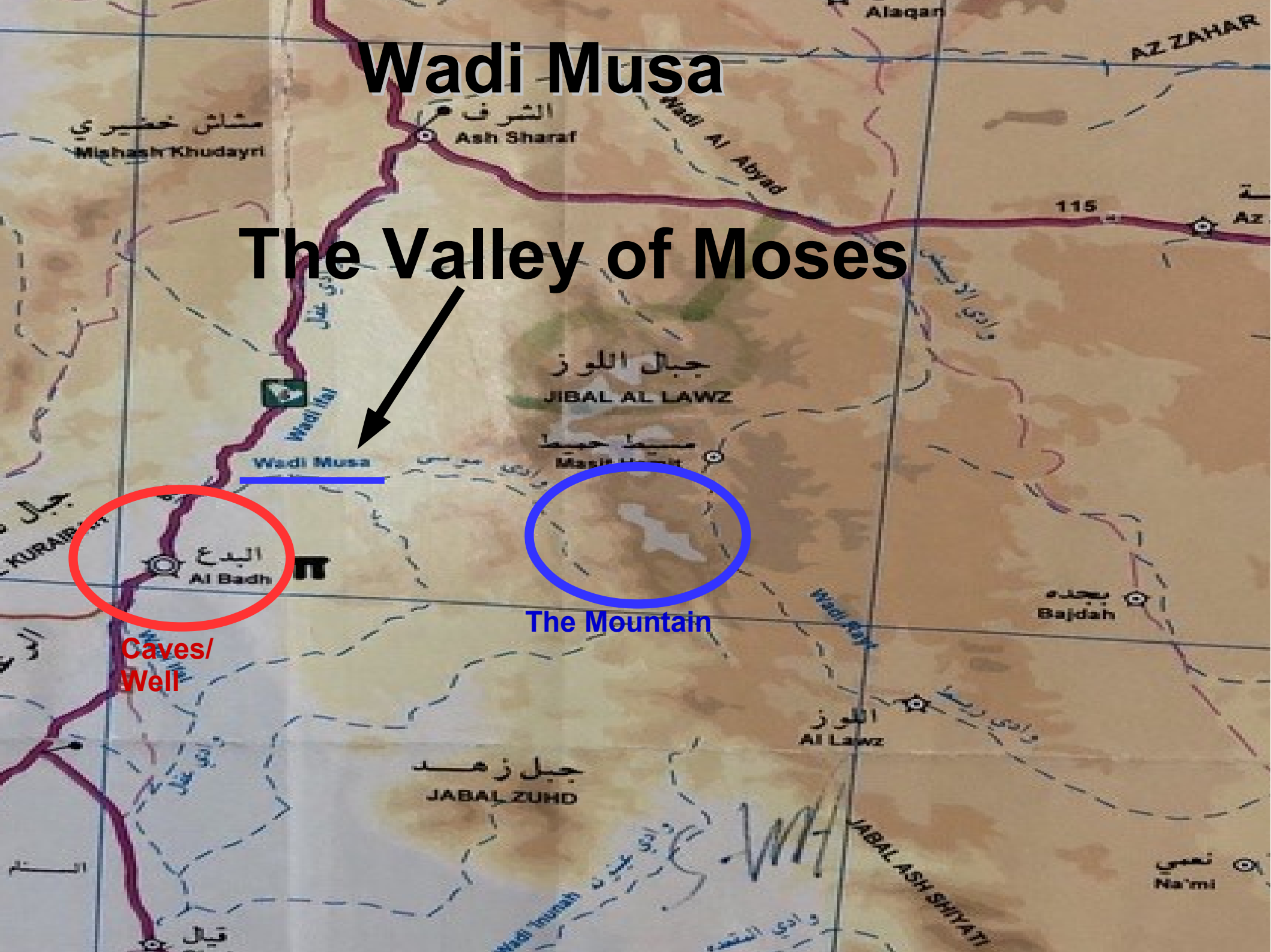
The Valley of Moses



Caves/
Well



The Mountain



The Sea Was Parted

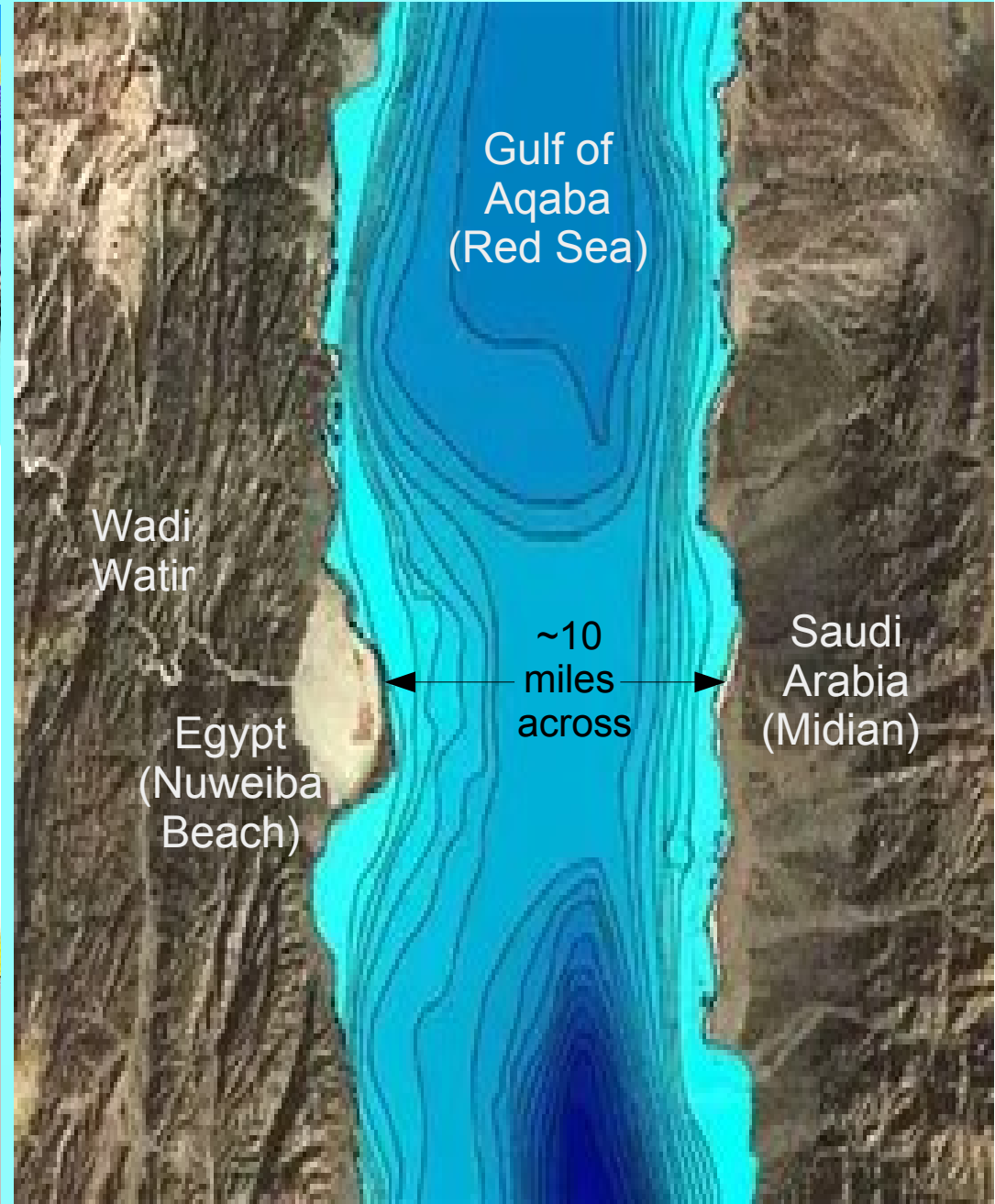
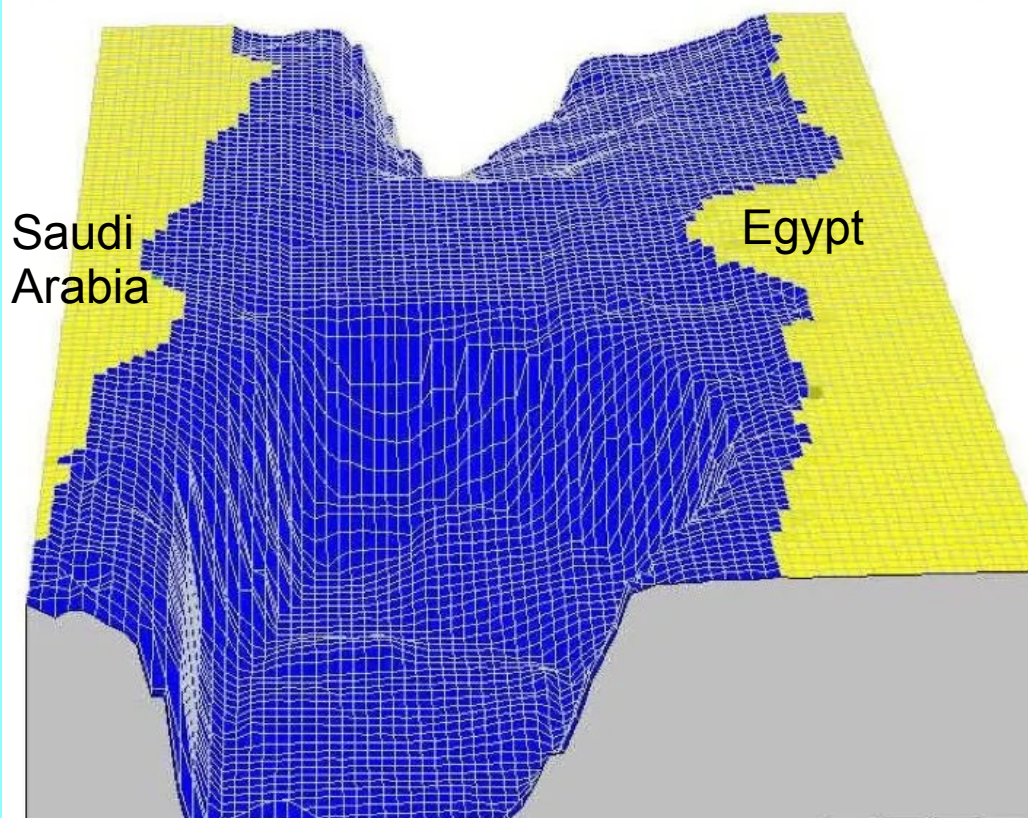
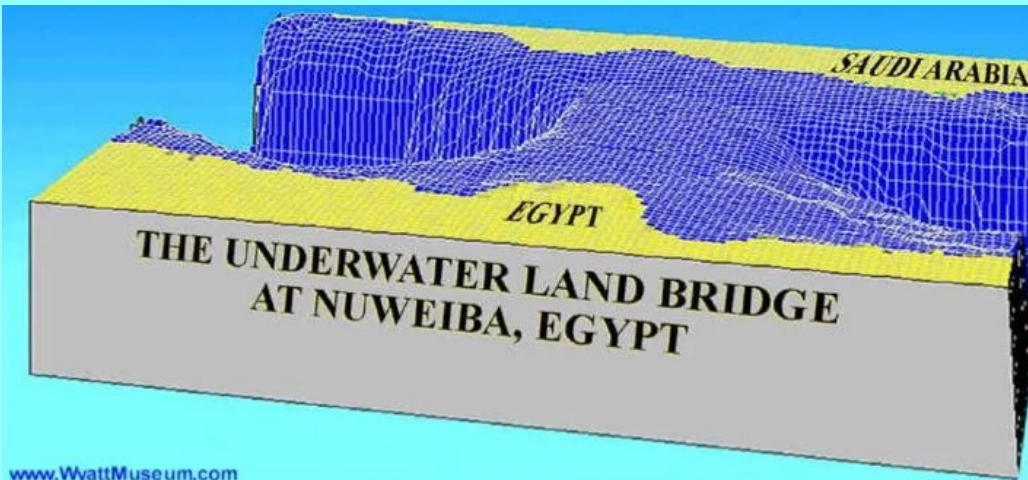
A dramatic illustration of the Red Sea parted. The sea is split into two halves, revealing a path of dry, brownish ground. The water is a deep, dark blue-green color. In the distance, a bright, glowing light emanates from the horizon, with several jagged lightning bolts striking down from a dark, stormy sky. The overall scene is one of divine power and miraculous intervention.

And the children of Israel
went into the midst of
the sea on the dry land,
and the water of it was a
wall on the right hand
and a wall on the left.
(Exodus 14:22, LXXE)

On The Shore Of The Sea

- ...**אף אף** shook off the Egyptians in the midst of the sea and the water returned and covered the chariots and the riders, and all the forces of Pharaoh, who entered after them into the sea: and there was not left of them even one. (Exodus 14:27-28)
- ...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



The Nuweiba Land Bridge

- *The Exodus land bridge from Nuweiba Egypt to Saudi Arabia was first measured and published in **1898** (Expedition S.M. Schiff "Pola" in das Rothe Meer : nördliche Hälfte : (October 1895-Mai 1896) : wissenschaftliche Ergebnisse [1898])*

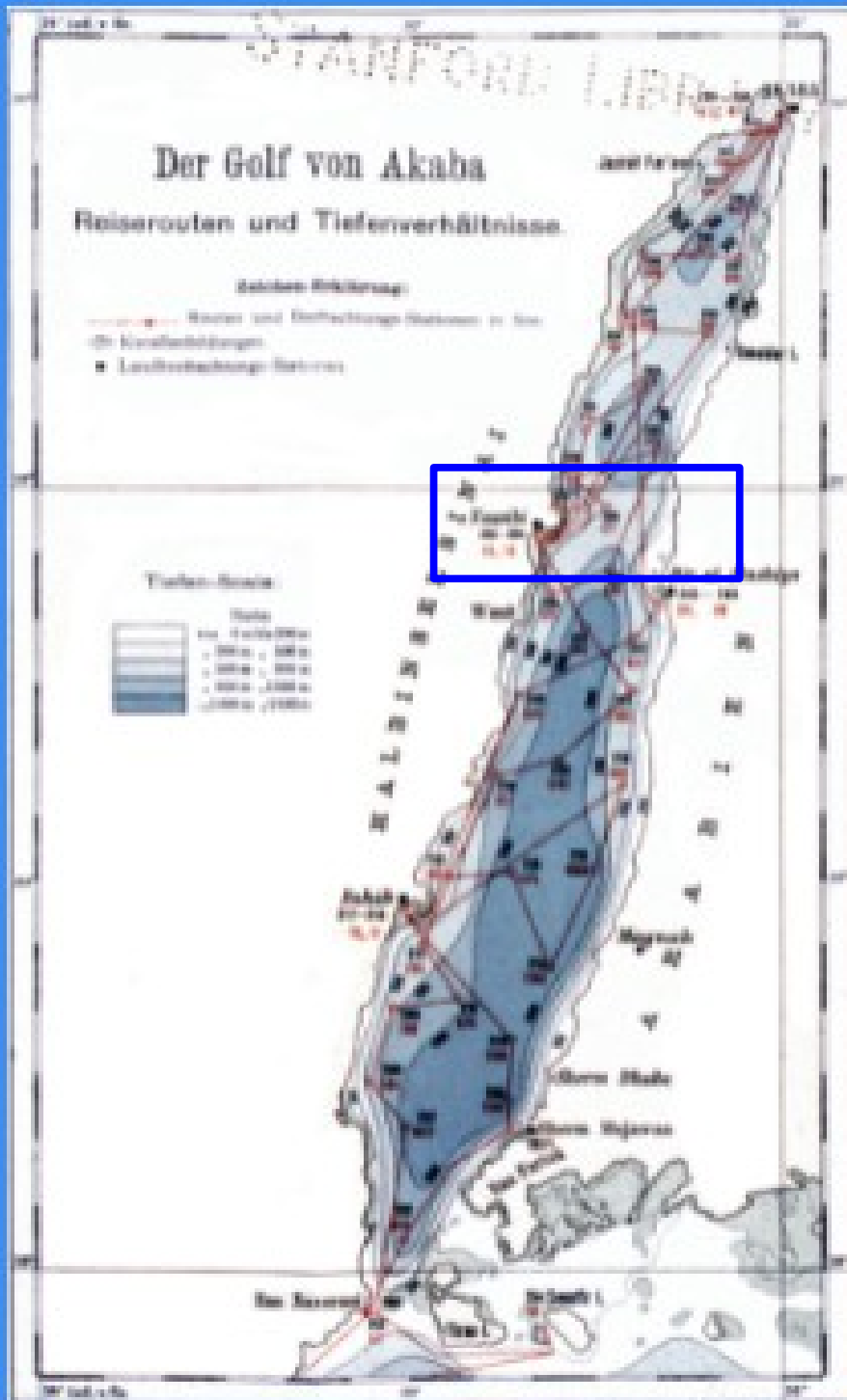
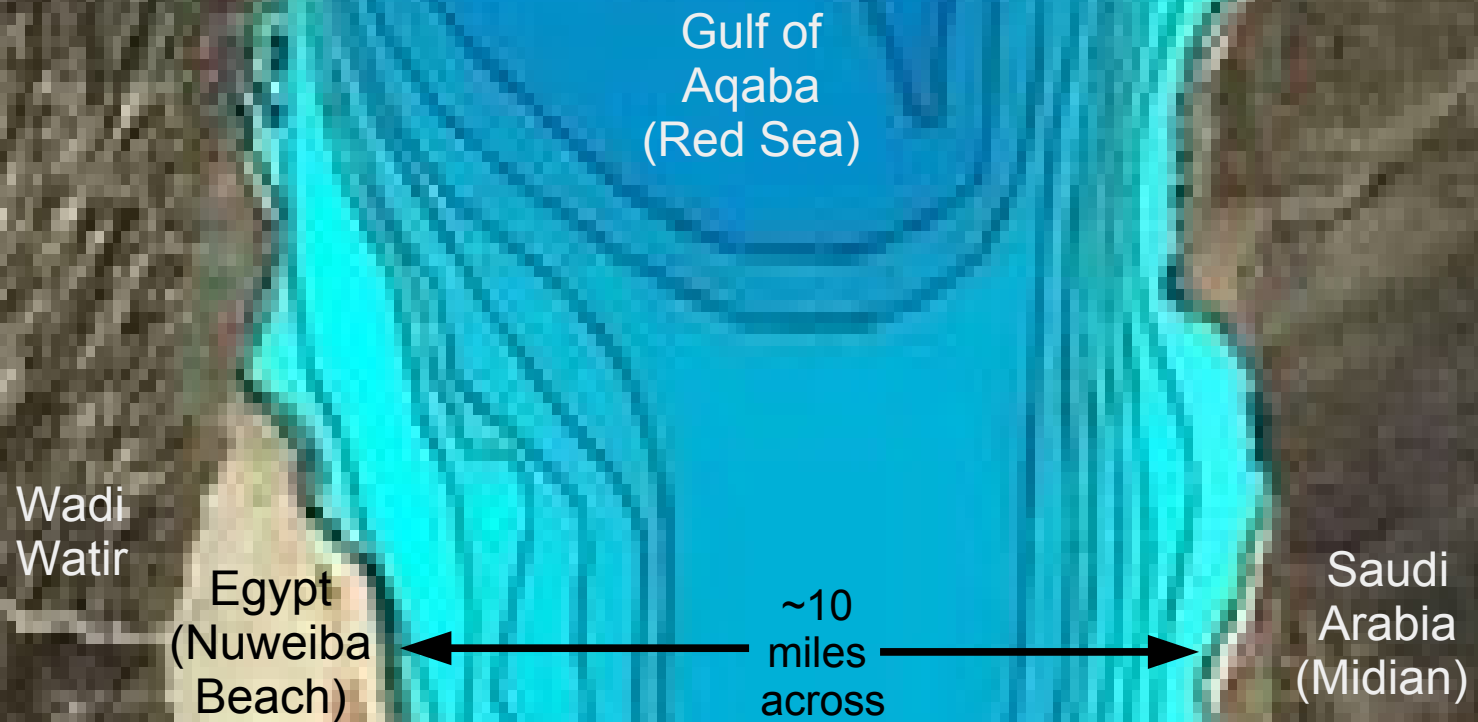


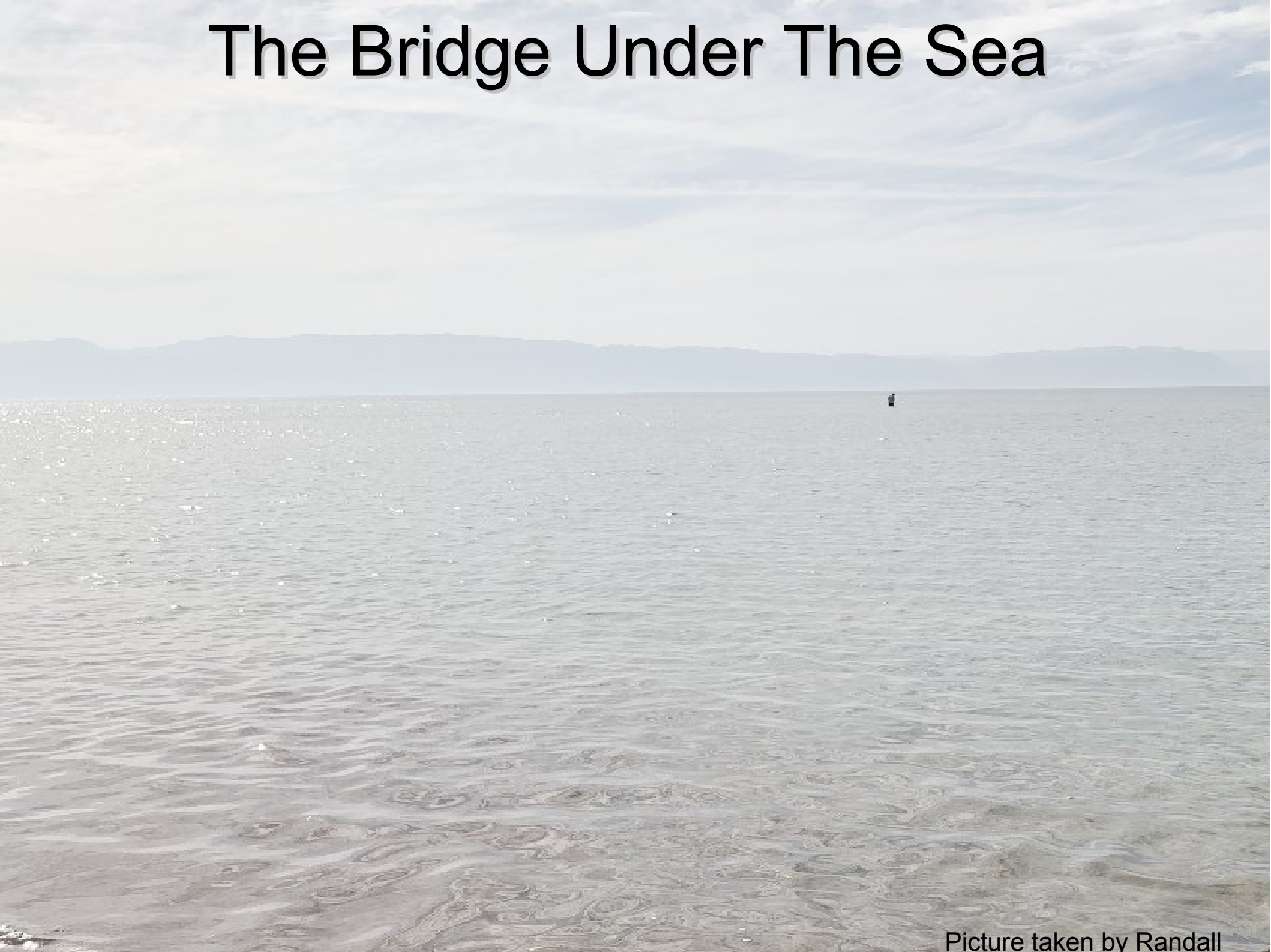
Fig. 7. Stations in the Gulf of Aqaba during the 1895–1896 scientific expedition of the Austrian transport steamer Pola in the northern Red Sea. Around fifty sounding stations using a wire sounding apparatus delineated the major basins of the gulf. The track between stations is at least 740 km long. Figure taken from the Pola Expedition reports, located in the library at Stanford University

<https://searchworks.stanford.edu/view/7046043>

The Bridge Under The Sea



The Bridge Under The Sea



Picture taken by Randall

Evidence From The Nuweiba Crossing Site

<https://wyattmuseum.com/discovering/red-sea-crossing>



Wyatt Archaeological Museum - 2019

The
Nuweiba
Beach
column



<https://www.wyattmuseum.com/red-sea-crossing>

On The Shore Of The Sea



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

On The Shore Of The Sea



The V-shaped entrance to the Wadi Watir can be seen

The Saudi Side of the Crossing Site

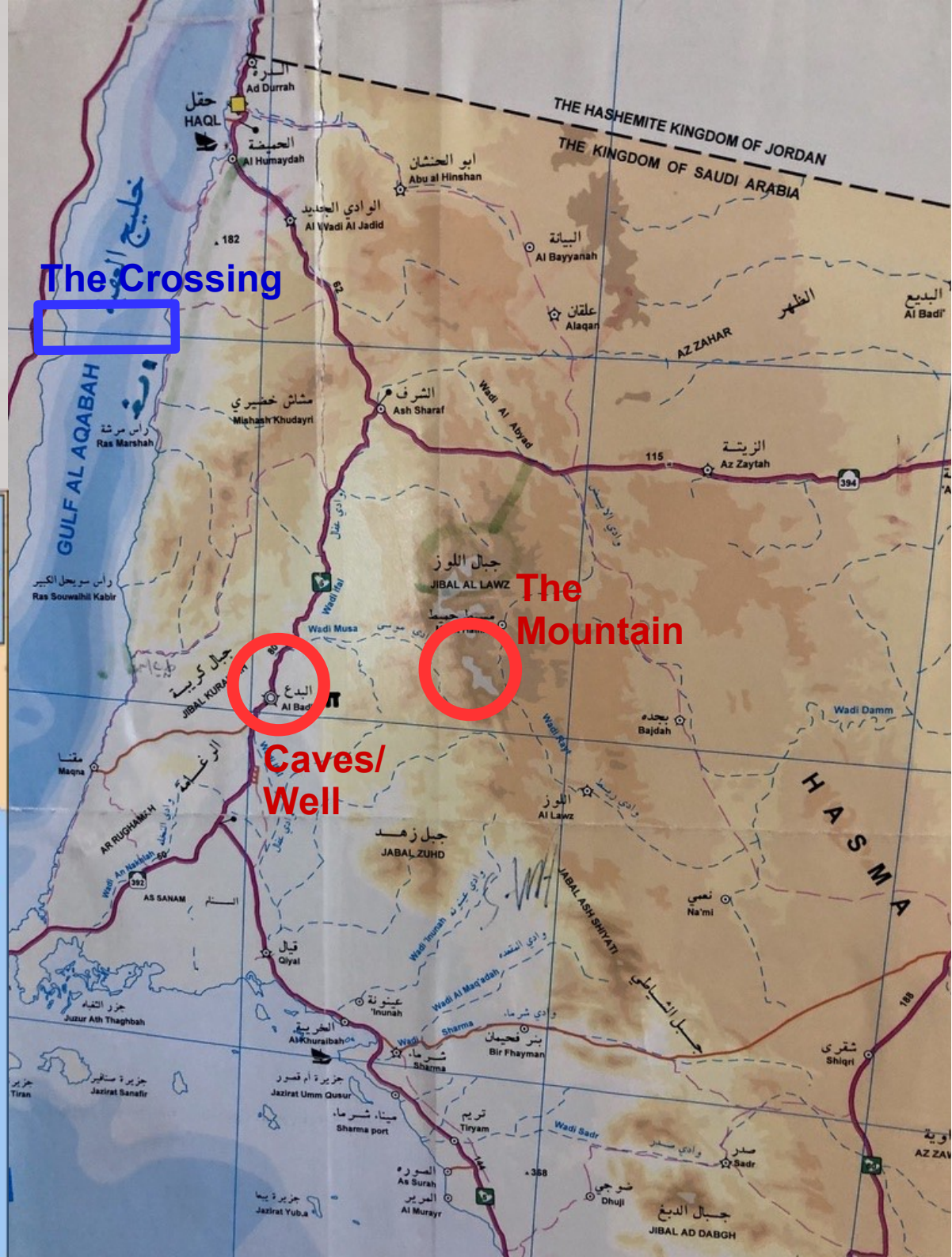


The Saudi Side of the Crossing Site



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



Marah – Bitter Water Made Sweet



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



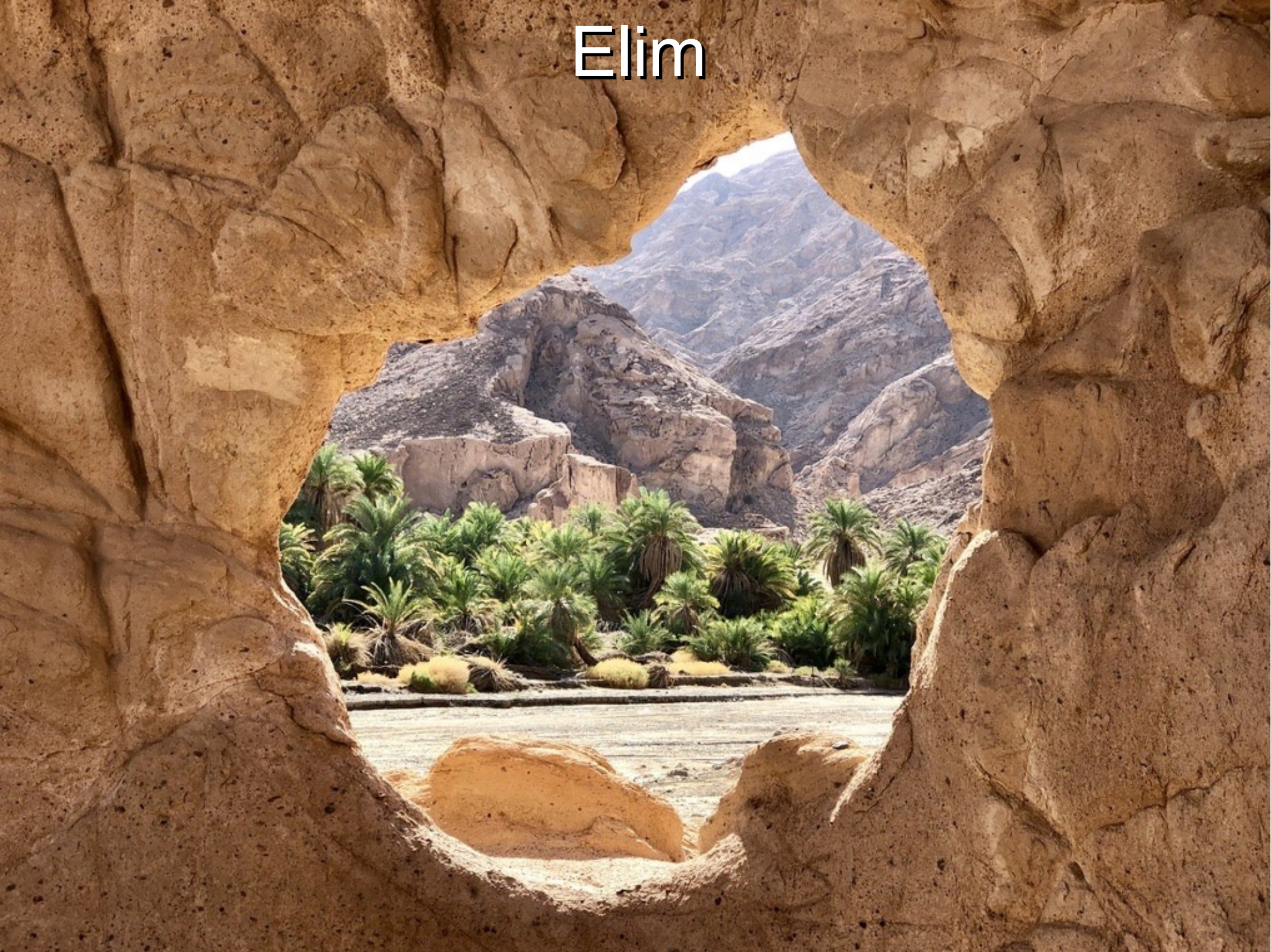
Elim



Elim



Elim



A Desert Path From Elim



Oasis By The Sea

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

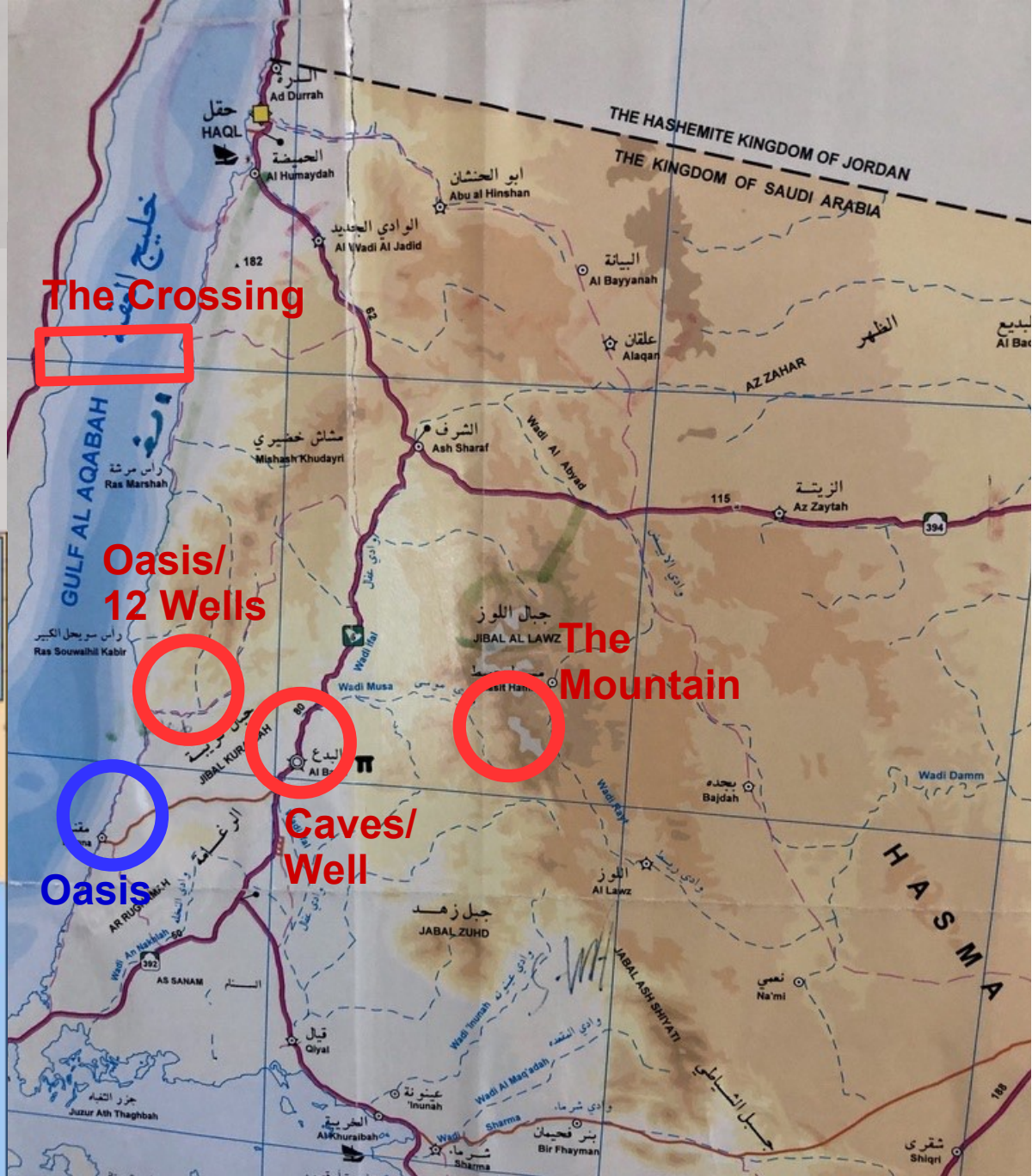


Oasis By The Sea



An Oasis By The Sea

- Located at the outskirts of Maqna, known as Bir Sa'idani (The Springs of Moses)
- A few 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 אִף־אֵל has given you to eat. This is that which אִף־אֵל 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 אִף־אֵל spoke? **Tomorrow the Sabbath, a set apart rest to אִף־אֵל**: 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 Aluhiym blessed the seventh day and sanctified it...**
(Genesis 2:3, 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)

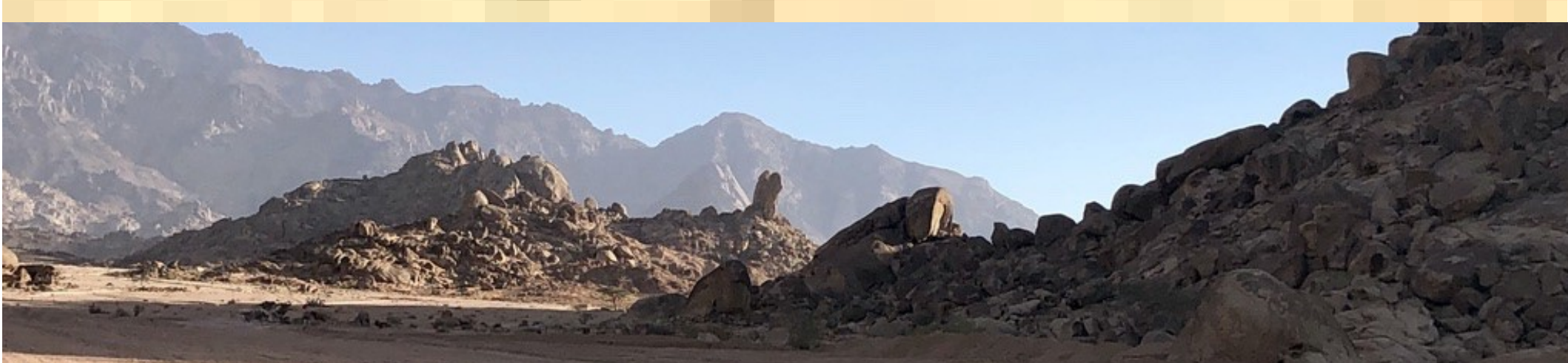
Bread From Heaven

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



The Rock of Horeb

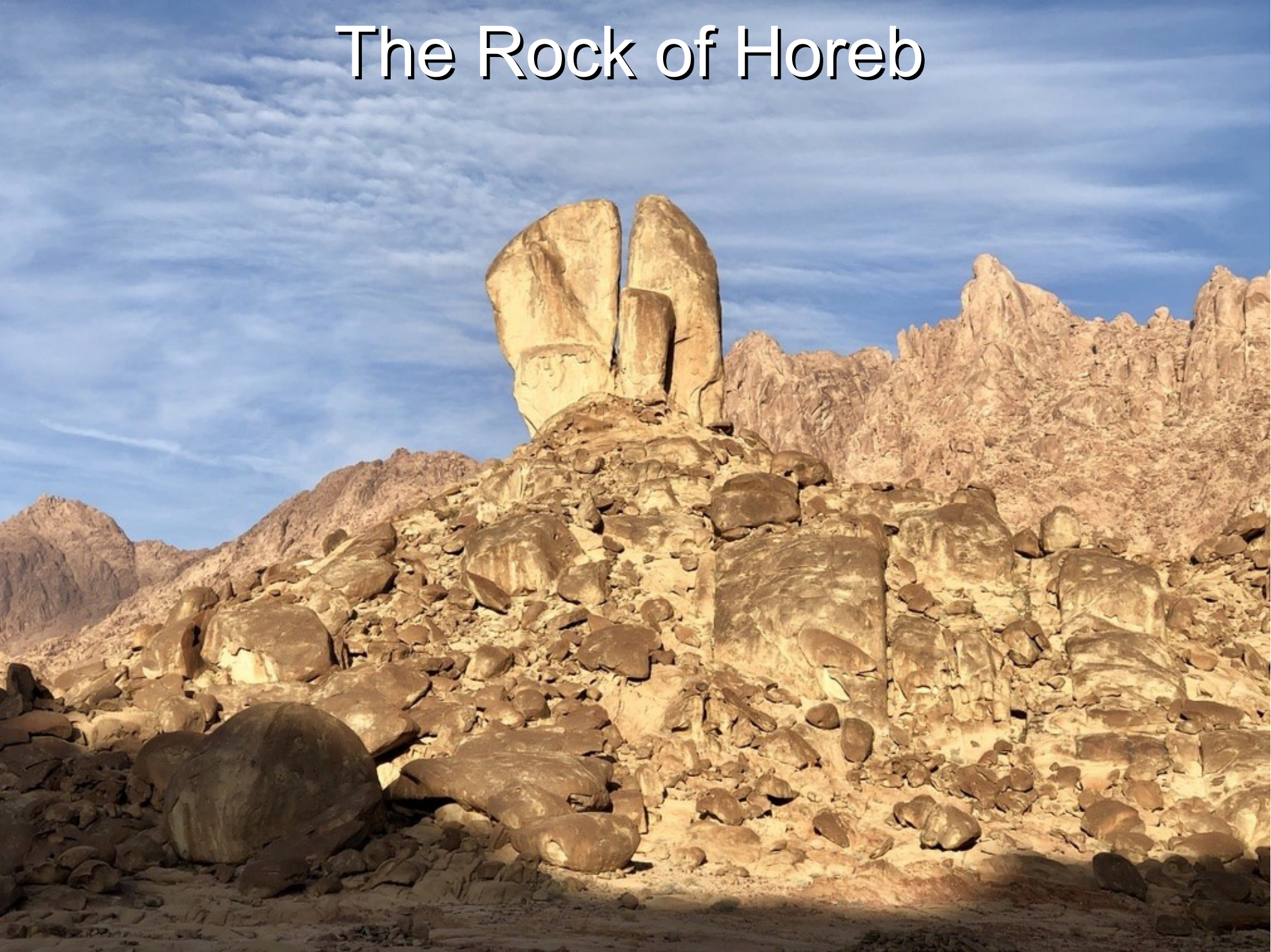
- And they removed from Alush, and encamped at Rephidim, where was no water for the people to drink. (Numbers 33:14)
- And all the congregation of the children of Israel journeyed from the wilderness of Sin, after their journeys, according to the commandment of אֱלֹהִים, and pitched in Rephidim: and 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)



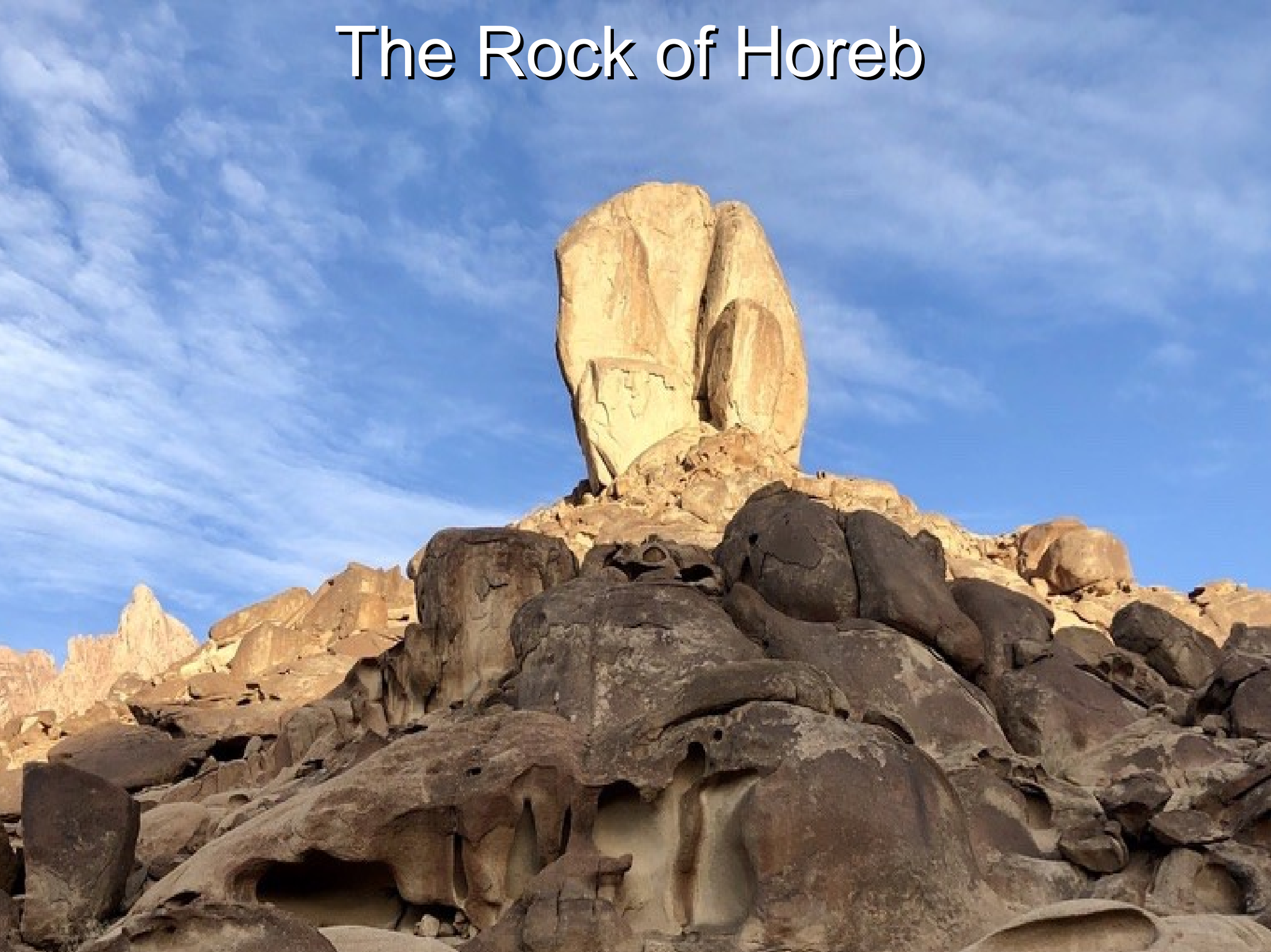
The Rock of Horeb



The Rock of Horeb



The Rock of Horeb



The Rock of Horeb



The Rock of Horeb and The Wadi



The Rock of Horeb



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

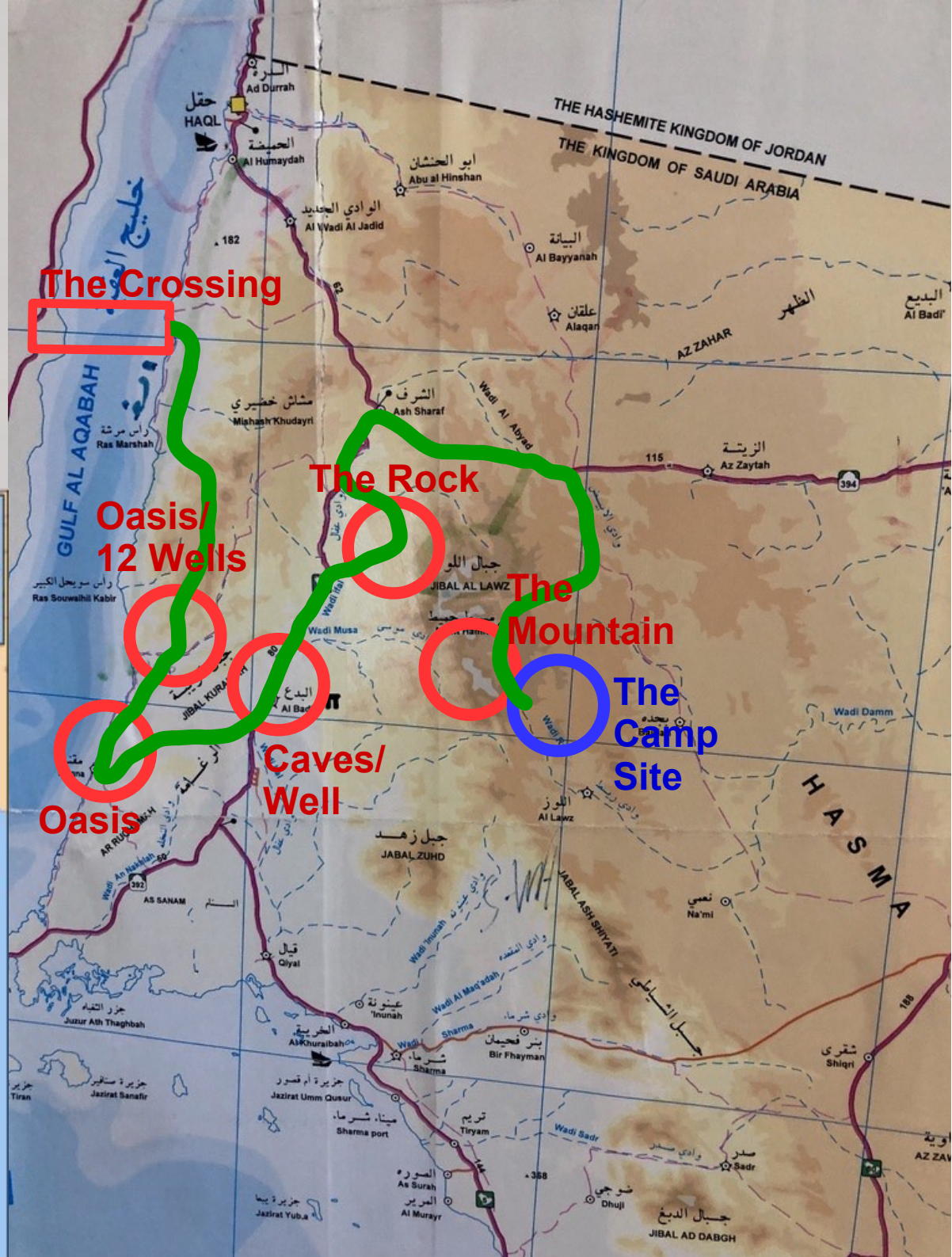
Huge camp site plain, just
beyond the small ridges

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



The Route To Sinai

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



The Third Day

- And אלהים 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 אלהים will come down in the sight of all the people upon mount Sinai. (Exodus 19:10-11)
 - Let us go, and return to אלהים our Aluhiym; for He has torn, and will heal us; He will smite, and bind us up. After two days He will heal us: in the third day we shall arise, and live before Him, and shall know [Him]: (Hosea 6:1-2, LXXE)

The Border of The Mountain

- And אַף אַז 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 אַף אַז 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)

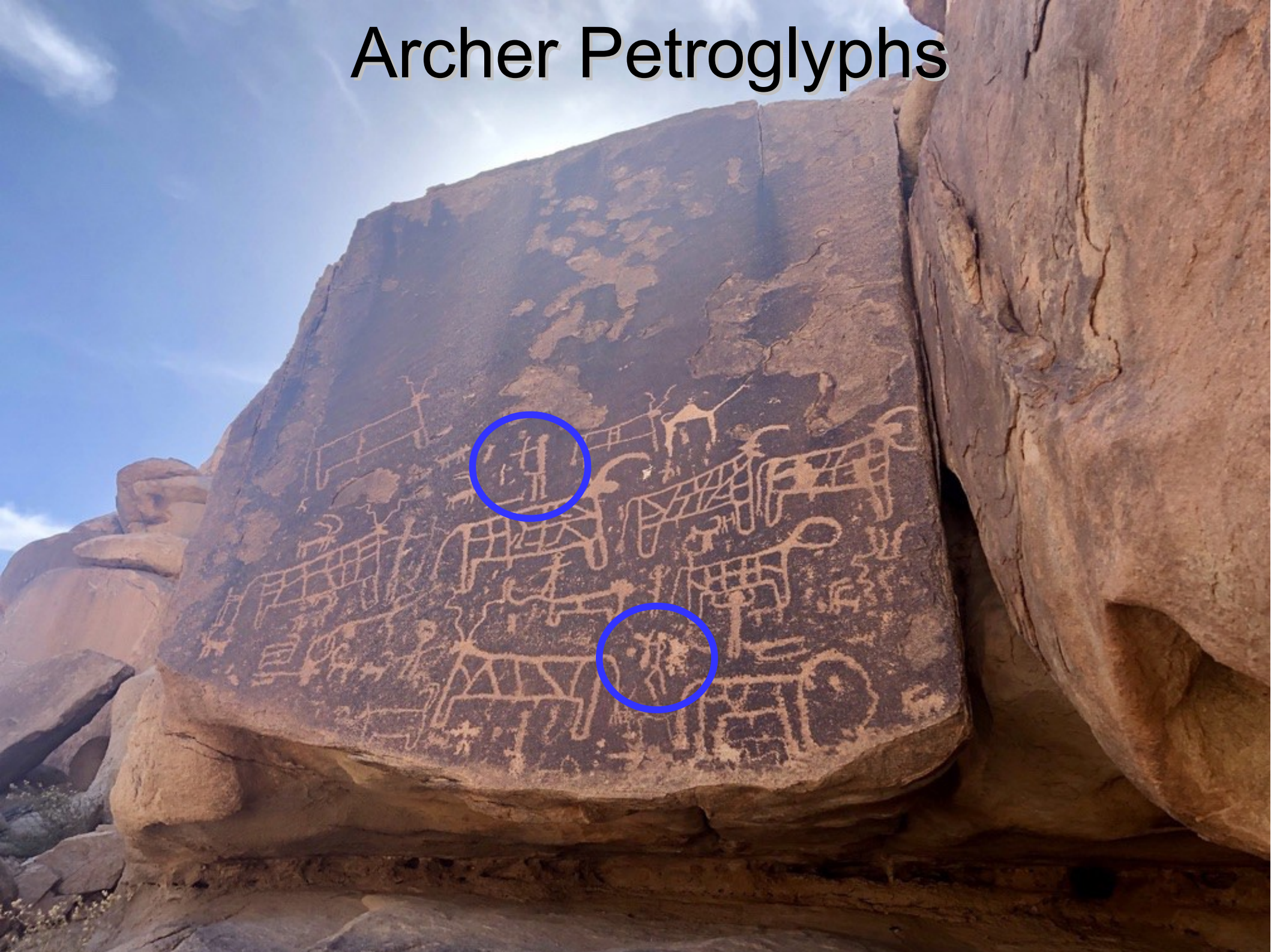


- Petroglyph of an archer found near the base of the mountain (one of at least three locations around the mountain)



This sign is not really there!

Archer Petroglyphs



Archer Petroglyphs

Huge camp site plain, just
beyond the small ridges

 Archer
Petroglyphs

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

The Burnt Mountain

