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00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:05,000

Can we find evidence of the story of Moses and Exodus?

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00:00:05,000 --> 00:00:08,000

Here at this side, we have the tomb of Moses.

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There's a tomb here? Yeah.

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00:00:09,000 --> 00:00:11,000

Of Moses? Yes.

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00:00:11,000 --> 00:00:12,000

Can we see it?

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00:00:12,000 --> 00:00:18,000

Were Israelites ever driven out of Egypt from inside its borders?

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00:00:18,000 --> 00:00:19,000

It's happened.

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00:00:19,000 --> 00:00:20,000

It did happen? Yes.

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00:00:20,000 --> 00:00:22,000

All right. It's hammer time.

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00:00:22,000 --> 00:00:24,000

Kids, ask your parents what that means.

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00:00:24,000 --> 00:00:26,000

A little bit of a drop off. What did you find?

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00:00:26,000 --> 00:00:29,000

Oh, a word. Fire!

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00:00:29,000 --> 00:00:31,000

And this is the burning bush.

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00:00:31,000 --> 00:00:34,000

Wait, you mean the burning bush? This is the burning bush?

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00:00:34,000 --> 00:00:39,000

We are seeing a huge mass of stones down here.

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00:00:39,000 --> 00:00:42,000

Oh, holy Moses!

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00:00:42,000 --> 00:00:44,000

Look at this place.

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00:00:44,000 --> 00:00:59,000

Let my people go.

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00:00:59,000 --> 00:01:03,000

This unapologetic demand for justice echoes across the millennia

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00:01:03,000 --> 00:01:06,000

from the story of Moses.

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00:01:06,000 --> 00:01:09,000

Prophet, law giver, freedom fighter,

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00:01:09,000 --> 00:01:11,000

his resume is in the hands of the Lord.

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00:01:11,000 --> 00:01:15,000

Prophet, law giver, freedom fighter, his resume is legendary.

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00:01:15,000 --> 00:01:18,000

He delivers the Israelites from slavery in Egypt,

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00:01:18,000 --> 00:01:20,000

receives the Ten Commandments from God,

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00:01:20,000 --> 00:01:24,000

and leads his people to the Promised Land.

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But are the incidents in the book of Exodus

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00:01:26,000 --> 00:01:28,000

based on historical events,

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00:01:28,000 --> 00:01:31,000

and frankly, was Moses a real person?

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00:01:31,000 --> 00:01:33,000

Did he speak to God?

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00:01:33,000 --> 00:01:36,000

Plague the Pharaoh and part the Red Sea.

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Scholars have long debated the origins of these stories,

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00:01:39,000 --> 00:01:43,000

and now, archaeology may have answers.

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00:01:43,000 --> 00:01:47,000

In Egypt, a long-sealed tomb hides tantalizing clues

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00:01:47,000 --> 00:01:49,000

about the identity of Moses.

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00:01:49,000 --> 00:01:52,000

Meanwhile, inscriptions in an ancient mine

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00:01:52,000 --> 00:01:54,000

might lead us to the fleeing Israelites,

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00:01:54,000 --> 00:01:57,000

and I plan to climb a remote peak

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00:01:57,000 --> 00:02:00,000

that the faithful believe is the true Mount Sinai.

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00:02:00,000 --> 00:02:03,000

And then there's a question you may never have thought of.

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00:02:03,000 --> 00:02:05,000

Where exactly is Moses buried?

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00:02:05,000 --> 00:02:08,000

The controversy over his final resting place,

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00:02:08,000 --> 00:02:11,000

not to mention the discovery of a strange man-made structure

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00:02:11,000 --> 00:02:13,000

in the Sea of Galilee,

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00:02:13,000 --> 00:02:16,000

might change what we think we know about his story.

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00:02:16,000 --> 00:02:20,000

So join me on a quest of biblical proportions

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00:02:20,000 --> 00:02:22,000

as we cross nations and deserts

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00:02:22,000 --> 00:02:24,000

in the shadow of the Prince of Egypt

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00:02:24,000 --> 00:02:29,000

to uncover the truth behind the mysteries of Moses.

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00:02:32,000 --> 00:02:34,000

My name is Josh Gates.

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00:02:34,000 --> 00:02:35,000

Hello!

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00:02:35,000 --> 00:02:37,000

Explorer.

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00:02:37,000 --> 00:02:38,000

Adventurer.

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00:02:38,000 --> 00:02:39,000

Amazing!

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00:02:39,000 --> 00:02:40,000

Woo!

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00:02:40,000 --> 00:02:43,000

And a guy who ends up in some very strange situations.

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00:02:43,000 --> 00:02:45,000

Woo! That was exciting.

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00:02:45,000 --> 00:02:49,000

With a degree in archaeology and a passion for the unexplained,

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00:02:49,000 --> 00:02:51,000

I travel to the ends of the earth,

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00:02:51,000 --> 00:02:54,000

investigating the greatest legends in history.

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00:02:54,000 --> 00:02:56,000

Okay, let's punch it!

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00:02:56,000 --> 00:02:58,000

This is Expedition Unknown.

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00:03:08,000 --> 00:03:10,000

In the words of Scripture,

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00:03:10,000 --> 00:03:13,000

this is where the story of Moses begins.

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00:03:13,000 --> 00:03:14,000

The Nile.

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00:03:14,000 --> 00:03:17,000

It's the 13th century BCE.

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00:03:17,000 --> 00:03:20,000

Egypt is at the height of its power and prosperity

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00:03:20,000 --> 00:03:23,000

in a period known as the New Kingdom.

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00:03:23,000 --> 00:03:27,000

Cities and monuments spread out across the Nile Delta.

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00:03:27,000 --> 00:03:29,000

But according to the Bible,

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00:03:29,000 --> 00:03:33,000

all that prestige is built on the backs of Hebrew slaves.

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00:03:33,000 --> 00:03:35,000

It's a powerful story,

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00:03:35,000 --> 00:03:37,000

but is there any proof that it's true?

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00:03:37,000 --> 00:03:41,000

We're sailing to one of the oldest parts of Cairo to find out.

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00:03:45,000 --> 00:03:48,000

Today, Cairo is a mostly Muslim city.

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00:03:48,000 --> 00:03:51,000

But for centuries, the neighborhood of Coptic Cairo

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00:03:51,000 --> 00:03:54,000

has been the center of Christianity in Egypt,

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00:03:54,000 --> 00:03:57,000

and a melting pot for all the Abrahamic faiths.

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00:03:57,000 --> 00:03:59,000

My search for Moses begins

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00:03:59,000 --> 00:04:02,000

near the oldest Jewish synagogue in Cairo,

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00:04:02,000 --> 00:04:05,000

in Venezuela, founded in 1115.

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00:04:05,000 --> 00:04:09,000

I'm here to meet my old friend, Egyptologist Aidan Dodson.

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00:04:09,000 --> 00:04:11,000

Josh, great to see you. How are you?

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00:04:11,000 --> 00:04:13,000

Not too bad. Here we are again in Egypt.

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00:04:13,000 --> 00:04:14,000

Indeed.

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00:04:14,000 --> 00:04:16,000

I have to say, all the times I've been to Cairo,

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00:04:16,000 --> 00:04:19,000

I've never been to this neighborhood. Where are we?

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00:04:19,000 --> 00:04:21,000

We're in Old Cairo. Okay.

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00:04:21,000 --> 00:04:23,000

And this goes back to Roman times,

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00:04:23,000 --> 00:04:27,000

and this tower behind us here is part of that Roman faith phase.

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00:04:27,000 --> 00:04:31,000

Also here, we've got the oldest church in Cairo,

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00:04:31,000 --> 00:04:34,000

and it's this one here, so-called Hanging Church.

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00:04:34,000 --> 00:04:35,000

Beautiful.

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00:04:35,000 --> 00:04:37,000

Also, if you just go down the road,

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00:04:37,000 --> 00:04:40,000

we get to the oldest mosque in the whole of Egypt.

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00:04:40,000 --> 00:04:42,000

Wow, this is the meeting point of faiths here.

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00:04:42,000 --> 00:04:44,000

Very much so, yeah. Okay.

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00:04:44,000 --> 00:04:46,000

So what does this have to do with Moses?

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00:04:46,000 --> 00:04:48,000

Well, according to tradition,

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00:04:48,000 --> 00:04:50,000

it was near here that the baby Moses

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00:04:50,000 --> 00:04:53,000

was found in a basket in the Nile.

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00:04:53,000 --> 00:04:56,000

As the story goes, the Pharaoh decided

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00:04:56,000 --> 00:05:00,000

to have all the first-born Hebrew babies killed

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00:05:00,000 --> 00:05:02,000

because a prophecy had said that one of them

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00:05:02,000 --> 00:05:06,000

would lead the Hebrew slaves out of bondage.

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00:05:06,000 --> 00:05:08,000

Right. So a chosen one.

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00:05:08,000 --> 00:05:09,000

A chosen one. Uh-huh.

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00:05:09,000 --> 00:05:13,000

To save her son, Moses' mother puts him in a basket

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00:05:13,000 --> 00:05:18,000

and puts him in the river and trusts him to the river's care.

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00:05:18,000 --> 00:05:20,000

And that's really just the prologue of the Moses story,

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00:05:20,000 --> 00:05:24,000

because he goes on to have this, you know, harrowing adventure.

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00:05:24,000 --> 00:05:26,000

This is like the great epic of the Old Testament.

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00:05:26,000 --> 00:05:29,000

We need a Moses 101 package. Hit it.

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00:05:30,000 --> 00:05:34,000

The heavily abridged. Life of Moses.

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00:05:34,000 --> 00:05:36,000

Okay, so after being hidden in a basket,

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00:05:36,000 --> 00:05:38,000

Moses is saved by the Pharaoh's daughter

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00:05:38,000 --> 00:05:40,000

and is raised as a prince of Egypt,

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00:05:40,000 --> 00:05:42,000

which feels like a pretty solid upgrade.

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00:05:42,000 --> 00:05:44,000

Things seem to be going well until Moses learns

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00:05:44,000 --> 00:05:46,000

of his true Hebrew heritage.

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00:05:46,000 --> 00:05:48,000

Upon seeing an Egyptian beating one of his enslaved brethren,

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00:05:48,000 --> 00:05:51,000

Moses kills the assailant and buries him in the sand.

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00:05:51,000 --> 00:05:53,000

Note to self, do not cross Moses.

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00:05:53,000 --> 00:05:55,000

He then goes on the lamb for decades

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00:05:55,000 --> 00:05:57,000

and is eventually confronted by a burning bush

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00:05:57,000 --> 00:05:59,000

that, oh, also happens to talk.

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00:05:59,000 --> 00:06:01,000

The speaking shrub is the voice of God

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00:06:01,000 --> 00:06:03,000

and commands Moses to free the Israelites from bondage.

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00:06:03,000 --> 00:06:06,000

Moses says no thanks. The bush says, ah, I'm God. Do it.

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00:06:06,000 --> 00:06:08,000

Moses is like, okay, yeah, fair point.

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00:06:08,000 --> 00:06:11,000

Moses then goes to the Pharaoh and delivers the now legendary message,

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00:06:11,000 --> 00:06:15,000

let my people go, with the threat of plagues as added incentive.

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00:06:15,000 --> 00:06:18,000

Pharaoh declines, bad move, and God does as promised,

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00:06:18,000 --> 00:06:20,000

unleashing a series of 10 fierce curses

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00:06:20,000 --> 00:06:22,000

which do not seem at all fun for anyone.

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00:06:22,000 --> 00:06:25,000

The last plague, killing every firstborn Egyptian son,

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00:06:25,000 --> 00:06:27,000

really seals the deal.

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00:06:27,000 --> 00:06:29,000

Moses and the newly freed people invent matzah

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00:06:29,000 --> 00:06:31,000

and hightail it out of Egypt while the getting is good.

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00:06:31,000 --> 00:06:34,000

Moses' brother Aaron is also in tow, as is his sister Miriam.

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00:06:34,000 --> 00:06:36,000

The Pharaoh chases them all to the Red Sea

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00:06:36,000 --> 00:06:38,000

where Moses raises his staff

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00:06:38,000 --> 00:06:40,000

and with a little help from the almighty upstairs,

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00:06:40,000 --> 00:06:43,000

parts the body of water, allowing his people to safely cross

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00:06:43,000 --> 00:06:45,000

before engulfing the Egyptian army.

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00:06:45,000 --> 00:06:48,000

Next, Moses climbs a mountain in returns after like 40 days

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00:06:48,000 --> 00:06:51,000

with 10 commandments inscribed by God himself on two stone tablets.

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00:06:51,000 --> 00:06:54,000

Except a little awkward, his followers are like, oh, hi,

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00:06:54,000 --> 00:06:56,000

you were up in that mountain for a very long time,

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00:06:56,000 --> 00:06:58,000

so we started worshiping this golden cow statue

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00:06:58,000 --> 00:06:59,000

while you were gone.

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00:06:59,000 --> 00:07:02,000

Moses is furious, smashes the tablets,

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00:07:02,000 --> 00:07:04,000

cools off, gets more, things are fine.

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00:07:04,000 --> 00:07:07,000

Then in the ultimate act of not asking for directions,

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00:07:07,000 --> 00:07:09,000

Moses and the Israelites wander around in the desert

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00:07:09,000 --> 00:07:12,000

for 40 years before reaching the Promised Land,

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00:07:12,000 --> 00:07:15,000

otherwise known as Canaan, today known as Israel.

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00:07:15,000 --> 00:07:18,000

Due to some anger issues, Moses himself is not allowed to enter

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00:07:18,000 --> 00:07:20,000

and is buried by God on a mountain.

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00:07:20,000 --> 00:07:23,000

But he does get the satisfaction of at least seeing his people

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00:07:23,000 --> 00:07:27,000

enter into the Promised Land, which is pretty good and seen.

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00:07:27,000 --> 00:07:29,000

Everybody got all that?

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00:07:29,000 --> 00:07:30,000

Okay.

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00:07:30,000 --> 00:07:33,000

There's something very archetypal about this as a foundation myth

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00:07:33,000 --> 00:07:36,000

and particularly the foundation myth of a hero.

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00:07:36,000 --> 00:07:37,000

Right.

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00:07:37,000 --> 00:07:39,000

If the story of an orphaned child,

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00:07:39,000 --> 00:07:42,000

who's really the chosen one, sounds familiar,

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00:07:42,000 --> 00:07:45,000

that's because it's been adapted again and again in popular culture,

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00:07:45,000 --> 00:07:49,000

from Oliver Twist to Luke Skywalker to Harry Potter.

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00:07:49,000 --> 00:07:52,000

But in the case of Moses, it's the origin story of a faith.

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00:07:53,000 --> 00:07:56,000

Because this is the whole foundation of the idea

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00:07:56,000 --> 00:07:59,000

of there being the Israelite people,

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00:07:59,000 --> 00:08:01,000

the origin of the religion.

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00:08:01,000 --> 00:08:07,000

Everything ultimately comes down to the whole Exodus narrative.

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00:08:07,000 --> 00:08:09,000

So now I ask you, as an Egyptologist,

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00:08:09,000 --> 00:08:12,000

do any of these events align with history?

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00:08:12,000 --> 00:08:15,000

There are certainly elements of the story

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00:08:15,000 --> 00:08:18,000

which can be tied into archaeological evidence, okay?

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00:08:18,000 --> 00:08:20,000

But also there are big problems,

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00:08:20,000 --> 00:08:22,000

particularly to do with chronology.

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00:08:22,000 --> 00:08:26,000

First, if you sort of add up the numbers of years in the Bible,

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00:08:26,000 --> 00:08:30,000

it suggests the whole thing took place around 1450 BC.

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00:08:30,000 --> 00:08:31,000

Uh-huh.

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00:08:31,000 --> 00:08:33,000

But there is absolutely no evidence at that point

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00:08:33,000 --> 00:08:36,000

of any large grouping of people leaving the country.

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00:08:36,000 --> 00:08:38,000

No huge Exodus happening at that time?

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00:08:38,000 --> 00:08:39,000

No.

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00:08:39,000 --> 00:08:41,000

100 years earlier, however,

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00:08:41,000 --> 00:08:45,000

there is clear evidence of this sort of thing happening,

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00:08:45,000 --> 00:08:49,000

when a large number of Scymites left Egypt

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00:08:49,000 --> 00:08:52,000

and moved into Canaan.

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00:08:52,000 --> 00:08:54,000

So some of the events are historical,

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00:08:54,000 --> 00:08:57,000

but their sequence is jumbled.

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00:08:57,000 --> 00:08:58,000

Yeah.

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00:08:58,000 --> 00:09:00,000

And it's important to recognize that this overall narrative,

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00:09:00,000 --> 00:09:02,000

as we have it today,

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00:09:02,000 --> 00:09:05,000

was being pieced together by a group of people

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00:09:05,000 --> 00:09:08,000

a thousand years after the events in question.

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00:09:08,000 --> 00:09:09,000

Right.

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00:09:09,000 --> 00:09:12,000

And they probably had in front of them folktales,

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00:09:12,000 --> 00:09:15,000

little bits of what you might call genuine history,

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00:09:15,000 --> 00:09:20,000

which they were trying to produce this overarching origin story

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00:09:20,000 --> 00:09:22,000

for the people of Israel.

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00:09:22,000 --> 00:09:25,000

So right now we have more mystery than history here.

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00:09:25,000 --> 00:09:28,000

So how do we investigate this?

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00:09:28,000 --> 00:09:30,000

Can we find evidence,

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00:09:30,000 --> 00:09:33,000

either for or against the story of Moses and Exodus?

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00:09:33,000 --> 00:09:36,000

There are certainly some places we can look,

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00:09:36,000 --> 00:09:38,000

and in fact, there's somewhere quite close to here

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00:09:38,000 --> 00:09:41,000

where we may find a useful clue or two.

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00:09:41,000 --> 00:09:42,000

I like clues.

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00:09:42,000 --> 00:09:44,000

Let's go and have a look. Come on.

214

00:09:44,000 --> 00:09:47,000

To begin my hunt for the history behind Moses,

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00:09:47,000 --> 00:09:50,000

we pile into my truck at head about 20 miles south,

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00:09:50,000 --> 00:09:53,000

from Cairo to Sakara.

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00:09:54,000 --> 00:09:57,000

Sakara is home to Egypt's oldest pyramid,

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00:09:57,000 --> 00:10:01,000

as well as an immense necropolis, or city of the dead.

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00:10:01,000 --> 00:10:04,000

Literally thousands of Egyptian nobles were entombed here

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00:10:04,000 --> 00:10:06,000

near the pharaohs they served.

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00:10:06,000 --> 00:10:09,000

Now, Aden is bringing me to visit one of them.

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00:10:09,000 --> 00:10:12,000

We're just coming up to it down here on the left.

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00:10:12,000 --> 00:10:13,000

OK.

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00:10:16,000 --> 00:10:17,000

All right, here we are.

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00:10:17,000 --> 00:10:19,000

All right, let's do this. Here we go.

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00:10:23,000 --> 00:10:25,000

OK, so what are we here to see?

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00:10:25,000 --> 00:10:27,000

That tomb there.

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00:10:27,000 --> 00:10:29,000

Who was buried there?

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00:10:29,000 --> 00:10:31,000

OK, it's a vizier.

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00:10:31,000 --> 00:10:34,000

So there's the pharaoh, and then below him are two viziers

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00:10:34,000 --> 00:10:36,000

who are effectively the prime ministers

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00:10:36,000 --> 00:10:38,000

of the two halves of Egypt.

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00:10:38,000 --> 00:10:41,000

And so what does he maybe have to do with the story of Moses?

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00:10:41,000 --> 00:10:43,000

We'll have to actually go in and have a look

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00:10:43,000 --> 00:10:44,000

for me to tell you that.

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00:10:44,000 --> 00:10:46,000

Inside? In there, yeah.

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00:10:46,000 --> 00:10:49,000

Like any good teacher, Aden isn't going to make this easy for me.

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00:10:49,000 --> 00:10:52,000

He figures it's better to show than to tell.

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00:10:52,000 --> 00:10:55,000

But I can't help but notice there's a slight impediment

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00:10:55,000 --> 00:10:56,000

to getting inside.

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00:10:56,000 --> 00:10:58,000

That there does not appear to be a door there.

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00:10:58,000 --> 00:10:59,000

That appears to be a wall.

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00:10:59,000 --> 00:11:00,000

Yeah.

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00:11:00,000 --> 00:11:02,000

The tomb's not been entered for a very long time,

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00:11:02,000 --> 00:11:04,000

and the authorities brick them up

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00:11:04,000 --> 00:11:06,000

to stop tomb raiders getting in.

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00:11:06,000 --> 00:11:07,000

OK, so what's our move?

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00:11:07,000 --> 00:11:09,000

All we need to do now is take the wall down.

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00:11:09,000 --> 00:11:11,000

Breaking things is my specialty, Aden.

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00:11:11,000 --> 00:11:12,000

Great, we got this.

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00:11:12,000 --> 00:11:13,000

Let's go.

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00:11:13,000 --> 00:11:14,000

Come on.

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00:11:14,000 --> 00:11:16,000

Aden has acquired exclusive permission

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00:11:16,000 --> 00:11:20,000

to open this tomb for the first time in decades.

255

00:11:20,000 --> 00:11:22,000

To get ourselves and you inside,

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00:11:22,000 --> 00:11:25,000

we're being assisted by a professional work crew

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00:11:25,000 --> 00:11:28,000

from the Egyptian Antiquities Authority.

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00:11:28,000 --> 00:11:29,000

Here we go.

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00:11:29,000 --> 00:11:30,000

We've got some backup here.

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00:11:30,000 --> 00:11:31,000

Absolutely, yes.

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00:11:31,000 --> 00:11:33,000

Salam.

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00:11:33,000 --> 00:11:35,000

Nice to meet you.

263

00:11:35,000 --> 00:11:37,000

In Nammalai,

264

00:11:37,000 --> 00:11:39,000

we're opening the door

265

00:11:39,000 --> 00:11:41,000

to cut the door.

266

00:11:41,000 --> 00:11:42,000

Maybe?

267

00:11:42,000 --> 00:11:43,000

Maybe.

268

00:11:43,000 --> 00:11:44,000

Yeah?

269

00:11:44,000 --> 00:11:45,000

Yeah.

270

00:11:45,000 --> 00:11:46,000

It's OK?

271

00:11:46,000 --> 00:11:47,000

OK.

272

00:11:47,000 --> 00:11:48,000

Here we go.

273

00:11:48,000 --> 00:11:50,000

Follow exactly what he's telling you.

274

00:11:50,000 --> 00:11:51,000

Otherwise, you'll bring the whole mountain down.

275

00:11:51,000 --> 00:11:53,000

All right, it's hammer time.

276

00:11:53,000 --> 00:11:55,000

Kids, ask your parents what that means.

277

00:11:55,000 --> 00:11:56,000

Here we go.

278

00:11:58,000 --> 00:12:00,000

The entryway behind these bricks

279

00:12:00,000 --> 00:12:02,000

dates back well over 3,500 years.

280

00:12:02,000 --> 00:12:04,000

So, you know, no pressure.

281

00:12:05,000 --> 00:12:12,000

One brick down, a few hundred to go.

282

00:12:12,000 --> 00:12:14,000

We're getting there.

283

00:12:14,000 --> 00:12:16,000

Brick by brick, I widen the opening

284

00:12:16,000 --> 00:12:19,000

until we get our first whiff of the air inside.

285

00:12:19,000 --> 00:12:20,000

OK.

286

00:12:20,000 --> 00:12:22,000

All right, we got darkness, Aden.

287

00:12:22,000 --> 00:12:23,000

Something back there.

288

00:12:23,000 --> 00:12:24,000

It doesn't smell good.

289

00:12:24,000 --> 00:12:25,000

I can tell you that.

290

00:12:25,000 --> 00:12:27,000

I'm going to go get the door.

291

00:12:27,000 --> 00:12:28,000

OK.

292

00:12:28,000 --> 00:12:29,000

OK.

293

00:12:29,000 --> 00:12:30,000

OK.

294

00:12:30,000 --> 00:12:31,000

OK.

295

00:12:31,000 --> 00:12:32,000

OK.

296

00:12:32,000 --> 00:12:33,000

OK.

297

00:12:33,000 --> 00:12:34,000

I didn't smell good.

298

00:12:34,000 --> 00:12:35,000

I can tell you that.

299

00:12:35,000 --> 00:12:36,000

OK.

300

00:12:36,000 --> 00:12:38,000

Well, should we go in?

301

00:12:38,000 --> 00:12:39,000

Let's go.

302

00:12:39,000 --> 00:12:41,000

We're going to need some lights.

303

00:12:41,000 --> 00:12:43,000

Time to cross the threshold.

304

00:12:43,000 --> 00:12:46,000

Out of the 21st century and into a long-sealed tomb

305

00:12:46,000 --> 00:12:48,000

from the time of Moses,

306

00:12:48,000 --> 00:12:52,000

one that might reveal whether he was man or myth.

307

00:12:52,000 --> 00:12:53,000

Whoa.

308

00:12:53,000 --> 00:12:56,000

Oh, this is awesome.

309

00:12:56,000 --> 00:12:58,000

Look at this place.

310

00:13:04,000 --> 00:13:05,000

Whoa.

311

00:13:05,000 --> 00:13:06,000

Look at this.

312

00:13:06,000 --> 00:13:08,000

It just goes back and back.

313

00:13:08,000 --> 00:13:11,000

Look at the size of this chamber.

314

00:13:11,000 --> 00:13:13,000

Egyptologist Aden Dodson and I have just entered

315

00:13:13,000 --> 00:13:16,000

the long-sealed tomb of an Egyptian vizier

316

00:13:16,000 --> 00:13:18,000

unlike any other,

317

00:13:18,000 --> 00:13:21,000

one that may reveal something about the story of Moses.

318

00:13:21,000 --> 00:13:23,000

Oh, and look at the roof decoration.

319

00:13:23,000 --> 00:13:25,000

Yeah, that ceiling decoration is gorgeous.

320

00:13:25,000 --> 00:13:28,000

Wow, it's beautiful.

321

00:13:28,000 --> 00:13:31,000

The tomb is chiseled into the rock itself,

322

00:13:31,000 --> 00:13:34,000

posts and beams from previous excavations here

323

00:13:34,000 --> 00:13:37,000

have been installed to stabilize the ceiling.

324

00:13:37,000 --> 00:13:40,000

But the best behind you, Josh, look at that.

325

00:13:40,000 --> 00:13:41,000

Wow.

326

00:13:41,000 --> 00:13:43,000

Absolutely stunning.

327

00:13:43,000 --> 00:13:46,000

While Aden knows the contents of the tomb

328

00:13:46,000 --> 00:13:48,000

from the publications of previous excavators,

329

00:13:48,000 --> 00:13:50,000

this is his first time inside.

330

00:13:50,000 --> 00:13:54,000

That means we're both getting our bearings.

331

00:13:54,000 --> 00:13:56,000

All of this is unbelievable.

332

00:13:56,000 --> 00:13:57,000

Mm-hmm.

333

00:13:57,000 --> 00:13:58,000

What are we looking for?

334

00:13:58,000 --> 00:14:00,000

We're looking for the name of the vizier.

335

00:14:00,000 --> 00:14:03,000

All right, usually these guys plaster their names

336

00:14:03,000 --> 00:14:05,000

all over everything in their tombs, don't they?

337

00:14:05,000 --> 00:14:06,000

They do.

338

00:14:06,000 --> 00:14:08,000

The trouble is this tomb is unfinished and also damaged,

339

00:14:08,000 --> 00:14:13,000

so therefore it's less easy to find undamaged names.

340

00:14:13,000 --> 00:14:15,000

The tomb owner's name will be enclosed

341

00:14:15,000 --> 00:14:18,000

within clusters of hieroglyphs along the walls,

342

00:14:18,000 --> 00:14:20,000

so that's where we need to look.

343

00:14:20,000 --> 00:14:22,000

All right, well, should we split up in a creepy ancient tomb

344

00:14:22,000 --> 00:14:23,000

and look for it?

345

00:14:23,000 --> 00:14:24,000

Seems reasonable enough to me.

346

00:14:24,000 --> 00:14:25,000

Yeah, what could go wrong?

347

00:14:25,000 --> 00:14:26,000

All right, I'll look back here.

348

00:14:26,000 --> 00:14:27,000

You want to start on this side?

349

00:14:27,000 --> 00:14:28,000

I will do.

350

00:14:28,000 --> 00:14:29,000

Okay, here we go.

351

00:14:29,000 --> 00:14:34,000

Aiden's insistence that we find the name of this vizier

352

00:14:34,000 --> 00:14:37,000

would normally be a welcome challenge,

353

00:14:37,000 --> 00:14:39,000

but I soon realize this particular tomb

354

00:14:39,000 --> 00:14:42,000

is more like an underground maze.

355

00:14:42,000 --> 00:14:43,000

Going down.

356

00:14:48,000 --> 00:14:49,000

Whoa.

357

00:14:50,000 --> 00:14:51,000

Wow.

358

00:14:52,000 --> 00:14:54,000

This is unbelievable.

359

00:14:55,000 --> 00:14:56,000

Look at this.

360

00:15:00,000 --> 00:15:04,000

So these appear to be human remains

361

00:15:04,000 --> 00:15:07,000

from the last excavation that was done here in the tomb,

362

00:15:07,000 --> 00:15:10,000

and there are thousands of bones here.

363

00:15:10,000 --> 00:15:14,000

What we don't see here are any decorations of any kind.

364

00:15:14,000 --> 00:15:17,000

The walls are just raw in this part of the tomb.

365

00:15:17,000 --> 00:15:20,000

No paintings, no inscriptions, nothing.

366

00:15:23,000 --> 00:15:28,000

And here it looks like we have the actual burial shaft.

367

00:15:29,000 --> 00:15:30,000

Whoa.

368

00:15:30,000 --> 00:15:33,000

Which just goes straight down.

369

00:15:33,000 --> 00:15:36,000

Our vizier would have been buried down there.

370

00:15:44,000 --> 00:15:48,000

Aiden, I'm going to go down the gary shaft of death.

371

00:15:50,000 --> 00:15:51,000

I'll be back.

372

00:15:52,000 --> 00:15:53,000

Okay.

373

00:15:53,000 --> 00:15:55,000

I'm down to the next level,

374

00:15:55,000 --> 00:15:58,000

which is a tiny wooden platform,

375

00:15:58,000 --> 00:15:59,000

and then it keeps going.

376

00:16:02,000 --> 00:16:03,000

Oh, man.

377

00:16:03,000 --> 00:16:05,000

I literally cannot see the bottom from here.

378

00:16:10,000 --> 00:16:11,000

So here we go.

379

00:16:15,000 --> 00:16:17,000

I'm going to go down the gary shaft.

380

00:16:17,000 --> 00:16:18,000

I'm going to go.

381

00:16:26,000 --> 00:16:28,000

This is the greatest length I've ever gone

382

00:16:28,000 --> 00:16:30,000

to find out someone's name.

383

00:16:30,000 --> 00:16:33,000

Well, there was this one girl in college, but never mind.

384

00:16:36,000 --> 00:16:37,000

Okay.

385

00:16:41,000 --> 00:16:43,000

Oh, my word.

386

00:16:43,000 --> 00:16:44,000

Wow.

387

00:16:44,000 --> 00:16:45,000

So here we are.

388

00:16:45,000 --> 00:16:49,000

These are the actual burial chambers for not just the vizier,

389

00:16:49,000 --> 00:16:52,000

but his whole family would have been buried down here.

390

00:16:54,000 --> 00:16:58,000

What I don't see down here are any inscriptions at all.

391

00:16:58,000 --> 00:17:00,000

We'll keep looking in these side chambers,

392

00:17:00,000 --> 00:17:02,000

but I don't think it's down here.

393

00:17:05,000 --> 00:17:08,000

The further I explore the pitch black chambers of this tomb,

394

00:17:08,000 --> 00:17:11,000

the more I start to worry I might become a permanent resident.

395

00:17:11,000 --> 00:17:14,000

Lucky for me, Aiden has a sharp eye.

396

00:17:15,000 --> 00:17:16,000

Josh!

397

00:17:16,000 --> 00:17:17,000

Yeah!

398

00:17:17,000 --> 00:17:19,000

I think I may have found it.

399

00:17:19,000 --> 00:17:20,000

Coming!

400

00:17:25,000 --> 00:17:26,000

Coming up!

401

00:17:36,000 --> 00:17:37,000

You find something?

402

00:17:37,000 --> 00:17:38,000

You got it!

403

00:17:38,000 --> 00:17:40,000

Yep, found it.

404

00:17:40,000 --> 00:17:43,000

It's right in the corner here, right in the far corner.

405

00:17:43,000 --> 00:17:45,000

The bottom is a little seated man.

406

00:17:45,000 --> 00:17:46,000

Yes.

407

00:17:46,000 --> 00:17:49,000

Above it is that flattened-over little stripe next to it.

408

00:17:51,000 --> 00:17:53,000

So this is our vizier?

409

00:17:53,000 --> 00:17:54,000

It is.

410

00:17:54,000 --> 00:17:55,000

All right, and his name is?

411

00:17:55,000 --> 00:17:57,000

His name is Apar El.

412

00:17:57,000 --> 00:17:59,000

Apar El, okay.

413

00:17:59,000 --> 00:18:00,000

And why is that significant?

414

00:18:00,000 --> 00:18:04,000

Well, what's exciting about that is it's not an Egyptian name.

415

00:18:04,000 --> 00:18:05,000

His name is not Egyptian?

416

00:18:05,000 --> 00:18:06,000

Not at all.

417

00:18:06,000 --> 00:18:07,000

So what is it?

418

00:18:07,000 --> 00:18:09,000

It's a Semitic name.

419

00:18:11,000 --> 00:18:14,000

Semites in this case refer to the people who, according to Exodus,

420

00:18:14,000 --> 00:18:18,000

left Egypt and would later be known as the Hebrews or Israelites.

421

00:18:18,000 --> 00:18:21,000

Moses, who was said to have been raised in the Pharaoh's court,

422

00:18:21,000 --> 00:18:23,000

was their earliest named leader.

423

00:18:23,000 --> 00:18:27,000

It is therefore remarkable that here in ancient Egypt,

424

00:18:27,000 --> 00:18:29,000

at the possible time of Moses,

425

00:18:29,000 --> 00:18:33,000

we have archaeological evidence of the existence of the Jews

426

00:18:33,000 --> 00:18:35,000

and archaeological evidence of a Semite,

427

00:18:35,000 --> 00:18:39,000

serving as a high-ranking member of the Pharaoh's court.

428

00:18:39,000 --> 00:18:42,000

There are interesting biblical links here, too.

429

00:18:42,000 --> 00:18:47,000

The El in the name Apar El is how God is referred to in the Torah

430

00:18:47,000 --> 00:18:52,000

and appears in other biblical names like Daniel and Raphael.

431

00:18:52,000 --> 00:18:56,000

And Apar El's resume is every bit as intriguing as his name.

432

00:18:56,000 --> 00:19:01,000

Among his many titles listed on the walls is Child of the Palace,

433

00:19:01,000 --> 00:19:06,000

meaning he likely grew up alongside the Pharaoh, just like Moses.

434

00:19:06,000 --> 00:19:12,000

Another interesting thing is that Apar El died under King Akinaton.

435

00:19:12,000 --> 00:19:13,000

The Sun King.

436

00:19:13,000 --> 00:19:18,000

Indeed, who introduced what looks like a monotheistic religion into Egypt.

437

00:19:18,000 --> 00:19:21,000

Right. Akinaton is this renegade Pharaoh

438

00:19:21,000 --> 00:19:25,000

who basically says all of these gods that we've been worshiping for a very long time,

439

00:19:25,000 --> 00:19:29,000

we're going to chuck all of them out and we're going to worship the Sun.

440

00:19:30,000 --> 00:19:33,000

This monotheism didn't last long for the Egyptians,

441

00:19:33,000 --> 00:19:36,000

but it's stuck for other emerging religions.

442

00:19:38,000 --> 00:19:42,000

Some people have wondered, could this have some kind of influence on the Hebrew idea of one God?

443

00:19:42,000 --> 00:19:43,000

Right.

444

00:19:44,000 --> 00:19:48,000

To be clear, nobody is claiming that this Apar El is Moses himself,

445

00:19:48,000 --> 00:19:52,000

but confirmation that a high-ranking Semite who grew up in the palace

446

00:19:52,000 --> 00:19:58,000

at a time when one God was worshiped makes the story of Moses in Egypt feel much more possible.

447

00:19:58,000 --> 00:20:02,000

Still, I have many more questions about the Exodus story,

448

00:20:02,000 --> 00:20:07,000

so I thank Aden for kick-starting my journey and I hit the road to look for more evidence.

449

00:20:09,000 --> 00:20:14,000

Okay, so we've seen that a man like Moses could have come to prominence in ancient Egypt.

450

00:20:14,000 --> 00:20:16,000

That part of the story is plausible.

451

00:20:16,000 --> 00:20:20,000

But what about the miracles described in Exodus?

452

00:20:20,000 --> 00:20:23,000

Do they require a religious leap of faith?

453

00:20:23,000 --> 00:20:27,000

Should we dismiss them as a literary license?

454

00:20:27,000 --> 00:20:34,000

Or can science explain or help explain how Moses became a master of miracles?

455

00:20:34,000 --> 00:20:36,000

Specifically, those plagues.

456

00:20:39,000 --> 00:20:42,000

With the pharaoh still refusing to let Moses' people go,

457

00:20:42,000 --> 00:20:48,000

God rains down a succession of horrific plagues on the Egyptians to further the negotiations.

458

00:20:48,000 --> 00:20:51,000

First, the Nile turns to blood,

459

00:20:51,000 --> 00:20:56,000

followed by infestations of frogs, lice, flies, and the death of livestock.

460

00:20:56,000 --> 00:21:02,000

Next up, pestilence, boils, hail, locusts, and three days of darkness.

461

00:21:02,000 --> 00:21:07,000

On face value, these events seem utterly supernatural or worthy.

462

00:21:07,000 --> 00:21:13,000

To find out, I make my way to an enigmatic structure on the banks of the Nile.

463

00:21:16,000 --> 00:21:20,000

This chamber may look like a temple, but in fact, it's a tool.

464

00:21:20,000 --> 00:21:22,000

This is known as the Nile-O-Meter,

465

00:21:22,000 --> 00:21:27,000

a massive column covered in these precisely cut notches

466

00:21:27,000 --> 00:21:31,000

to measure the depth of the Nile and predict its behavior.

467

00:21:31,000 --> 00:21:35,000

It is impossible to overstate the importance of the Nile in ancient Egypt.

468

00:21:35,000 --> 00:21:38,000

The river's annual flood brought agricultural life,

469

00:21:38,000 --> 00:21:42,000

but if something went wrong, it also brought death.

470

00:21:43,000 --> 00:21:47,000

Too much flooding and crops would be destroyed.

471

00:21:48,000 --> 00:21:51,000

Too little flooding and nothing would grow.

472

00:21:52,000 --> 00:21:57,000

The Nile-O-Meter allowed ancient Egyptians to forecast harvests and better stave off famine.

473

00:21:57,000 --> 00:22:01,000

Okay, so what does any of this have to do with Moses?

474

00:22:01,000 --> 00:22:05,000

Well, some scientists have suggested that a disaster in the Nile

475

00:22:05,000 --> 00:22:09,000

could have actually caused some of the legendary 10 plagues.

476

00:22:09,000 --> 00:22:11,000

Impossible? Well, maybe not.

477

00:22:11,000 --> 00:22:15,000

If the Nile became infested with toxic red algae.

478

00:22:16,000 --> 00:22:21,000

Also known as red tide, it happens when algae blooms out of control,

479

00:22:21,000 --> 00:22:24,000

staining water so that it appears like blood.

480

00:22:24,000 --> 00:22:27,000

Red tide can also kill off some species,

481

00:22:27,000 --> 00:22:30,000

while causing population explosions of others,

482

00:22:30,000 --> 00:22:34,000

such as frogs, lice, flies and locusts.

483

00:22:34,000 --> 00:22:38,000

The insects could then spread disease to livestock and to people,

484

00:22:38,000 --> 00:22:41,000

manifesting as pestilence and boils.

485

00:22:42,000 --> 00:22:44,000

But what about hail and darkness?

486

00:22:44,000 --> 00:22:49,000

Well, climate scientists now theorize that a volcanic eruption on the Greek island of Santorini

487

00:22:49,000 --> 00:22:54,000

in 1500 BCE could have spread ash all the way to Egypt,

488

00:22:54,000 --> 00:22:56,000

blocking out the sun.

489

00:22:58,000 --> 00:23:02,000

Those darkening skies would certainly have appeared to people across Egypt

490

00:23:02,000 --> 00:23:05,000

as the work of divine forces.

491

00:23:06,000 --> 00:23:09,000

So, did the plagues actually happen?

492

00:23:09,000 --> 00:23:11,000

Well, it depends on what you believe.

493

00:23:11,000 --> 00:23:14,000

And whether caused by nature or the wrath of God,

494

00:23:14,000 --> 00:23:18,000

they remain a cautionary tale about angering the Almighty.

495

00:23:18,000 --> 00:23:24,000

A horror story in the epic of the Bible as mysterious as the life of Moses himself.

496

00:23:26,000 --> 00:23:31,000

Now that I've seen proof that a Semitic person held high position in ancient Egypt

497

00:23:31,000 --> 00:23:35,000

and the possibility that the plagues could be inspired by real-world events,

498

00:23:35,000 --> 00:23:39,000

I'm starting to feel hopeful about the idea of a historic Moses.

499

00:23:39,000 --> 00:23:41,000

But I want some hard facts.

500

00:23:42,000 --> 00:23:48,000

And that brings us to one character in the Exodus story that we should be able to easily verify.

501

00:23:48,000 --> 00:23:51,000

Moses Nemesis, the Pharaoh.

502

00:23:52,000 --> 00:23:59,000

So now I set off on a new mission, to find the Egyptian king who defied both Moses and his God.

503

00:24:06,000 --> 00:24:09,000

For my investigation into the mysteries of Moses,

504

00:24:09,000 --> 00:24:13,000

I'm on a search to identify the Pharaoh from Exodus.

505

00:24:13,000 --> 00:24:18,000

The Bible never mentions him by name, but if you've seen the Ten Commandments, you know who he is.

506

00:24:18,000 --> 00:24:21,000

Yep, it's Yul Brynner. I mean, Ramses.

507

00:24:23,000 --> 00:24:30,000

To get to know Ramses better, I'm driving 450 miles south of Cairo to the ancient capital of Luxor.

508

00:24:31,000 --> 00:24:41,000

On the east bank of the Nile, the world of the living, and the ruined majesty of Luxor and Karnak,

509

00:24:41,000 --> 00:24:46,000

and on the west bank, the land of the dead, home to the Valley of the Kings.

510

00:24:48,000 --> 00:24:49,000

And this.

511

00:24:52,000 --> 00:24:56,000

The tumbledown remnants of a mortuary temple known as the Ramasium.

512

00:24:56,000 --> 00:25:01,000

Inside the eerie ruins, I find my old friend, Egyptologist Baha Gabaer.

513

00:25:03,000 --> 00:25:04,000

Baha!

514

00:25:04,000 --> 00:25:05,000

Josh!

515

00:25:05,000 --> 00:25:06,000

Hey! How are you, my friend?

516

00:25:06,000 --> 00:25:07,000

Fine, I'm you.

517

00:25:07,000 --> 00:25:09,000

I'm great, thanks. This is spectacular.

518

00:25:09,000 --> 00:25:11,000

Yeah, this is what I'm a seum temple.

519

00:25:11,000 --> 00:25:14,000

So this is devoted to Ramses II.

520

00:25:14,000 --> 00:25:15,000

Yes.

521

00:25:15,000 --> 00:25:23,000

Okay, now, every story needs a bad guy, and for many years, people have said that this guy, Ramses II,

522

00:25:23,000 --> 00:25:28,000

he's the pharaoh from the Old Testament, and he is a serious villain in Exodus.

523

00:25:28,000 --> 00:25:33,000

I mean, we're talking Darth Vader level, Thanos level, mustache twirling bad guy, right?

524

00:25:33,000 --> 00:25:37,000

So, how is he referred to here in Egypt?

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00:25:37,000 --> 00:25:39,000

We call him Ramesses the Great.

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00:25:39,000 --> 00:25:40,000

Ramesses the Great?

527

00:25:40,000 --> 00:25:41,000

Yes.

528

00:25:41,000 --> 00:25:43,000

Not Ramesses the Evil, not Ramesses the Bad Guy.

529

00:25:43,000 --> 00:25:46,000

And not Ramesses the... the... the... the... the... the nasty?

530

00:25:46,000 --> 00:25:48,000

No, not Ramesses the Nasty. The Great.

531

00:25:48,000 --> 00:25:49,000

Exactly.

532

00:25:50,000 --> 00:25:57,000

Despite his bad press in biblical pop culture, if anyone earned the title of Great, it's Ramesses II.

533

00:25:57,000 --> 00:26:05,000

He ruled Egypt for 67 years, well into his 90s, building grand temples to his divinity all over the country.

534

00:26:05,000 --> 00:26:11,000

Here at the Ramessium are the toppled remains of one of the largest ancient statues ever found,

535

00:26:11,000 --> 00:26:16,000

a seated colossus of Ramesses, which once rose more than 60 feet tall.

536

00:26:16,000 --> 00:26:18,000

So why does he have this reputation?

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00:26:18,000 --> 00:26:23,000

Why do so many people associate the story of Exodus with Ramesses?

538

00:26:23,000 --> 00:26:33,000

Because when people try to figure out when exactly Moses lived in Egypt, they assumed that it could happen during the 13th century.

539

00:26:33,000 --> 00:26:40,000

And because the king ruled in Egypt a long time and he was so powerful, so they assumed that he

should be the guy.

540

00:26:40,000 --> 00:26:45,000

So, if Ramesses is supposed to be the bad guy, then this brings up an important question.

541

00:26:46,000 --> 00:26:50,000

Were there Hebrew slaves here in ancient Egypt?

542

00:26:50,000 --> 00:26:57,000

Do we have archaeological evidence of mass numbers of Semitic people enslaved here?

543

00:26:57,000 --> 00:26:59,000

No, we didn't have any evidence for that.

544

00:26:59,000 --> 00:27:00,000

No evidence?

545

00:27:00,000 --> 00:27:01,000

No evidence.

546

00:27:01,000 --> 00:27:06,000

But what about the people who built these incredible temples, the people who built the pyramids?

547

00:27:06,000 --> 00:27:08,000

Were these built by slaves?

548

00:27:08,000 --> 00:27:10,000

No, built by workmen.

549

00:27:10,000 --> 00:27:11,000

By workmen?

550

00:27:11,000 --> 00:27:12,000

Exactly.

551

00:27:12,000 --> 00:27:13,000

Built by Egyptians?

552

00:27:13,000 --> 00:27:14,000

By Egyptians?

553

00:27:14,000 --> 00:27:22,000

Contrary to the idea that Egypt's mightiest monuments were built by slaves, there is ample evidence of a skilled local labor force.

554

00:27:22,000 --> 00:27:27,000

From excavations of workers' burials to ancient graffiti from the workers themselves.

555

00:27:27,000 --> 00:27:32,000

But there is no archaeological evidence of a huge army of laboring slaves.

556

00:27:32,000 --> 00:27:41,000

So then where do we get this idea that there are not just slaves, but Israelites here in Egypt that are fleeing the country?

557

00:27:41,000 --> 00:27:42,000

Where does it come from?

558

00:27:42,000 --> 00:27:45,000

Josh, we have a temple very close from here.

559

00:27:45,000 --> 00:27:47,000

Have these answers.

560

00:27:47,000 --> 00:27:48,000

Really?

561

00:27:48,000 --> 00:27:49,000

Come with me.

562

00:27:52,000 --> 00:28:01,000

Steps from the Ramaseem Baha leads me to the nearly obliterated remains of the funerary temple of the king Merenpatah, son of Ramesses II.

563

00:28:01,000 --> 00:28:06,000

And in the corner is a stele or stone monument, which is covered in writing.

564

00:28:06,000 --> 00:28:09,000

And in one spot it says something historic.

565

00:28:09,000 --> 00:28:11,000

So here's the king right here, yes?

566

00:28:11,000 --> 00:28:11,500

Yes.

567

00:28:11,500 --> 00:28:14,500

So this chronicles all of his military accomplishments.

568

00:28:14,500 --> 00:28:15,000

Yes.

569

00:28:15,000 --> 00:28:16,500

Okay, so what's significant here?

570

00:28:16,500 --> 00:28:20,500

Josh, we have something very important here, something shocking.

571

00:28:20,500 --> 00:28:21,500

Okay.

572

00:28:21,500 --> 00:28:22,500

Here.

573

00:28:22,500 --> 00:28:26,500

The king said that he defeated the people of Israel.

574

00:28:26,500 --> 00:28:27,500

Israel?

575

00:28:27,500 --> 00:28:33,500

Yes, and that's the first time that the word Israel had been mentioned outside of the Bible.

576

00:28:33,500 --> 00:28:35,500

This is incredible.

577

00:28:35,500 --> 00:28:39,500

But there are some real differences between here and the Bible.

578

00:28:39,500 --> 00:28:40,500

Okay.

579

00:28:40,500 --> 00:28:44,500

It means that he took his army outside of Egypt.

580

00:28:44,500 --> 00:28:47,500

They tried to attack Egypt from the north.

581

00:28:47,500 --> 00:28:50,500

Wait, this is like a complete flip of the script.

582

00:28:50,500 --> 00:28:51,500

Right.

583

00:28:51,500 --> 00:28:55,500

So instead of them being slaves, they're actually powerful.

584

00:28:55,500 --> 00:28:56,500

Yes.

585

00:28:56,500 --> 00:28:59,500

They're actually someone that he sees as an invading force.

586

00:28:59,500 --> 00:29:00,500

Right.

587

00:29:00,500 --> 00:29:08,500

So is there any evidence historically that Semitic people were ever driven out of Egypt from inside its borders?

588

00:29:08,500 --> 00:29:09,500

It's happened.

589

00:29:09,500 --> 00:29:10,500

It did happen.

590

00:29:10,500 --> 00:29:11,500

Yes.

591

00:29:11,500 --> 00:29:15,500

But when 300 years before the time of the King Ramesses.

592

00:29:15,500 --> 00:29:16,500

Before Ramesses?

593

00:29:16,500 --> 00:29:17,500

Yes.

594

00:29:17,500 --> 00:29:18,500

We call them Hexos.

595

00:29:18,500 --> 00:29:19,500

The Hexos people.

596

00:29:19,500 --> 00:29:25,500

They came to Egypt and they stayed around 200 years until the king Amos is the first.

597

00:29:25,500 --> 00:29:28,500

Drove them out of Egypt.

598

00:29:28,500 --> 00:29:34,500

Hundreds of years before the possible time of Moses, there are records in Egypt of people from the land of Canaan,

599

00:29:34,500 --> 00:29:38,500

what is today in the area of Israel and the Palestinian territories.

600

00:29:38,500 --> 00:29:40,500

But they weren't here as a group of slaves.

601

00:29:40,500 --> 00:29:43,500

Rather, they were traders and even rulers.

602

00:29:43,500 --> 00:29:51,500

One group of Canaanites actually lorded over lower Egypt for a time before being defeated by another group of Semites known as the Hyksos,

603

00:29:51,500 --> 00:29:54,500

who were eventually driven out of Egypt.

604

00:29:54,500 --> 00:30:00,500

You have these people that are from the land of Canaan and they're not slaves.

605

00:30:00,500 --> 00:30:01,500

They are invaders.

606

00:30:01,500 --> 00:30:02,500

Is there a linkage here?

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00:30:02,500 --> 00:30:08,500

Is the story of Exodus somehow inspired by the Hyksos leaving Egypt?

608

00:30:08,500 --> 00:30:10,500

Could be a link.

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00:30:10,500 --> 00:30:14,500

We do have Semitic people, inter-Egypt and left.

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00:30:14,500 --> 00:30:16,500

And they were run out by the Pharaoh.

611

00:30:16,500 --> 00:30:17,500

By the Pharaoh?

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00:30:17,500 --> 00:30:18,500

Yeah.

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00:30:18,500 --> 00:30:20,500

There's a pattern emerging here.

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00:30:20,500 --> 00:30:25,500

Events from Exodus seem to have compelling similarities to recorded history,

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00:30:25,500 --> 00:30:29,500

but often at a slightly different time or under different circumstances.

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00:30:30,500 --> 00:30:34,500

So could the Hexos be the true Israelites of the Exodus?

617

00:30:34,500 --> 00:30:39,500

To find out and to keep hunting for a historical Moses, there's only one thing to do.

618

00:30:39,500 --> 00:30:45,500

Flee the same direction they did, out of Egypt and into the Sinai.

619

00:30:45,500 --> 00:30:52,500

Of course, when the Israelites did it, Moses led them on a unique shortcut.

620

00:30:52,500 --> 00:30:54,500

This is the Red Sea.

621

00:30:54,500 --> 00:30:58,500

In the Bible, Moses is desperate to get his people from here,

622

00:30:58,500 --> 00:31:02,500

all the way over to the Sinai Peninsula about 15 miles away.

623

00:31:02,500 --> 00:31:05,500

Lucky for him, he has some divine backup.

624

00:31:05,500 --> 00:31:07,500

Okay, let's do this.

625

00:31:07,500 --> 00:31:09,500

Can I get a staff?

626

00:31:09,500 --> 00:31:10,500

Really?

627

00:31:10,500 --> 00:31:11,500

Okay.

628

00:31:11,500 --> 00:31:15,500

The host of this show will do battle for us.

629

00:31:15,500 --> 00:31:19,500

Behold the mighty hand of Josh.

630

00:31:19,500 --> 00:31:22,500

Do the thing.

631

00:31:22,500 --> 00:31:25,500

Do the thing.

632

00:31:25,500 --> 00:31:27,500

It was worth a try.

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00:31:30,500 --> 00:31:34,500

According to the story from Exodus, as well as from Hollywood,

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00:31:34,500 --> 00:31:39,500

the Israelites had their backs to the Red Sea as the Pharaoh's army was closing in.

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00:31:39,500 --> 00:31:44,500

So Moses raised his staff, and the Red Sea miraculously parted before them.

636

00:31:44,500 --> 00:31:47,500

The Israelites ran through safely to the other side.

637

00:31:47,500 --> 00:31:51,500

As for the pursuing Egyptian army, the passage collapsed midway,

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00:31:51,500 --> 00:31:55,500

which Cecil B. de Mille pulled off by pouring water over Jell-O, by the way.

639

00:31:55,500 --> 00:31:59,500

Pretty effective.

640

00:31:59,500 --> 00:32:04,500

So is there any scientific basis for this?

641

00:32:04,500 --> 00:32:07,500

One recent theory is that we've been reading the Bible wrong.

642

00:32:07,500 --> 00:32:11,500

The Hebrew name of the body of water Moses parted is Yamsuf.

643

00:32:11,500 --> 00:32:15,500

Yamsuf means the Sea of Reeds, or the Reed Sea,

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00:32:15,500 --> 00:32:18,500

which might not refer to this body of water at all,

645

00:32:18,500 --> 00:32:21,500

but to part of the Nile Delta to the north.

646

00:32:21,500 --> 00:32:26,500

The Bible speaks of a strong east wind that blew just before the sea parted.

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00:32:26,500 --> 00:32:30,500

And it turns out that the Sea of Reeds, much like parts of the Red Sea here,

648

00:32:30,500 --> 00:32:32,500

has a unique topography.

649

00:32:32,500 --> 00:32:34,500

Hang on a second. I'll show you.

650

00:32:34,500 --> 00:32:37,500

Ha! That's cold.

651

00:32:41,500 --> 00:32:44,500

The waters here are really shallow.

652

00:32:46,500 --> 00:32:50,500

Recent computer modeling has shown that a 60-mile-an-hour wind,

653

00:32:50,500 --> 00:32:53,500

blowing for eight hours in shallow marshland,

654

00:32:53,500 --> 00:32:57,500

could push back the waters and expose a land bridge.

655

00:32:57,500 --> 00:33:00,500

And if the wind died down just after the Israelites crossed,

656

00:33:00,500 --> 00:33:05,500

a wall of rushing water could have engulfed the pursuing Egyptian army.

657

00:33:07,500 --> 00:33:10,500

But even if it were scientifically possible,

658

00:33:10,500 --> 00:33:14,500

what are the odds that the winds would blow right when Moses needed them,

659

00:33:14,500 --> 00:33:17,500

or that they would blow in the Israelites' favor?

660

00:33:17,500 --> 00:33:22,500

It would be a tremendous stroke of luck, or, dare I say, divine intervention.

661

00:33:24,500 --> 00:33:28,500

And since God has better things to do than perform a miracle on television,

662

00:33:28,500 --> 00:33:30,500

I'm taking the long route.

663

00:33:30,500 --> 00:33:34,500

North up the coast of the Red Sea until I cross from Africa into Asia,

664

00:33:34,500 --> 00:33:37,500

and the vast deserts of the Sinai Peninsula.

665

00:33:37,500 --> 00:33:41,500

26,000 square miles of sand.

666

00:33:44,500 --> 00:33:50,500

The Sinai is also the setting for perhaps the most consequential moment in the Book of Exodus,

667

00:33:50,500 --> 00:33:54,500

because somewhere out here, somewhere amidst all this sand,

668

00:33:54,500 --> 00:34:00,500

atop a place known as Mount Sinai, Moses receives the Ten Commandments.

669

00:34:02,500 --> 00:34:05,500

In the Book of Exodus, three months after escaping Egypt,

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00:34:05,500 --> 00:34:10,500

the children of Israel reach Mount Sinai, and Moses is called to the summit,

671

00:34:10,500 --> 00:34:14,500

where God directly bestows upon him the unbreakable laws of his covenant.

672

00:34:14,500 --> 00:34:18,500

Ten Commandments carved into stone tablets.

673

00:34:19,500 --> 00:34:24,500

And believe it or not, no fewer than six locations have laid claim to be Mount Sinai,

674

00:34:24,500 --> 00:34:28,500

but one, above all, has emerged as the true holy site.

675

00:34:30,500 --> 00:34:35,500

I pull up at the gate of a fortified monastery tucked into the base of an imposing mountain.

676

00:34:35,500 --> 00:34:38,500

In Arabic, it's called Jebel Musa.

677

00:34:38,500 --> 00:34:41,500

In English, this is Mount Sinai.

678

00:34:48,500 --> 00:34:52,500

I'm at the base of a mountain believed to be the location of the true Mount Sinai,

679

00:34:52,500 --> 00:34:55,500

where Moses received the Ten Commandments from God.

680

00:34:57,500 --> 00:35:02,500

The Greek Orthodox monastery of St. Catherine was built here in the mid-500s,

681

00:35:02,500 --> 00:35:05,500

atop one of the oldest Christian sites on Earth.

682

00:35:05,500 --> 00:35:09,500

Inside the courtyard, I'm warmly welcomed by Father Justin of Sinai.

683

00:35:11,500 --> 00:35:13,500

Father, I feel like I've stepped into another time here.

684

00:35:13,500 --> 00:35:16,500

And the outside looks almost like a fortress.

685

00:35:16,500 --> 00:35:21,500

It was built as a fortress to protect the monks, to honor this holy place,

686

00:35:21,500 --> 00:35:24,500

but also this was the border of the Roman Empire.

687

00:35:24,500 --> 00:35:25,500

Right.

688

00:35:25,500 --> 00:35:31,500

But the monastery has never been abandoned and never been destroyed in 1700 years.

689

00:35:31,500 --> 00:35:34,500

Wow. What an incredible place.

690

00:35:36,500 --> 00:35:42,500

And there are other connections here to the story of Moses, like one of the main characters.

691

00:35:42,500 --> 00:35:46,500

Everything was built here because this is the place of the burning bush.

692

00:35:46,500 --> 00:35:52,500

And this is the burning bush growing behind the church next to the chapel of the burning bush.

693

00:35:52,500 --> 00:35:54,500

Wait, you mean the burning bush?

694

00:35:54,500 --> 00:35:58,500

Like the burning bush from the Bible where God speaks to Moses?

695

00:35:58,500 --> 00:36:03,500

While the fire is out and the bush may not be talking to anyone these days,

696

00:36:03,500 --> 00:36:06,500

its very existence seems miraculous.

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00:36:07,500 --> 00:36:11,500

It is mentioned by Egeria, who came here in the year 383.

698

00:36:11,500 --> 00:36:16,500

So even in 383, she mentions, in the valley there's a garden,

699

00:36:16,500 --> 00:36:19,500

and in the garden there's a church next to the bush,

700

00:36:19,500 --> 00:36:23,500

and the bush is alive to this day and sends out green shoots.

701

00:36:23,500 --> 00:36:25,500

So this was described in the fourth century.

702

00:36:25,500 --> 00:36:28,500

It's been described by pilgrims ever since.

703

00:36:28,500 --> 00:36:31,500

Wow. That is awesome.

704

00:36:31,500 --> 00:36:34,500

This monastery is filled with miraculous things.

705

00:36:34,500 --> 00:36:37,500

Lead on, I want to see what else we have here.

706

00:36:37,500 --> 00:36:39,500

The burning bush.

707

00:36:42,500 --> 00:36:45,500

Father Justin brings me inside the monastery's library,

708

00:36:45,500 --> 00:36:50,500

a treasure trove of priceless documents stretching back through the centuries.

709

00:36:50,500 --> 00:36:53,500

He's pulled a few volumes for me to examine.

710

00:36:53,500 --> 00:36:57,500

The first one is a 10th century manuscript of...

711

00:36:57,500 --> 00:36:59,500

I'm sorry, this is a thousand year old book.

712

00:36:59,500 --> 00:37:02,500

Yes. Written on parchment.

713

00:37:02,500 --> 00:37:06,500

It's the text of Genesis, Exodus, and Leviticus,

714

00:37:06,500 --> 00:37:09,500

and then it has commentary in the margins.

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00:37:09,500 --> 00:37:14,500

Many years ago, someone took the entire account of Genesis and Exodus,

716

00:37:14,500 --> 00:37:17,500

and they wrote it out in Greek verses.

717

00:37:17,500 --> 00:37:20,500

This is a 16th century manuscript of that text.

718

00:37:20,500 --> 00:37:22,500

This is one of your new books.

719

00:37:22,500 --> 00:37:24,500

And then it's filled with illustrations.

720

00:37:24,500 --> 00:37:27,500

And I believe this is our guy right here, right?

721

00:37:27,500 --> 00:37:29,500

Talk about this illustration.

722

00:37:29,500 --> 00:37:32,500

In particular, this mountain that Moses is standing on.

723

00:37:32,500 --> 00:37:36,500

This is Mount Sinai or Mount Horeb in the Bible.

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00:37:36,500 --> 00:37:39,500

And I know that there have been a lot of places put forward

725

00:37:39,500 --> 00:37:43,500

by historians and theologians over the years as the possible real location.

726

00:37:43,500 --> 00:37:51,500

But St. Catherine sits at the foot of the place that is really considered where this happened.

727

00:37:51,500 --> 00:37:52,500

Why is that?

728

00:37:52,500 --> 00:37:56,500

What is it about this place that gives it authenticity and credibility?

729

00:37:56,500 --> 00:37:59,500

Many people ask us, how do you know that this is the real Sinai?

730

00:37:59,500 --> 00:38:00,500

Right.

731

00:38:00,500 --> 00:38:04,500

We point out that the prophet Elijah came to Horeb the mountain of God,

732

00:38:04,500 --> 00:38:07,500

and he lived 600 years after Moses.

733

00:38:07,500 --> 00:38:09,500

Right, and he knew where it was.

734

00:38:09,500 --> 00:38:12,500

So 600 years after Moses, they knew where Sinai was.

735

00:38:12,500 --> 00:38:17,500

So when the monks came here in the latter third or the fourth centuries,

736

00:38:17,500 --> 00:38:25,500

they also picked up this living heritage that this is the place where God had revealed himself in such a special way.

737

00:38:25,500 --> 00:38:31,500

It is this stunning continuity of history here that has led so many to venerate this place.

738

00:38:31,500 --> 00:38:36,500

And it is for that reason that people also attempt to ascend to the summit.

739

00:38:36,500 --> 00:38:43,500

I know that many people come here to visit the monastery and also to make the ascent to the top of Mount Sinai.

740

00:38:43,500 --> 00:38:44,500

I'd like to do that.

741

00:38:44,500 --> 00:38:48,500

Do you have any advice for a first time climber?

742

00:38:48,500 --> 00:38:50,500

It's not an easy ascent.

743

00:38:50,500 --> 00:38:51,500

Okay.

744

00:38:51,500 --> 00:38:57,500

But when you make the ascent, you think, I'll never get there.

745

00:38:57,500 --> 00:39:04,500

But then you finally do arrive, and it's such a joy to see this spectacular landscape.

746

00:39:04,500 --> 00:39:06,500

I can't wait.

747

00:39:06,500 --> 00:39:10,500

So here's something I'd like to give you for the ascent.

748

00:39:10,500 --> 00:39:16,500

This is a Bible that I bought in Jerusalem in 1978, the first time I made a pilgrimage there.

749

00:39:16,500 --> 00:39:21,500

When you read the scriptures, they come alive because you're at the very place.

750

00:39:21,500 --> 00:39:25,500

And it's something that you can treasure for the rest of your life.

751

00:39:25,500 --> 00:39:28,500

This is really, really special.

752

00:39:28,500 --> 00:39:29,500

Thank you so much.

753

00:39:29,500 --> 00:39:31,500

I will take very, very good care of it, Father.

754

00:39:31,500 --> 00:39:36,500

Thank you so much for your time and for showing us this awesome place.

755

00:39:36,500 --> 00:39:37,500

I really appreciate it.

756

00:39:37,500 --> 00:39:40,500

And all the best on your ascent to the peak.

757

00:39:40,500 --> 00:39:41,500

Thank you, Father.

758

00:39:41,500 --> 00:39:42,500

Cheers.

759

00:39:43,500 --> 00:39:50,500

And so I'm preparing to follow in Moses' most arduous footsteps to the meeting point between God and man.

760

00:39:50,500 --> 00:39:54,500

The climb is always attempted well before the light of dawn.

761

00:39:54,500 --> 00:40:00,500

And so the next day in the frigid desert darkness, I return to the foot of the monastery.

762

00:40:00,500 --> 00:40:06,500

Well, it is about 2.30 in the morning, and I'm here at the base of Mount Sinai.

763

00:40:06,500 --> 00:40:11,500

You know, when we think about Moses leading the Israelites through the desert, we think about sweltering heat.

764

00:40:11,500 --> 00:40:14,500

Right now, it's about 28 degrees Fahrenheit.

765

00:40:14,500 --> 00:40:16,500

It is absolutely freezing.

766

00:40:16,500 --> 00:40:23,500

And between us and the summit is about 2,500 vertical feet and a nearly three mile hike in complete darkness.

767

00:40:23,500 --> 00:40:24,500

Let's do it.

768

00:40:30,500 --> 00:40:32,500

Man, it is cold.

769

00:40:32,500 --> 00:40:36,500

And the higher you get, the windier it gets.

770

00:40:36,500 --> 00:40:38,500

It just feels like walking into nothingness.

771

00:40:41,500 --> 00:40:55,500

So as we come through this pass here, you can hear the wind just sailing through.

772

00:40:55,500 --> 00:40:57,500

It's getting colder and colder.

773

00:40:57,500 --> 00:40:59,500

I've got my trusty King James Bible here.

774

00:40:59,500 --> 00:41:04,500

We're about halfway up the mountain, and I have to say it really does feel so mysterious here.

775

00:41:04,500 --> 00:41:09,500

And it is hard not to feel the parallels with the description in the book of Exodus.

776

00:41:09,500 --> 00:41:12,500

So much of the talk about Sinai is about the weather here.

777

00:41:12,500 --> 00:41:21,500

They say that this thunder and lightning on the mount and the people in the camp trembled, and Mount Sinai quaked greatly.

778

00:41:21,500 --> 00:41:28,500

And then the Lord came down upon Mount Sinai to the top of the mount and called Moses up, and Moses went.

779

00:41:28,500 --> 00:41:30,500

And I guess so will we.

780

00:41:33,500 --> 00:41:36,500

Hundreds of pilgrims are here with me today.

781

00:41:36,500 --> 00:41:44,500

They come by the thousands every year to connect to the spirit of Moses and the God he was said to have met on Sinai.

782

00:41:46,500 --> 00:41:48,500

Come on.

783

00:41:50,500 --> 00:41:52,500

You got this.

784

00:41:52,500 --> 00:41:54,500

Man.

785

00:41:55,500 --> 00:42:01,500

Fortunately, the mountain is dotted with simple stone buildings which serve as rest stops for the faithful.

786

00:42:01,500 --> 00:42:07,500

Inside, merchants make fresh bread, pilgrims rest and get something warm to drink.

787

00:42:10,500 --> 00:42:16,500

A hot cup of coffee in this bitter cold is a bit of a religious experience in itself.

788

00:42:18,500 --> 00:42:20,500

That shall be caffeinated.

789

00:42:22,500 --> 00:42:24,500

Oh, yes.

790

00:42:24,500 --> 00:42:26,500

Thank you.

791

00:42:26,500 --> 00:42:30,500

The walls are lined with photos and notes from people who have made the climb.

792

00:42:30,500 --> 00:42:35,500

After my cup of joe, I hit the trail, leaving my own scripture for future travelers.

793

00:42:42,500 --> 00:42:47,500

Coming into this slot canyon here toward the top of the peak.

794

00:42:47,500 --> 00:42:50,500

Now it gets really rocky and really vertical.

795

00:42:51,500 --> 00:42:53,500

Okay.

796

00:42:54,500 --> 00:42:56,500

Come on.

797

00:43:00,500 --> 00:43:04,500

This may be the holiest mountain on earth, but that doesn't make it soft.

798

00:43:05,500 --> 00:43:07,500

Manna from heaven.

799

00:43:07,500 --> 00:43:14,500

That miraculous food that God delivered to those desert wandering Israelites every day of the week except on Sunday, just like Chick-fil-A.

800

00:43:14,500 --> 00:43:17,500

But what was this life-sustaining heaven-sent snack?

801

00:43:17,500 --> 00:43:22,500

Well, some scientists think it may have been a lichen, a kind of algae that coats the desert floor.

802

00:43:22,500 --> 00:43:24,500

Others believe it was this.

803

00:43:24,500 --> 00:43:27,500

A congealed insect that was found in the desert.

804

00:43:28,500 --> 00:43:30,500

Today this stuff is kind of a delicacy.

805

00:43:30,500 --> 00:43:34,500

It sells for about 10 bucks a gram, even though it looks like the rocks at the bottom of your fish tank.

806

00:43:34,500 --> 00:43:36,500

Okay, here goes nothing.

807

00:43:36,500 --> 00:43:39,500

Tangy, gummy, sweet aftertaste.

808

00:43:39,500 --> 00:43:42,500

Not bad for congealed insect excrement.

809

00:43:42,500 --> 00:43:45,500

I mean, I wouldn't want to eat it for 40 years.

810

00:43:45,500 --> 00:43:47,500

Manna, anyone?

811

00:43:47,500 --> 00:43:49,500

I'm not sure.

812

00:43:49,500 --> 00:43:51,500

I'm not sure.

813

00:43:51,500 --> 00:43:53,500

I'm not sure.

814

00:43:53,500 --> 00:43:55,500

I'm not sure.

815

00:43:55,500 --> 00:43:57,500

Manna, anyone?

816

00:43:57,500 --> 00:43:58,500

It's bug-

817

00:44:05,500 --> 00:44:07,500

Come on.

818

00:44:14,500 --> 00:44:16,500

Okay.

819

00:44:16,500 --> 00:44:18,500

Ow.

820

00:44:18,500 --> 00:44:20,500

My knee.

821

00:44:20,500 --> 00:44:24,500

I suppose it makes sense that in visiting Mount Sinai, I'd end up on one knee.

822

00:44:24,500 --> 00:44:26,500

Okay.

823

00:44:26,500 --> 00:44:28,500

I'm okay.

824

00:44:28,500 --> 00:44:30,500

Okay, okay, here we go.

825

00:44:30,500 --> 00:44:32,500

Oh, man, that's close.

826

00:44:35,500 --> 00:44:37,500

All right, well, we are getting close.

827

00:44:37,500 --> 00:44:41,500

We're within a quarter mile of the summit, but of course there's one last obstacle.

828

00:44:41,500 --> 00:44:44,500

Actually, there's 750 of them.

829

00:44:44,500 --> 00:44:49,500

These steep stone stairs that go all the way to the top.

830

00:44:49,500 --> 00:44:51,500

Okay, come on.

831

00:44:52,500 --> 00:44:57,500

These are the steps of penitence, which lead to the very top of Mount Sinai.

832

00:45:07,500 --> 00:45:09,500

Oh, God.

833

00:45:09,500 --> 00:45:12,500

If only I had some sort of sign.

834

00:45:12,500 --> 00:45:14,500

I thought we'd keep walking. It's freezing.

835

00:45:14,500 --> 00:45:15,500

God?

836

00:45:15,500 --> 00:45:16,500

No, camera department.

837

00:45:16,500 --> 00:45:18,500

Yeah, okay. Here we go.

838

00:45:22,500 --> 00:45:24,500

Okay.

839

00:45:27,500 --> 00:45:30,500

We are now above most of the other peaks.

840

00:45:30,500 --> 00:45:33,500

You can just see them and their outlines in the darkness,

841

00:45:33,500 --> 00:45:35,500

totally exposed here now to the wind.

842

00:45:35,500 --> 00:45:37,500

Must be close to the top.

843

00:45:44,500 --> 00:45:48,500

Sort of a bottleneck here as we get close to the top.

844

00:45:48,500 --> 00:45:51,500

It's really a hive of activity.

845

00:45:53,500 --> 00:45:58,500

There are people here from all over the world and from every major religion.

846

00:45:58,500 --> 00:46:01,500

Christians, Jews, Muslims, Hindus,

847

00:46:01,500 --> 00:46:04,500

and people from just about every country in the world.

848

00:46:04,500 --> 00:46:06,500

I've heard every accent and language imaginable.

849

00:46:06,500 --> 00:46:11,500

All of them here to experience the summit of this holy place.

850

00:46:11,500 --> 00:46:13,500

Yeah.

851

00:46:15,500 --> 00:46:18,500

They climb because they believe that, like Moses,

852

00:46:18,500 --> 00:46:21,500

when they reach the top, they will be in the presence of God.

853

00:46:21,500 --> 00:46:26,500

And as I reach the summit, the same feeling begins to tug within me.

854

00:46:32,500 --> 00:46:37,500

You can see over here, the sky is starting to lighten.

855

00:46:37,500 --> 00:46:40,500

The sun will be here soon.

856

00:46:40,500 --> 00:46:44,500

Everyone is now racing to the top, trying to catch the first light.

857

00:46:51,500 --> 00:46:55,500

And there, at the summit of Mount Sinai, I greet the dawn.

858

00:47:00,500 --> 00:47:03,500

Next time on Expedition Unknown.

859

00:47:04,500 --> 00:47:09,500

The conclusion of our epic quest to unlock the mysteries of Moses.

860

00:47:09,500 --> 00:47:14,500

As I follow in the prophet's footsteps from the peak of Mount Sinai,

861

00:47:14,500 --> 00:47:18,500

and search for evidence that Moses led his people through the desert.

862

00:47:18,500 --> 00:47:21,500

In the world of the Old Testament, this would be an Israelite.

863

00:47:21,500 --> 00:47:23,500

This would be someone from the land of Canaan.

864

00:47:23,500 --> 00:47:25,500

This is pretty extraordinary.

865

00:47:25,500 --> 00:47:29,500

And a relic from the Exodus may be lost in the depths of the Sea of Galilee.

866

00:47:29,500 --> 00:47:32,500

It cannot be natural. It has to be man-made.

867

00:47:32,500 --> 00:47:34,500

Can you show me where it is?

868

00:47:34,500 --> 00:47:36,500

The water is warm though, right?

869

00:47:40,500 --> 00:47:42,500

Slaith Hill here.

870

00:47:42,500 --> 00:47:44,500

Holy Moses!

871

00:47:48,500 --> 00:47:51,500

It's an adventure with only one commandment.

872

00:47:51,500 --> 00:47:53,500

Thou shalt watch.

873

00:47:54,500 --> 00:47:56,500

I'd say that about sums it up.