

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:07,500

Tonight, the conclusion of our epic quest to unlock the mysteries of Moses.

2

00:00:07,500 --> 00:00:09,000

There's a tomb here.

3

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

Yeah.

4

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

Of Moses.

5

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

Yes.

6

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

Can we see it?

7

00:00:13,000 --> 00:00:16,500

I venture over 3,000 years into the past, climbing to the peak of Mount Sinai.

8

00:00:16,500 --> 00:00:19,000

We are now above most of the other peaks.

9

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

You can just see the outlines of the darkness.

10

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

And search for evidence that Moses led his people into the desert.

11

00:00:25,000 --> 00:00:27,500

In the world of the Old Testament, this would be an Israelite.

12

00:00:27,500 --> 00:00:29,000

This is pretty extraordinary.

13

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

And a relic from Exodus may be lost in the depths of the Sea of Galilee.

14

00:00:34,000 --> 00:00:35,500

It cannot be natural.

15

00:00:35,500 --> 00:00:37,000

It has to be man-made.

16

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

Can you show me where it is?

17

00:00:38,000 --> 00:00:39,500

The water is warm though, right?

18

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

No.

19

00:00:40,500 --> 00:00:41,500

Okay, great.

20

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

Just a couple guys under a heavy cloth in the middle of the desert.

21

00:00:49,000 --> 00:00:50,500

Really breathes in here.

22

00:00:52,500 --> 00:00:53,500

Fire!

23

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

Yes!

24

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

I didn't know collecting data could be this much fun.

25

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

Hang on.

26

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

Oh boy!

27

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

Yeah!

28

00:01:05,000 --> 00:01:08,000

It's an adventure with only one commandment.

29

00:01:08,000 --> 00:01:10,000

Thou shalt watch.

30

00:01:11,000 --> 00:01:13,000

I'd say that about sums it up.

31

00:01:17,000 --> 00:01:19,000

My name is Josh Gates.

32

00:01:19,000 --> 00:01:20,000

Hello!

33

00:01:20,000 --> 00:01:21,000

Explorer.

34

00:01:22,000 --> 00:01:23,000

Adventurer.

35

00:01:23,000 --> 00:01:24,000

Amazing.

36

00:01:25,000 --> 00:01:28,000

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

37

00:01:28,000 --> 00:01:30,000

That was exciting.

38

00:01:30,000 --> 00:01:34,000

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

39

00:01:34,000 --> 00:01:39,000

I travel to the ends of the earth investigating the greatest legends in history.

40

00:01:39,000 --> 00:01:40,000

Let's punch it!

41

00:01:40,000 --> 00:01:43,000

This is Expedition Unknown.

42

00:01:46,000 --> 00:01:48,000

Moses, man or myth.

43

00:01:48,000 --> 00:01:53,000

I'm on a hunt for answers using modern science and archaeology

44

00:01:53,000 --> 00:01:57,000

to unravel the history behind this biblical mystery.

45

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

Moses is a prophet in Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

46

00:02:01,000 --> 00:02:04,000

A towering figure with humble beginnings.

47

00:02:04,000 --> 00:02:09,000

According to scripture, Moses was a Hebrew raised in the palace of the Pharaoh in Egypt.

48

00:02:09,000 --> 00:02:11,000

One brick down, do a hundred a go.

49

00:02:12,000 --> 00:02:17,000

I've opened the sealed tomb of a powerful vizier with a unique background.

50

00:02:17,000 --> 00:02:19,000

His name is Apar El.

51

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

It's not an Egyptian name.

52

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

So what is it?

53

00:02:21,000 --> 00:02:23,000

It's a Semitic name.

54

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

With evidence that a person like Moses was able to reach the highest ranks of a Pharaoh's court,

55

00:02:30,000 --> 00:02:38,000

I crossed into the vast deserts of the Sinai Peninsula to a remote monastery at the base of the biblical Mount Sinai.

56

00:02:38,000 --> 00:02:41,000

Everything was built here because this is the place of the burning bush.

57

00:02:41,000 --> 00:02:44,000

Wait a minute. You mean THE burning bush?

58

00:02:46,000 --> 00:02:47,000

Come on.

59

00:02:48,000 --> 00:02:51,000

At the top of this most mystical mountain,

60

00:02:51,000 --> 00:02:55,000

God himself is said to have bestowed upon Moses the Ten Commandments.

61

00:02:55,000 --> 00:02:59,000

You can hear the wind just sailing through.

62

00:02:59,000 --> 00:03:01,000

It's getting colder and colder.

63

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

After hours of hiking, the final test.

64

00:03:04,000 --> 00:03:08,000

More than 700 rock cut stairs to the peak.

65

00:03:09,000 --> 00:03:20,000

After regaining my footing, I push on, joined by hundreds of faithful pilgrims who are also making

the ascent.

66

00:03:22,000 --> 00:03:26,000

Everyone is now racing to the top trying to catch the first light.

67

00:03:29,000 --> 00:03:35,000

And just as the rays of the sun pierce through the veil of darkness, all of us arrive at the top of the mountain.

68

00:03:39,000 --> 00:03:41,000

The summit.

69

00:03:56,000 --> 00:03:57,000

That is incredible.

70

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

The view is quite simply, well, divine.

71

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

And they saw the God of Israel.

72

00:04:07,000 --> 00:04:16,000

And there was under his feet, as it were, a paved work of a sapphire stone and the body of heaven in his clearness.

73

00:04:16,000 --> 00:04:24,000

And the sight of the glory of the Lord was like devouring fire on the top of the mount in the eyes of the children of Israel.

74

00:04:28,000 --> 00:04:30,000

I'd say that about sums it up.

75

00:04:33,000 --> 00:04:35,000

The sky.

76

00:04:44,000 --> 00:04:51,000

With the sun rising in the sky, I enter into the shadows of a chapel, kept by the monks of St. Catharines.

77

00:04:52,000 --> 00:04:55,000

This part of my investigation hasn't been about proof.

78

00:04:55,000 --> 00:04:57,000

It's an exploration of faith.

79

00:04:57,000 --> 00:05:03,000

And no matter what you believe or don't believe, there is something to be deeply respected here.

80

00:05:03,000 --> 00:05:12,000

The establishment of the Ten Commandments, a pivotal moment when humanity tried to better itself through a set of fundamental moral laws.

81

00:05:15,000 --> 00:05:20,000

As Moses did after receiving the Ten Commandments, I begin to descend Mount Sinai.

82

00:05:21,000 --> 00:05:29,000

Unfortunately, when Moses returns, he finds the Israelites have abandoned their faith and are worshipping a golden calf.

83

00:05:29,000 --> 00:05:33,000

In an act of anger, Moses throws the tablets to the ground.

84

00:05:37,000 --> 00:05:46,000

As a punishment for their moment of weakness, the Israelites are condemned to wander the desert for 40 years before reaching the land promised to them by God.

85

00:05:47,000 --> 00:05:52,000

I'm hoping that such a migration would have left an archaeological footprint.

86

00:05:52,000 --> 00:05:59,000

And now I hear there's an imminent French archaeologist working at an isolated site that may have found compelling evidence.

87

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

I drive from Mount Sinai deeper into the desert toward a place known as Seribid El-Khadim, where the term remote doesn't begin to cut it.

88

00:06:10,000 --> 00:06:13,000

Okay, I guess this is the back way.

89

00:06:14,000 --> 00:06:20,000

There are no roads here, just temporary tracks in the sand from 4x4s crossing the vast desert.

90

00:06:20,000 --> 00:06:23,000

Okay, it might be a little lost.

91

00:06:24,000 --> 00:06:28,000

Finding an archaeological site out here is going to require some help.

92

00:06:28,000 --> 00:06:33,000

Fortunately, my contact has arranged for a guide, that is, if I can find him.

93

00:06:35,000 --> 00:06:41,000

GPS says I should be about 15 miles away, but out here, well, that might take a while.

94

00:06:44,000 --> 00:06:47,000

Driving in the desert is not for the faint of heart.

95

00:06:48,000 --> 00:06:55,000

Thousands of these crisscross trails leading in every direction, not to mention blind corners, sudden drops.

96

00:06:58,000 --> 00:07:02,000

And of course, enough sand to swallow even the most rugged tires.

97

00:07:02,000 --> 00:07:08,000

The key is to just keep moving. After all, if you get stuck, there's nobody here to help dig you out.

98

00:07:09,000 --> 00:07:13,000

Also, though, it's extremely fun. Here we go.

99

00:07:20,000 --> 00:07:25,000

Be a left, and be a right. Left, right, and straight.

100

00:07:29,000 --> 00:07:33,000

Okay, we're running out of plateau here.

101

00:07:33,000 --> 00:07:37,000

Just trying to wave down.

102

00:07:40,000 --> 00:07:41,000

Maybe here?

103

00:07:43,000 --> 00:07:44,000

Sure, why not?

104

00:07:48,000 --> 00:07:50,000

Hang on. Oh boy!

105

00:07:58,000 --> 00:08:00,000

I think I threw my back out on that one.

106

00:08:04,000 --> 00:08:05,000

It's a rental.

107

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

This guy should be somewhere around here.

108

00:08:13,000 --> 00:08:18,000

Oh, I see structure. Okay, here we go. This has got to be it.

109

00:08:18,000 --> 00:08:22,000

In a place that seems utterly inhospitable, I find signs of life.

110

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

A small Bedouin camp and the guide I've traveled far to find.

111

00:08:27,000 --> 00:08:28,000

Assalamu alaikum.

112

00:08:28,000 --> 00:08:30,000

Yo marah, habbi, yo marah, habbi, yo marah.

113

00:08:30,000 --> 00:08:32,000

Are you Aliyah? Yes, my name is Alabi.

114

00:08:32,000 --> 00:08:36,000

Josh, I hear you're the man if I want to go to the site known as Ceribet.

115

00:08:36,000 --> 00:08:37,000

Yes.

116

00:08:37,000 --> 00:08:39,000

Okay, so we drive?

117

00:08:39,000 --> 00:08:40,000

No, no, no, we go walk.

118

00:08:40,000 --> 00:08:42,000

We walk? How far is it?

119

00:08:42,000 --> 00:08:43,000

It's far, yeah.

120

00:08:43,000 --> 00:08:46,000

Perfect. Okay, I'm right behind you. Come on, let's go.

121

00:08:49,000 --> 00:08:54,000

My new Bedouin friend leads us away from camp and into a steep walled ravine.

122

00:08:56,000 --> 00:08:58,000

The Bedouins are the masters of the desert.

123

00:08:58,000 --> 00:09:01,000

Without my guide here, I'd never find this hidden trail.

124

00:09:01,000 --> 00:09:04,000

As it is, I'm mostly focused on not falling off of it.

125

00:09:05,000 --> 00:09:07,000

A little bit of a drop off.

126

00:09:10,000 --> 00:09:13,000

We climb higher and higher toward a hidden site,

127

00:09:13,000 --> 00:09:18,000

a place that might reveal if the Semitic people from Exodus traveled through the Sinai.

128

00:09:19,000 --> 00:09:25,000

My guide is climbing in sandals, but the higher we get, the more I'm relying on the grip of my boots.

129

00:09:26,000 --> 00:09:30,000

Okay, room for error here.

130

00:09:31,000 --> 00:09:32,000

Very narrow.

131

00:09:35,000 --> 00:09:38,000

Finally, we emerge on a high desert plateau.

132

00:09:39,000 --> 00:09:41,000

This is the top, yeah.

133

00:09:43,000 --> 00:09:49,000

Amidst all this natural desolation, I'm stunned to see ancient man-made construction in the distance.

134

00:09:50,000 --> 00:09:51,000

The temple here.

135

00:09:51,000 --> 00:09:52,000

Okay.

136

00:09:52,000 --> 00:09:53,000

Me, I go back.

137

00:09:53,000 --> 00:09:54,000

Okay, I leave you here.

138

00:09:54,000 --> 00:09:55,000

Okay, goodbye.

139

00:09:55,000 --> 00:09:56,000

Thank you so much.

140

00:09:56,000 --> 00:09:57,000

Welcome, welcome.

141

00:09:57,000 --> 00:09:58,000

Bye-bye.

142

00:09:58,000 --> 00:10:02,000

I walk toward the site, which feels like something from another world.

143

00:10:02,000 --> 00:10:07,000

To find out what it's doing out here, I'm meeting French Egyptologist Pierre Tallet.

144

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

Here, I'm Josh, nice to meet you.

145

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

Nice to meet you.

146

00:10:11,000 --> 00:10:13,000

I'm kind of in shock looking at this.

147

00:10:13,000 --> 00:10:15,000

This is not at all what I expected to be up here.

148

00:10:15,000 --> 00:10:19,000

Well, it is one of the most remote temples in Egypt.

149

00:10:19,000 --> 00:10:24,000

It has been built around 2000 BC by miners.

150

00:10:25,000 --> 00:10:28,000

While the Sinai might look empty, that's only on the surface.

151

00:10:28,000 --> 00:10:36,000

Ancient Egyptians sent expeditions vast distances from the Nile Delta to recover commodities like copper, or in this case, turquoise.

152

00:10:37,000 --> 00:10:40,000

A precious, beautiful stone, valuable to Egyptians.

153

00:10:40,000 --> 00:10:45,000

Yeah, and it has great symbolic importance for the Egyptian people.

154

00:10:45,000 --> 00:10:50,000

Atop this plateau are no fewer than 30 ancient turquoise mines.

155

00:10:50,000 --> 00:10:53,000

And in the center of the site, the Egyptians built this.

156

00:10:54,000 --> 00:11:01,000

A hilltop temple nearly 4,000 years old, carved by the miners who toiled here far from home.

157

00:11:02,000 --> 00:11:03,000

This is a steeler.

158

00:11:03,000 --> 00:11:05,000

Some of them are more than three meters high.

159

00:11:05,000 --> 00:11:12,000

Each expedition was making its own steeler to record what happened during the time they were in Sinai.

160

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

I got it.

161

00:11:13,000 --> 00:11:17,000

So every year when an expedition would come here from Egypt, they would erect a monument.

162

00:11:17,000 --> 00:11:19,000

Yeah, basically recording everything.

163

00:11:19,000 --> 00:11:20,000

Everything.

164

00:11:20,000 --> 00:11:23,000

You can even find the record of the food and drinks.

165

00:11:23,000 --> 00:11:29,000

Stealer like this are some of the earliest forms of posting on social media, right down to the annoying pictures of food.

166

00:11:29,000 --> 00:11:31,000

Even the menus on here.

167

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

Yeah, even the menus and feast are there.

168

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

Okay, let's keep moving.

169

00:11:36,000 --> 00:11:41,000

But not everything in this lost temple is Egyptian. There's someone else here.

170

00:11:41,000 --> 00:11:45,000

Here's something very special. You see this guy here?

171

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

Yes, he's on an animal?

172

00:11:46,000 --> 00:11:48,000

Yeah, he's riding donkey.

173

00:11:48,000 --> 00:11:49,000

Okay.

174

00:11:49,000 --> 00:11:54,000

And the Egyptians are never shown riding donkeys in the iconography.

175

00:11:54,000 --> 00:11:55,000

Ever.

176

00:11:55,000 --> 00:12:00,000

It's reserved for foreign people, especially Semitic people when it occurs.

177

00:12:00,000 --> 00:12:01,000

This is a Semitic person.

178

00:12:01,000 --> 00:12:09,000

This is a Semitic person that came to help the Egyptians mining the turquoise around 1800 BC.

179

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

In the world of the Old Testament, this would be an Israelite.

180

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

This would be someone from the land of Canaanite.

181

00:12:14,000 --> 00:12:15,000

From the land of Canaanite.

182

00:12:15,000 --> 00:12:17,000

This is pretty extraordinary.

183

00:12:17,000 --> 00:12:19,000

Holy Moses.

184

00:12:19,000 --> 00:12:27,000

This is evidence, literally carved in stone, that Israelites were working in the Sinai desert around the time of the Exodus story.

185

00:12:27,000 --> 00:12:33,000

You look historically for connection points for things that may have inspired these stories.

186

00:12:33,000 --> 00:12:39,000

But the idea that there are Semitic people here, working here, in Egypt, in the Sinai,

187

00:12:39,000 --> 00:12:43,000

you start to see at least some linkage with the idea that you have this movement of people.

188

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

Yeah, this is a meeting point of cultures.

189

00:12:46,000 --> 00:12:47,000

Wow.

190

00:12:47,000 --> 00:12:50,000

Now there is something very interesting I want you to see inside.

191

00:12:50,000 --> 00:12:51,000

Inside?

192

00:12:51,000 --> 00:12:52,000

Inside the cave.

193

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

Sure.

194

00:12:53,000 --> 00:12:54,000

Yeah.

195

00:12:54,000 --> 00:12:55,000

What's more interesting than this?

196

00:12:55,000 --> 00:12:56,000

Yeah.

197

00:12:56,000 --> 00:12:57,000

Please.

198

00:12:57,000 --> 00:13:00,000

George, this is the most important part of the temple.

199

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

The shrine which is devoted to the main divinity.

200

00:13:04,000 --> 00:13:07,000

Right, this is the goddess here, and this is the king?

201

00:13:07,000 --> 00:13:11,000

Yeah, she is facing the king, and it is the goddess Hathor.

202

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

Hathor is the cow goddess?

203

00:13:14,000 --> 00:13:20,000

Hathor, the Egyptian goddess of love, fertility, music and pleasure, was depicted as a woman,

204

00:13:20,000 --> 00:13:22,000

often with horns.

205

00:13:22,000 --> 00:13:24,000

She is shown in the human form here.

206

00:13:24,000 --> 00:13:32,000

The horns are there because she was also represented as a cow, which has a very intriguing parallel with Exodus.

207

00:13:32,000 --> 00:13:37,000

Remember that golden calf the Israelites were worshiping at Mount Sinai?

208

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

This is a really tantalizing possibility.

209

00:13:40,000 --> 00:13:45,000

The idea that we have in Exodus this golden calf that these people start worshiping,

210

00:13:45,000 --> 00:13:50,000

and here we have Semitic people who are worshiping a cow goddess.

211

00:13:50,000 --> 00:13:51,000

Yeah.

212

00:13:51,000 --> 00:13:56,000

This place isn't just a turquoise mine, it's an archeological gold mine.

213

00:13:56,000 --> 00:14:03,000

And in one of the nearby chambers, Pierre shows me one more piece of history, one that applies to all of us.

214

00:14:03,000 --> 00:14:12,000

And we have here a new script that was probably invented here by the Semitic people that were involved in the Egyptian expeditions.

215

00:14:12,000 --> 00:14:18,000

These miners, these Semitic people that are here, they start scribbling this into the wall.

216

00:14:18,000 --> 00:14:19,000

Yeah.

217

00:14:19,000 --> 00:14:21,000

Why? What does it represent?

218

00:14:21,000 --> 00:14:29,000

Most probably they saw what the Egyptians were doing with hieroglyphs, and they wanted to write something themselves.

219

00:14:29,000 --> 00:14:32,000

For example, here, the name in Semitic is Aleph.

220

00:14:32,000 --> 00:14:37,000

Aleph is the Semitic word for an ox, hence the horns.

221

00:14:37,000 --> 00:14:42,000

But it's the first sound of Aleph that the Semitic people were trying to represent.

222

00:14:42,000 --> 00:14:46,000

What happens if you flip it upside down?

223

00:14:46,000 --> 00:14:47,000

It's an A.

224

00:14:47,000 --> 00:14:48,000

Exactly.

225

00:14:48,000 --> 00:14:55,000

So Aleph is an ox, you draw an ox, you flip it upside down, we have the letter A.

226

00:14:55,000 --> 00:14:58,000

Or this symbol for water pronounced mem.

227

00:14:58,000 --> 00:15:02,000

Or if you cover the edges, we would know it as an M.

228

00:15:02,000 --> 00:15:08,000

Even more amazing, you have an ox Aleph and a house bet.

229

00:15:08,000 --> 00:15:16,000

Aleph bet, alpha bet in this script, the two first letter, and in the right order.

230

00:15:16,000 --> 00:15:18,000

That's where we get the word alphabet?

231

00:15:18,000 --> 00:15:19,000

Yeah.

232

00:15:19,000 --> 00:15:22,000

I quit, I just, you just made my brain explode.

233

00:15:28,000 --> 00:15:33,000

Amazing, you have an ox Aleph and a house bet, alpha bet.

234

00:15:33,000 --> 00:15:35,000

This is crazy.

235

00:15:36,000 --> 00:15:41,000

What you are seeing here is perhaps the most important graffiti in the world.

236

00:15:41,000 --> 00:15:50,000

That ox and the other symbols would be used by the Phoenicians, then in Hebrew, Greek and Latin, and on and on, until you learned it as a kid.

237

00:15:50,000 --> 00:15:52,000

And it started here.

238

00:15:52,000 --> 00:15:57,000

When it comes to the Israelites, when it comes to the Semitic people,

239

00:15:57,000 --> 00:16:02,000

this is as personal a connection to these people as you can imagine.

240

00:16:02,000 --> 00:16:04,000

This is their fingerprints.

241

00:16:04,000 --> 00:16:10,000

Someone sat here, right here, and carved the very beginnings of our written language.

242

00:16:10,000 --> 00:16:14,000

This is really extraordinary. Everybody should see this.

243

00:16:14,000 --> 00:16:17,000

After all, we're writing it every day.

244

00:16:17,000 --> 00:16:19,000

Yeah, of course.

245

00:16:19,000 --> 00:16:24,000

I thank Pierre and leave the ruins of Serabit El-Hadim in a state of amazement.

246

00:16:24,000 --> 00:16:32,000

Having seen evidence of ancient Semites passing through here during the time of Moses, along with a lesson in my ABCs.

247

00:16:33,000 --> 00:16:39,000

I returned to the desert and my wanderings, following the Israelite story through history.

248

00:16:39,000 --> 00:16:46,000

After 40 years in the Sinai, God finally allowed his chosen people into the Promised Land.

249

00:16:46,000 --> 00:16:53,000

It only takes me another day, another country, and another rented truck to cross the 250 or so miles.

250

00:16:54,000 --> 00:17:02,000

We are approaching the spot where the Bible says the Hebrews entered the land of Canaan, at this point led by my namesake, Joshua.

251

00:17:02,000 --> 00:17:07,000

And just like him, I've got to cross the River Jordan. Cue the gospel music.

252

00:17:08,000 --> 00:17:13,000

Welcome to the Holy Land.

253

00:17:13,000 --> 00:17:20,000

Today, this is Israel and the Palestinian territories, and civilization is everywhere you look.

254

00:17:20,000 --> 00:17:23,000

But when did it arrive here, and who brought it?

255

00:17:23,000 --> 00:17:28,000

To find out, I drive into the West Bank and a place known as Al-Mustara,

256

00:17:28,000 --> 00:17:36,000

where an international team is using cutting-edge science to learn about who was living in this area during the potential time of Exodus.

257

00:17:37,000 --> 00:17:45,000

I park and hike up to meet archaeologist David Ben-Schlomo.

258

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

Hey!

259

00:17:46,000 --> 00:17:47,000

Oh, hi.

260

00:17:47,000 --> 00:17:48,000

David.

261

00:17:48,000 --> 00:17:49,000

Hi, Josh.

262

00:17:49,000 --> 00:17:50,000

Nice office.

263

00:17:50,000 --> 00:17:51,000

Oh, yeah.

264

00:17:51,000 --> 00:17:52,000

Not the easiest place to find.

265

00:17:52,000 --> 00:17:53,000

Yeah, it's a good location.

266

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

Especially if you don't want to be bothered.

267

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

Yeah.

268

00:17:55,000 --> 00:17:59,000

So, okay, I've come to talk to you about the Bible, specifically Moses, Exodus.

269

00:17:59,000 --> 00:18:05,000

So, in the story, we have the Israelites coming here into the land of Canaan, right?

270

00:18:05,000 --> 00:18:08,000

And they are effectively nomads at this point.

271

00:18:08,000 --> 00:18:11,000

So, do we have any evidence for this part of the story?

272

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

Are there nomadic people moving through this land?

273

00:18:14,000 --> 00:18:17,000

Well, we might have. Right here.

274

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

Like right here, right here?

275

00:18:21,000 --> 00:18:22,000

Well, this is a circle.

276

00:18:22,000 --> 00:18:23,000

Yeah, have a look.

277

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

These are all structures.

278

00:18:24,000 --> 00:18:26,000

So, what do we think these were used for?

279

00:18:26,000 --> 00:18:30,000

I think they were used as animal pens for nomads, maybe.

280

00:18:30,000 --> 00:18:32,000

Do we have evidence that people were living in here?

281

00:18:32,000 --> 00:18:35,000

Some shards, pottery shards, were found on the surface.

282

00:18:35,000 --> 00:18:37,000

But we wanted to examine it, so we excavated here.

283

00:18:37,000 --> 00:18:39,000

But we didn't find anything.

284

00:18:39,000 --> 00:18:43,000

But nearby, there's a site which we can get much more evidence.

285

00:18:43,000 --> 00:18:44,000

I like evidence.

286

00:18:44,000 --> 00:18:45,000

Do you want to see that?

287

00:18:45,000 --> 00:18:46,000

Please.

288

00:18:46,000 --> 00:18:47,000

So, follow me.

289

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

We climb up a rocky hill, which leads to an incredible view and some serious ruins.

290

00:18:52,000 --> 00:18:54,000

Okay.

291

00:18:54,000 --> 00:18:56,000

So, this is our main site.

292

00:18:56,000 --> 00:18:58,000

So, we have a lot more than just stone circles here.

293

00:18:58,000 --> 00:18:59,000

I can see a medium.

294

00:18:59,000 --> 00:19:00,000

Yeah.

295

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

And so, walk me through the architecture here.

296

00:19:02,000 --> 00:19:04,000

I see what looks like a wall over there.

297

00:19:04,000 --> 00:19:09,000

Yeah, you can see the basic thing is the whole settlement is surrounded by fortification wall.

298

00:19:09,000 --> 00:19:10,000

We call it the casemate wall.

299

00:19:10,000 --> 00:19:12,000

It's made out of two lines of stones.

300

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

It's very typical of the Iron Age or the First Temple Period.

301

00:19:16,000 --> 00:19:21,000

The Iron Age in this part of the world stretched from about 1200 to 600 BCE,

302

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

just after the time of the events described in Exodus.

303

00:19:25,000 --> 00:19:27,000

So, we kind of put this in the world of Moses.

304

00:19:27,000 --> 00:19:31,000

He would have lived in what we call the end of the Bronze Age.

305

00:19:31,000 --> 00:19:35,000

And so, the Iron Ages or the First Temple Period, this is what comes after that.

306

00:19:35,000 --> 00:19:38,000

At the end of this Bronze Age period, going into the Iron Age,

307

00:19:38,000 --> 00:19:40,000

like a huge shift does happen, right?

308

00:19:40,000 --> 00:19:41,000

Yeah.

309

00:19:41,000 --> 00:19:48,000

A transition towards a more complex state society with kings and priests and taxes and writing.

310

00:19:48,000 --> 00:19:50,000

And that's coming from somewhere.

311

00:19:50,000 --> 00:19:52,000

Yeah, it has to come from somewhere.

312

00:19:52,000 --> 00:19:53,000

It kind of pop up from nothing.

313

00:19:53,000 --> 00:19:55,000

Where are the seeds of this?

314

00:19:55,000 --> 00:19:58,000

As we can see by these elaborate ruins,

315

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

by the time the Iron Age arrives, a complex society is taking root.

316

00:20:02,000 --> 00:20:06,000

So, did it arrive here with the children of the Exodus in the Bronze Age?

317

00:20:06,000 --> 00:20:09,000

It's really a problem not yet solved, I think,

318

00:20:09,000 --> 00:20:12,000

because so far from that period, we don't have any evidence,

319

00:20:12,000 --> 00:20:13,000

but we are looking for it.

320

00:20:13,000 --> 00:20:16,000

Maybe there is signs of earlier habitation here.

321

00:20:16,000 --> 00:20:17,000

Underneath the Iron Age?

322

00:20:17,000 --> 00:20:18,000

Underneath, yeah.

323

00:20:18,000 --> 00:20:21,000

In order to find earlier, we have to dig deeper.

324

00:20:21,000 --> 00:20:24,000

And so, your team primarily is working down here?

325

00:20:24,000 --> 00:20:27,000

Yes, we are working down there in the northern part of the side.

326

00:20:28,000 --> 00:20:32,000

To pinpoint how deep we need to dig for Bronze Age relics,

327

00:20:32,000 --> 00:20:37,000

I head down the hill, passing excavators hard at work uncovering the past,

328

00:20:37,000 --> 00:20:41,000

until I find geoarcheologist Orrin Ackerman.

329

00:20:42,000 --> 00:20:43,000

Hi, how are you? I'm Josh.

330

00:20:43,000 --> 00:20:45,000

Hi, Josh. Nice meeting you.

331

00:20:45,000 --> 00:20:47,000

Nice meeting you too. And what are you working on here?

332

00:20:47,000 --> 00:20:49,000

Have I seen it? And I'll show you.

333

00:20:49,000 --> 00:20:50,000

Sure.

334

00:20:50,000 --> 00:20:52,000

So, what have we got here?

335

00:20:52,000 --> 00:20:56,000

So, Josh, we are geoaarcheologists, and we deal with layers.

336

00:20:56,000 --> 00:20:57,000

History is all about layers.

337

00:20:57,000 --> 00:20:59,000

So, I'm using a new technique.

338

00:20:59,000 --> 00:21:00,000

Okay.

339

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

Portable OSL.

340

00:21:01,000 --> 00:21:03,000

Portable OSL. What is OSL?

341

00:21:03,000 --> 00:21:06,000

OSL is Optically Stimulated Luminescence.

342

00:21:06,000 --> 00:21:09,000

So, in the sediment, there is quartz.

343

00:21:09,000 --> 00:21:10,000

There's quartz, right?

344

00:21:10,000 --> 00:21:13,000

So, there's bits of quartz crystals that are trapped in the dirt here?

345

00:21:13,000 --> 00:21:14,000

Yes.

346

00:21:14,000 --> 00:21:15,000

Okay.

347

00:21:15,000 --> 00:21:18,000

When the particles of quartz become trapped in the earth,

348

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

they begin to accumulate radiation from the surrounding soil.

349

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

The longer the quartz is there, the more radiation it absorbs,

350

00:21:25,000 --> 00:21:27,000

which is where Orrin's machine comes in.

351

00:21:27,000 --> 00:21:32,000

What we do, we stimulated this radiation in the lab

352

00:21:32,000 --> 00:21:34,000

or in the portable equipment that we have here.

353

00:21:34,000 --> 00:21:36,000

How are you stim- what do you mean?

354

00:21:36,000 --> 00:21:38,000

Like, what? You put on some Marvin Gaye?

355

00:21:38,000 --> 00:21:39,000

What do you mean? You stimulate it.

356

00:21:39,000 --> 00:21:41,000

What are you talking about?

357

00:21:41,000 --> 00:21:44,000

The OSL releases the radiation in the quartz crystals

358

00:21:44,000 --> 00:21:47,000

and counts the number of photons that are discharged.

359

00:21:47,000 --> 00:21:51,000

The higher the number of photons, the older the sample.

360

00:21:51,000 --> 00:21:55,000

So, if we want to see if there are Bronze Age people here,

361

00:21:55,000 --> 00:21:58,000

if we want to think about this biblical story of the time of Moses,

362

00:21:58,000 --> 00:22:00,000

we have to maybe look deeper.

363

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

Yes. But there's one problem.

364

00:22:01,000 --> 00:22:02,000

Okay.

365

00:22:02,000 --> 00:22:06,000

Because when I sample it, it might be exposed again to the sun.

366

00:22:06,000 --> 00:22:07,000

So, we need to make it dark.

367

00:22:07,000 --> 00:22:09,000

So, I have this cover.

368

00:22:09,000 --> 00:22:12,000

So, I put above the section.

369

00:22:12,000 --> 00:22:14,000

And then I go inside.

370

00:22:14,000 --> 00:22:16,000

Who would like to join me?

371

00:22:16,000 --> 00:22:18,000

Jesus, you never ask.

372

00:22:18,000 --> 00:22:19,000

Here we go.

373

00:22:19,000 --> 00:22:21,000

In order for the machine to get an accurate reading,

374

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

the samples must be totally shielded from the sun.

375

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

And unfortunately, it's about noon here in the Middle East.

376

00:22:27,000 --> 00:22:29,000

This is weird. Here we go.

377

00:22:29,000 --> 00:22:30,000

Okay.

378

00:22:30,000 --> 00:22:31,000

Hi.

379

00:22:31,000 --> 00:22:32,000

Hi.

380

00:22:32,000 --> 00:22:33,000

How are you?

381

00:22:33,000 --> 00:22:34,000

Okay, how are you?

382

00:22:34,000 --> 00:22:36,000

I'm good. I'm good.

383

00:22:36,000 --> 00:22:37,000

Well, here we are.

384

00:22:37,000 --> 00:22:41,000

Just a couple of guys under a heavy cloth in the middle of the desert.

385

00:22:41,000 --> 00:22:43,000

Really briefs in here.

386

00:22:43,000 --> 00:22:45,000

Why are you taking your pants off?

387

00:22:45,000 --> 00:22:46,000

I'm just kidding.

388

00:22:46,000 --> 00:22:50,000

Okay. So, okay. What's our plan?

389

00:22:50,000 --> 00:22:51,000

We're going to scrape some soil here?

390

00:22:51,000 --> 00:22:52,000

Yes.

391

00:22:52,000 --> 00:22:54,000

So, do we just start on the wall here? What do we do?

392

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

No. First, I have to make a clean cut.

393

00:22:56,000 --> 00:22:59,000

To soil that has not been exposed to the air.

394

00:23:01,000 --> 00:23:05,000

For comparison, Orin collects samples from near the surface layer,

395

00:23:05,000 --> 00:23:08,000

then the Iron Age, and finally deeper in the Earth,

396

00:23:08,000 --> 00:23:11,000

and what we hope is the Bronze Age.

397

00:23:11,000 --> 00:23:13,000

All right, we've got our samples.

398

00:23:13,000 --> 00:23:16,000

Tell you one thing. Pretty warm in here.

399

00:23:16,000 --> 00:23:17,000

Yes.

400

00:23:17,000 --> 00:23:18,000

Time to go into the light?

401

00:23:18,000 --> 00:23:19,000

Time to go into the light.

402

00:23:19,000 --> 00:23:21,000

Go into the light.

403

00:23:21,000 --> 00:23:22,000

No.

404

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

Okay.

405

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

Woo.

406

00:23:24,000 --> 00:23:26,000

Samples safely in hand.

407

00:23:26,000 --> 00:23:28,000

We bring them to a light-shielded tent

408

00:23:28,000 --> 00:23:31,000

where the machine can count their photons.

409

00:23:31,000 --> 00:23:33,000

Open the drawer.

410

00:23:33,000 --> 00:23:36,000

And put the sample into the sock here.

411

00:23:36,000 --> 00:23:37,000

Uh-huh.

412

00:23:37,000 --> 00:23:38,000

Close it.

413

00:23:38,000 --> 00:23:40,000

First, top layer.

414

00:23:40,000 --> 00:23:41,000

Okay.

415

00:23:41,000 --> 00:23:43,000

And we run the first sample.

416

00:23:43,000 --> 00:23:44,000

Here we go.

417

00:23:45,000 --> 00:23:48,000

In short order, we process every sample we collected.

418

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

Thankfully, the computer doesn't need to work for long.

419

00:23:53,000 --> 00:23:54,000

Okay, we have results.

420

00:23:54,000 --> 00:23:56,000

Okay. So, what are we looking at here?

421

00:23:56,000 --> 00:23:58,000

For each layer, we have a photon count.

422

00:23:58,000 --> 00:24:00,000

So, for the top layer, close to the surface,

423

00:24:00,000 --> 00:24:03,000

the photon count is 3,902.

424

00:24:03,000 --> 00:24:04,000

The transition.

425

00:24:04,000 --> 00:24:07,000

And then we jump way down to the Iron Age,

426

00:24:07,000 --> 00:24:09,000

where the number is way higher.

427

00:24:09,000 --> 00:24:11,000

We have 30,036.

428

00:24:11,000 --> 00:24:13,000

Yes, way above.

429

00:24:13,000 --> 00:24:14,000

And if you go deeper...

430

00:24:14,000 --> 00:24:15,000

Bronze Age.

431

00:24:15,000 --> 00:24:16,000

Yes.

432

00:24:16,000 --> 00:24:17,000

We have a signal.

433

00:24:17,000 --> 00:24:20,000

All the way up to 83,205 photons.

434

00:24:20,000 --> 00:24:22,000

So, we have middle Bronze Age.

435

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

We have middle Bronze Age in this site.

436

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

And soil that emits over 80,000 photons

437

00:24:27,000 --> 00:24:29,000

should be from the Bronze Age.

438

00:24:29,000 --> 00:24:30,000

Absolutely.

439

00:24:30,000 --> 00:24:32,000

If we find material with this signal,

440

00:24:32,000 --> 00:24:33,000

we are in the money.

441

00:24:33,000 --> 00:24:34,000

We're in the money.

442

00:24:34,000 --> 00:24:35,000

Okay.

443

00:24:35,000 --> 00:24:36,000

Bronze Age.

444

00:24:36,000 --> 00:24:37,000

Let's look.

445

00:24:38,000 --> 00:24:41,000

Now that we know exactly in which layer to dig,

446

00:24:41,000 --> 00:24:43,000

I link back up with David and his team.

447

00:24:45,000 --> 00:24:48,000

We begin excavating below the Iron Age structures

448

00:24:48,000 --> 00:24:50,000

in the soil that has now been identified

449

00:24:50,000 --> 00:24:52,000

as coming from the Bronze Age.

450

00:24:52,000 --> 00:24:54,000

It's meticulous, dusty work,

451

00:24:54,000 --> 00:24:56,000

but at least I'm not doing it under a black tarp.

452

00:24:56,000 --> 00:24:59,000

And it doesn't take long for David to uncover something.

453

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

Hey, Josh.

454

00:25:01,000 --> 00:25:02,000

Did you find something?

455

00:25:02,000 --> 00:25:03,000

Yeah.

456

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

What did you find?

457

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

Look at this.

458

00:25:05,000 --> 00:25:07,000

Oh, my word.

459

00:25:13,000 --> 00:25:14,000

Hey, Josh.

460

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

Look at this.

461

00:25:17,000 --> 00:25:18,000

Oh, it's a vessel.

462

00:25:18,000 --> 00:25:19,000

Yeah, it's a vessel lying on the floor.

463

00:25:19,000 --> 00:25:20,000

Big piece here.

464

00:25:20,000 --> 00:25:21,000

Yeah, big pieces.

465

00:25:21,000 --> 00:25:22,000

And here, and then a couple of shirts.

466

00:25:22,000 --> 00:25:23,000

Look at this.

467

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

In the hills of the Palestinian territories,

468

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

I'm working with a team to see if we can find Bronze Age relics

469

00:25:29,000 --> 00:25:33,000

that might coincide with the era of Moses and the Exodus.

470

00:25:33,000 --> 00:25:35,000

Look at this.

471

00:25:35,000 --> 00:25:36,000

So we've got the rim here.

472

00:25:36,000 --> 00:25:38,000

It's a rim of a little jar.

473

00:25:38,000 --> 00:25:42,000

The shape of this rim is typical of the middle Bronze Age.

474

00:25:42,000 --> 00:25:43,000

This is middle Bronze Age?

475

00:25:43,000 --> 00:25:45,000

Yeah, it's not Iron Age.

476

00:25:45,000 --> 00:25:46,000

Really?

477

00:25:46,000 --> 00:25:47,000

Yes.

478

00:25:47,000 --> 00:25:50,000

The design of this pottery and the soil we found it in

479

00:25:50,000 --> 00:25:52,000

puts this squarely in the Bronze Age.

480

00:25:52,000 --> 00:25:56,000

Within a few hundred years of the purported timeline of Moses.

481

00:25:56,000 --> 00:26:00,000

This is the first Bronze Age item of its kind found here at Al-Mustara,

482

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

and perhaps a sign that a settlement existed here before the Iron Age.

483

00:26:05,000 --> 00:26:09,000

If more evidence can be found that nomadic people came into this land

484

00:26:09,000 --> 00:26:13,000

and settled here, it would add credence to the events of Exodus.

485

00:26:13,000 --> 00:26:15,000

So let me know what you find next, all right?

486

00:26:15,000 --> 00:26:16,000

We'll do.

487

00:26:16,000 --> 00:26:17,000

Thank you so much.

488

00:26:17,000 --> 00:26:21,000

I thank David and his team before moving on to a location in Israel

489

00:26:21,000 --> 00:26:25,000

that might produce evidence to support another part of Moses' story.

490

00:26:25,000 --> 00:26:28,000

And for once, I won't be digging through sand.

491

00:26:28,000 --> 00:26:30,000

Welcome to the Sea of Galilee.

492

00:26:30,000 --> 00:26:33,000

This is Israel's largest source of fresh water,

493

00:26:33,000 --> 00:26:35,000

and at 686 feet below sea level,

494

00:26:35,000 --> 00:26:38,000

it's actually the lowest freshwater lake on earth.

495

00:26:38,000 --> 00:26:42,000

It's also where the Christian Gospels say that Jesus preached to the multitudes,

496

00:26:42,000 --> 00:26:46,000

fed the 5,000, and, you know, walked on water.

497

00:26:46,000 --> 00:26:48,000

But that's a different testament.

498

00:26:48,000 --> 00:26:51,000

We are here looking for evidence that is much, much older.

499

00:26:51,000 --> 00:26:55,000

And there are two scientists nearby who believe they may have found it.

500

00:26:59,000 --> 00:27:02,000

Investigating a mysterious formation in this legendary lake

501

00:27:02,000 --> 00:27:07,000

are Geosciences Professor Dr. Michael Freikman and Dr. Shmulik Marko,

502

00:27:07,000 --> 00:27:10,000

an archaeologist and geophysicist.

503

00:27:10,000 --> 00:27:12,000

Welcome to the Sea of Galilee.

504

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

A beautiful place to be, yeah?

505

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

Absolutely.

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00:27:14,000 --> 00:27:15,000

A very historic place.

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00:27:15,000 --> 00:27:19,000

Have you ever heard of an object called the Well of Miriam?

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00:27:19,000 --> 00:27:22,000

Yes, I've heard of the Well of Miriam, although I'm not totally sure I understand it.

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00:27:22,000 --> 00:27:26,000

It's supposed to be like a stone of some kind, right?

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00:27:26,000 --> 00:27:29,000

That provides water to Moses and the Israelites.

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00:27:29,000 --> 00:27:30,000

It's like a mobile spring.

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00:27:30,000 --> 00:27:34,000

It's following the people of Israel, or it just emerges everywhere.

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00:27:34,000 --> 00:27:38,000

They stop, but it's always there, and it's always providing them with water.

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00:27:39,000 --> 00:27:41,000

As the Israelites first enter the desert,

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00:27:41,000 --> 00:27:45,000

God tells Moses to strike a particular rock with his staff.

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00:27:47,000 --> 00:27:51,000

And one miracle later, fresh water pours from the stone.

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00:27:51,000 --> 00:27:56,000

It is later referred to as Miriam's Well, named after Moses' sister.

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00:27:58,000 --> 00:28:00,000

As the Israelites wander the desert,

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00:28:00,000 --> 00:28:03,000

Miriam's Well appears whenever they need it,

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00:28:03,000 --> 00:28:08,000

sustaining the faithful and ensuring that they will make it to the promised land.

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00:28:08,000 --> 00:28:09,000

And what happens to it?

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00:28:09,000 --> 00:28:13,000

The later sources say once the Israelites come into the promised land,

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00:28:13,000 --> 00:28:15,000

the Well sank in the water.

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00:28:15,000 --> 00:28:19,000

The question is, where did this miraculous stone submerge?

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00:28:19,000 --> 00:28:23,000

The sacred Jewish writings of the Talmud provide a tantalizing clue.

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00:28:24,000 --> 00:28:28,000

A certain Rabbi Haya says that every person who climbs the Yishemun mountain,

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00:28:28,000 --> 00:28:32,000

which we don't know where it's located, would see a small bump in the Tiberias Sea.

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00:28:32,000 --> 00:28:36,000

And it specifically says, this small bump, this is the Well of Miriam.

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00:28:37,000 --> 00:28:41,000

And the Sea of Tiberias is the old name for the Sea of Galilee, correct?

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00:28:41,000 --> 00:28:42,000

That's correct.

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00:28:42,000 --> 00:28:48,000

The rabbinical writings also describe a sick man who was healed by the Well of Miriam in the Sea of Galilee.

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00:28:48,000 --> 00:28:54,000

Another source places this round object not far from the shore, about midway up the sea's coast.

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00:28:55,000 --> 00:28:59,000

Okay, so we have a connection between this story from Exodus and this location.

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00:28:59,000 --> 00:29:03,000

And I should tell you that when we did geophysical survey here,

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00:29:03,000 --> 00:29:07,000

and on the back top of the very featureless bottom of the lake,

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00:29:07,000 --> 00:29:11,000

we found something rising up from the bottom.

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00:29:11,000 --> 00:29:14,000

It's very strange, it's very unusual.

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00:29:14,000 --> 00:29:15,000

Does it happen to be round?

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00:29:16,000 --> 00:29:17,000

It's perfectly round.

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00:29:17,000 --> 00:29:20,000

As a geologist, I can say it cannot be natural.

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00:29:20,000 --> 00:29:21,000

It has to be man-made.

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00:29:21,000 --> 00:29:22,000

Can you show me where it is?

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00:29:22,000 --> 00:29:23,000

Yeah, sure. Let's go.

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00:29:23,000 --> 00:29:24,000

Please.

545

00:29:29,000 --> 00:29:32,000

We set off in a research vessel and support boat,

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00:29:32,000 --> 00:29:39,000

and steam out into the Sea of Galilee using GPS coordinates and onboard sonar to locate the unknown structure.

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00:29:46,000 --> 00:29:48,000

Come on, Josh. We're approaching the site.

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00:29:48,000 --> 00:29:50,000

In a second, we're going to be able to see it on the sonar.

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00:29:50,000 --> 00:29:54,000

Okay, so right now we've just got a flap on them.

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00:29:55,000 --> 00:29:56,000

Oh, this.

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00:29:56,000 --> 00:29:57,000

Here we are.

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00:29:57,000 --> 00:29:59,000

Wow, look at that!

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00:29:59,000 --> 00:30:01,000

Huge sonar return.

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00:30:01,000 --> 00:30:05,000

I mean, there's nothing down there, and then out of nowhere,

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00:30:05,000 --> 00:30:07,000

suddenly something's 15 feet underneath us.

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00:30:07,000 --> 00:30:09,000

So what is that?

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00:30:09,000 --> 00:30:11,000

Well, we have to get in the water to see that.

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00:30:11,000 --> 00:30:12,000

In the water?

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00:30:12,000 --> 00:30:13,000

In the water.

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00:30:13,000 --> 00:30:14,000

The water's warm though, right?

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00:30:14,000 --> 00:30:15,000

No.

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00:30:17,000 --> 00:30:18,000

Okay, great.

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00:30:18,000 --> 00:30:20,000

Let's try to stay positive, guys. Come on.

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00:30:21,000 --> 00:30:25,000

Visibility in the Sea of Galilee is notoriously bad,

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00:30:25,000 --> 00:30:28,000

so we throw over a shot line to follow to the bottom.

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00:30:29,000 --> 00:30:35,000

Then Mike and I suit up to look for evidence of Miriam's well by diving into some very chilly water.

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00:30:37,000 --> 00:30:41,000

Topside, Shmulik will monitor communications as we explore the anomaly.

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00:30:48,000 --> 00:30:50,000

Josh, to topside, do you read?

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00:30:50,000 --> 00:30:51,000

I hear you loud and clear.

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00:30:51,000 --> 00:30:53,000

How is the visibility?

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00:30:53,000 --> 00:30:56,000

Visibility is very bad, just a couple of feet.

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00:30:56,000 --> 00:30:58,000

We are headed down the line. Here we go.

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00:31:02,000 --> 00:31:06,000

The algae makes it difficult to see as we descend toward our target.

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00:31:07,000 --> 00:31:08,000

Until...

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00:31:09,000 --> 00:31:11,000

What a second. I think I've seen something.

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00:31:13,000 --> 00:31:18,000

Unbelievable. We are seeing a huge mass of stones down here.

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00:31:18,000 --> 00:31:22,000

I think we are at the top of a huge pile of some kind.

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00:31:22,000 --> 00:31:25,000

It must go down 15 or 20 feet.

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00:31:25,000 --> 00:31:29,000

Josh, try to see if you see any arrangement of the stones.

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00:31:29,000 --> 00:31:35,000

It's very hard to tell whether this was once more organized and collapsed,

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00:31:35,000 --> 00:31:39,000

or whether they're just loosely piled up. It's hard to say.

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00:31:39,000 --> 00:31:42,000

The rocks appear to be dark. What are these?

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00:31:42,000 --> 00:31:44,000

Looks like the vault.

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00:31:44,000 --> 00:31:47,000

Is there basalt anywhere else in this lake?

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00:31:47,000 --> 00:31:49,000

Let us find out now.

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00:31:49,000 --> 00:31:54,000

Do you see any schizel marks? Any sign of walking on the stones?

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00:31:54,000 --> 00:32:00,000

It's really tough. We have certain stones here that look like they have really straight edges.

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00:32:00,000 --> 00:32:03,000

Look at this. This looks so much like a cut stone.

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00:32:03,000 --> 00:32:06,000

You can see these straight lines and this corner here,

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00:32:06,000 --> 00:32:11,000

but this might just be the natural fracturing of the rock.

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00:32:11,000 --> 00:32:15,000

But just the fact that they're here and piled so high

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00:32:15,000 --> 00:32:19,000

means they must have been placed here intentionally.

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00:32:21,000 --> 00:32:24,000

I see lots of little gaps between the rocks,

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00:32:24,000 --> 00:32:27,000

but they're just choked with sand and sediment.

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00:32:27,000 --> 00:32:34,000

The problem is, as soon as you touch it, this silt kicks up and it's just a cloud.

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00:32:34,000 --> 00:32:38,000

The algae and clouds of disturbed silt reduce our visibility to the point

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00:32:38,000 --> 00:32:42,000

that any interior exploration of the pile is futile.

598

00:32:42,000 --> 00:32:45,000

We therefore ascend to the surface to re-grow.

599

00:32:47,000 --> 00:32:49,000

Good to see you.

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00:32:49,000 --> 00:32:53,000

I mean, really incredible down there.

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00:32:53,000 --> 00:32:56,000

So did you see any formation, any arrangement?

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00:32:56,000 --> 00:32:59,000

There are areas where it almost seems like it's in tears.

603

00:32:59,000 --> 00:33:02,000

The frustrating part is, you can't see very much.

604

00:33:02,000 --> 00:33:06,000

The visibility is so bad, you can only really take it in a few feet at a time.

605

00:33:06,000 --> 00:33:07,000

I wish I could see more of it.

606

00:33:07,000 --> 00:33:09,000

Yeah, maybe we can.

607

00:33:09,000 --> 00:33:11,000

How?

608

00:33:11,000 --> 00:33:15,000

To tackle our visibility problem, I climb back aboard and dry off.

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00:33:15,000 --> 00:33:20,000

Schmulich has arranged a high-tech solution to get a clear picture of whatever's beneath us.

610

00:33:20,000 --> 00:33:21,000

Hello.

611

00:33:21,000 --> 00:33:23,000

Hi, Josh. I'd like you to meet Mo.

612

00:33:23,000 --> 00:33:24,000

Hi.

613

00:33:24,000 --> 00:33:25,000

Mo, nice to meet you.

614

00:33:25,000 --> 00:33:27,000

Okay, so what are we going to do here?

615

00:33:27,000 --> 00:33:30,000

Here, Mo is going to operate the air gun.

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00:33:30,000 --> 00:33:31,000

I'm sorry, the air gun?

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00:33:31,000 --> 00:33:32,000

Air gun.

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

That's the air gun.

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

Okay, I'm not familiar with this device.

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00:33:35,000 --> 00:33:36,000

How does this work?

621

00:33:36,000 --> 00:33:38,000

We don't shoot people with it.

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00:33:38,000 --> 00:33:39,000

That's good news.

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00:33:39,000 --> 00:33:42,000

But we do use it to shoot seismic surveys.

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00:33:42,000 --> 00:33:51,000

This generates the acoustic sound that travels through the water into the sea floor and back to the recorder on the other side.

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00:33:51,000 --> 00:33:54,000

We are using that as our data to image our object.

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00:33:54,000 --> 00:33:57,000

Try to imagine like ultrasound for younger babies.

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00:33:57,000 --> 00:33:58,000

That would be the same.

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00:33:58,000 --> 00:34:00,000

Got it, okay.

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00:34:03,000 --> 00:34:06,000

The air guns are pressurized before being lowered into position.

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00:34:10,000 --> 00:34:12,000

That's one meter.

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00:34:15,000 --> 00:34:19,000

Two meters and then it's time to rock.

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00:34:19,000 --> 00:34:20,000

Okay, we are in position.

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00:34:20,000 --> 00:34:21,000

In position, ready to echo.

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00:34:21,000 --> 00:34:24,000

The seismic air gun is primed and ready to go.

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00:34:24,000 --> 00:34:28,000

We're either about to make history or blow our boat into a million pieces.

636

00:34:28,000 --> 00:34:29,000

May I?

637

00:34:29,000 --> 00:34:30,000

Yeah.

638

00:34:30,000 --> 00:34:31,000

Fire!

639

00:34:39,000 --> 00:34:40,000

Ready to echo.

640

00:34:40,000 --> 00:34:41,000

May I?

641

00:34:41,000 --> 00:34:42,000

Fire!

642

00:34:46,000 --> 00:34:47,000

Yes!

643

00:34:47,000 --> 00:34:50,000

I didn't know collecting data could be this much fun.

644

00:34:50,000 --> 00:34:59,000

We're dropping a seismic air gun in the Sea of Galilee to scan an underwater anomaly that could be connected to the biblical legend known as Miriams Well,

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00:34:59,000 --> 00:35:03,000

providing a historical link to the story of Exodus.

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00:35:03,000 --> 00:35:04,000

I like this.

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00:35:04,000 --> 00:35:06,000

Okay, fire it again!

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00:35:07,000 --> 00:35:13,000

To get a clear digital picture of what lies in the murky waters below, we do this again.

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00:35:13,000 --> 00:35:14,000

Fire!

650

00:35:15,000 --> 00:35:16,000

And again.

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00:35:16,000 --> 00:35:17,000

Fire!

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00:35:18,000 --> 00:35:19,000

And again.

653

00:35:19,000 --> 00:35:20,000

Fire it again!

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00:35:23,000 --> 00:35:29,000

A total of eight charges are set off in a circle around the anomaly we found in the sea below.

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00:35:30,000 --> 00:35:36,000

This seismic survey of the area has generated enough data to form a 3D image on a computer.

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00:35:36,000 --> 00:35:38,000

Okay, let's look at this first.

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00:35:38,000 --> 00:35:44,000

And we see this location of the short points where we made the noise.

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00:35:44,000 --> 00:35:48,000

And this is a higher resolution image of the structure.

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00:35:48,000 --> 00:35:55,000

And what is important here to see is that some of the reflection comes from the structure which is buried by sediments.

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00:35:55,000 --> 00:35:57,000

Oh, it continues under the sediment here.

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00:35:57,000 --> 00:35:59,000

It continues under the sediment.

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00:35:59,000 --> 00:36:04,000

So it means that the sediment accumulated after the structure was built.

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00:36:04,000 --> 00:36:14,000

Based on this sediment accumulated above the base, we assume that it was built about 4,000 years ago, minimum, or perhaps even earlier.

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00:36:14,000 --> 00:36:16,000

So we're in the Bronze Age here.

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00:36:16,000 --> 00:36:19,000

In terms of our Exodus story, we're in the neighborhood.

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00:36:19,000 --> 00:36:26,000

Okay, so if we take a look at our final product of the imaging, we can see that this image is in the middle of the structure.

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00:36:27,000 --> 00:36:32,000

It's three-dimensional, as we crossed in different profiles, in different angles.

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00:36:32,000 --> 00:36:34,000

That is unbelievable. Look at that.

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00:36:34,000 --> 00:36:37,000

Now you can look at a three-dimensional image of the structure.

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00:36:37,000 --> 00:36:39,000

Look at the size of it. It's huge.

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00:36:39,000 --> 00:36:47,000

It has to be artificial. Somebody had to bring these huge borders of basalt and put them one on top of the other.

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00:36:47,000 --> 00:36:49,000

It never happens naturally.

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00:36:49,000 --> 00:36:55,000

There's no question this was constructed. It's just such an oddity on the sea floor.

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00:36:55,000 --> 00:36:58,000

It does not match the topography of the sea floor.

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00:36:58,000 --> 00:37:05,000

So this is also supporting the possibility that it was built and leveled by someone.

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00:37:05,000 --> 00:37:11,000

So we have this Jerusalem Talmud that says that you could look down into the Sea of Galilee and see this bump.

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00:37:11,000 --> 00:37:14,000

Is there anything else like this that rises up out of the lake here?

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00:37:14,000 --> 00:37:18,000

No, that's the only place that we know of.

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00:37:18,000 --> 00:37:23,000

This mysterious man-made structure is the only thing like it in the Sea of Galilee.

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00:37:23,000 --> 00:37:28,000

And it matches the location of where Miriam's well was said to have been interred.

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00:37:28,000 --> 00:37:32,000

So the million-dollar question, what the hell is this thing?

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00:37:32,000 --> 00:37:40,000

Indeed. It reminds me of a cairn, or in other words, an artificial stone mound covering a tomb underneath.

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00:37:40,000 --> 00:37:43,000

So is it possible then that there's something inside of this?

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00:37:43,000 --> 00:37:45,000

It's very possible.

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00:37:45,000 --> 00:37:47,000

I mean, it would be hugely significant, right?

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00:37:47,000 --> 00:37:52,000

Exactly. It would be the only untouched tomb of this kind in this region.

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00:37:52,000 --> 00:37:57,000

Right. Obviously this isn't a magic rock that followed the Israelites through the desert,

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00:37:57,000 --> 00:38:01,000

but is it possible that this is connected to the story of Exodus?

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00:38:01,000 --> 00:38:09,000

Well, in general, religions are known for incorporating unique landscape features into their own oral tradition.

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00:38:09,000 --> 00:38:14,000

Right. But you could see how something like this could become the well of Miriam,

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00:38:14,000 --> 00:38:17,000

something dry that then is consumed by water.

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00:38:17,000 --> 00:38:19,000

It is definitely a possibility.

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00:38:19,000 --> 00:38:24,000

The next step will be to investigate exactly what lies inside the structure,

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00:38:24,000 --> 00:38:26,000

which will be an arduous undertaking.

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00:38:26,000 --> 00:38:31,000

For now, though, I'll settle for the amazement of imaging this most mysterious object.

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00:38:31,000 --> 00:38:36,000

There's much work to be done. This is just the beginning of the story.

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00:38:36,000 --> 00:38:40,000

The story of Miriam's well is both miraculous and tragic,

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00:38:40,000 --> 00:38:47,000

because shortly before reaching the Promised Land, Miriam dies, and her namesake well runs dry.

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00:38:48,000 --> 00:38:53,000

To restore it, God tells Moses not to strike the rock as he did before,

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00:38:53,000 --> 00:38:56,000

but to speak holy words instead.

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00:38:56,000 --> 00:39:02,000

Yet, when the panicked and thirsty Israelites angrily demand that Moses turn the water back on,

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00:39:02,000 --> 00:39:08,000

Moses defies God by striking the rock with his staff.

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00:39:08,000 --> 00:39:12,000

The water comes, but with grave consequences.

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00:39:12,000 --> 00:39:19,000

For his pride and insolence, God punishes Moses by forbidding him from entering the Holy Land with his people.

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00:39:19,000 --> 00:39:26,000

They will cross the Jordan River into Canaan, but first, Moses will die, 120 years old.

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00:39:28,000 --> 00:39:34,000

And it's this final part of his story that's in my head as I set off back into the desert.

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00:39:34,000 --> 00:39:38,000

I have a nagging question about the Exodus story,

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00:39:38,000 --> 00:39:46,000

and you know, something that would really help to cement this as an historical event would be to find the body of Moses himself.

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00:39:46,000 --> 00:39:51,000

After all, someone this significant must have been buried with some real pomp and circumstance.

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00:39:51,000 --> 00:39:55,000

So, I just have one question. Where's Moses?

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00:39:55,000 --> 00:39:58,000

Turns out there's more than one answer to that question.

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00:39:58,000 --> 00:40:05,000

To learn why, I'm headed back to the Palestinian territories, here in the rolling and empty hills of the West Bank,

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00:40:05,000 --> 00:40:08,000

an unlikely sight emerges in the distance.

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00:40:10,000 --> 00:40:16,000

A huge walled compound called Nabimousa, which translates to the Prophet Moses.

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00:40:19,000 --> 00:40:24,000

Here to greet me is archaeologist and Islamic studies professor Tafiq Da'adli.

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00:40:24,000 --> 00:40:28,000

Thanks for taking the time. I appreciate it. This is spectacular.

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00:40:28,000 --> 00:40:32,000

I have questions about the end of the story of Moses.

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00:40:32,000 --> 00:40:38,000

So, okay, if there is a historical Moses, where is this guy? I mean, where was he buried?

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00:40:38,000 --> 00:40:43,000

According to the biblical tradition, he ended on the other side of the valley.

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00:40:43,000 --> 00:40:44,000

And he dies where?

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00:40:44,000 --> 00:40:45,000

At Mount Nebo.

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00:40:45,000 --> 00:40:48,000

Mount Nebo, so literally just across the way there.

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00:40:48,000 --> 00:40:52,000

Across the Dead Sea in what is now Jordan sits Mount Nebo.

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00:40:52,000 --> 00:40:59,000

This place has been associated with the burial of Moses since at least the fourth century when a church was built here.

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00:40:59,000 --> 00:41:03,000

So over at Mount Nebo, archaeologically, do we have evidence for this burial?

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00:41:03,000 --> 00:41:04,000

No hard evidence.

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00:41:04,000 --> 00:41:05,000

Okay.

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00:41:05,000 --> 00:41:08,000

There is also another story, Islamic tradition.

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00:41:08,000 --> 00:41:10,000

Moses has mentioned a lot in the Quran.

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00:41:10,000 --> 00:41:17,000

Yeah, you have more than 130 times. His name is mentioned in the Quran, more than any other prophet.

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00:41:17,000 --> 00:41:23,000

According to this tradition, Moses did cross the river and he ended in this side, like where we are standing.

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00:41:23,000 --> 00:41:28,000

The Prophet Muhammad ascended to heaven from Jerusalem, which is not so far from here.

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00:41:28,000 --> 00:41:29,000

Yes, the Dome of the Rock.

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00:41:29,000 --> 00:41:30,000

The Dome of the Rock, yes.

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00:41:30,000 --> 00:41:39,000

So when he ascended to heaven in his way, he said, I saw Moses praying on his tomb and the tomb is believed to be here.

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

On this side of the Jordan River.

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

Yeah.

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00:41:42,000 --> 00:41:45,000

So we have one tradition over there and one tradition over here.

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00:41:45,000 --> 00:41:49,000

What evidence is there here? What is it this site?

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00:41:49,000 --> 00:41:51,000

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

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00:41:51,000 --> 00:41:52,000

There's a tomb here?

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00:41:52,000 --> 00:41:53,000

Yeah.

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00:41:53,000 --> 00:41:54,000

Of Moses?

744

00:41:54,000 --> 00:41:55,000

Yes.

745

00:41:55,000 --> 00:41:56,000

Can we see it?

746

00:41:59,000 --> 00:42:08,000

I'm here in the West Bank and this barrier separates Israel from the Palestinian territories over here.

747

00:42:08,000 --> 00:42:11,000

Now, you've all heard of the Waldorf Hotel.

748

00:42:11,000 --> 00:42:13,000

Well, this isn't it.

749

00:42:13,000 --> 00:42:15,000

This is the Waldorf Hotel.

750

00:42:15,000 --> 00:42:24,000

The entire hotel is a living work of art, a collaboration between local Palestinians and the enigmatic, anonymous British street artist Banksy.

751

00:42:24,000 --> 00:42:26,000

Welcome, sir.

752

00:42:26,000 --> 00:42:27,000

Are you Banksy?

753

00:42:27,000 --> 00:42:28,000

No.

754

00:42:28,000 --> 00:42:30,000

Wink if you're Banksy.

755

00:42:30,000 --> 00:42:37,000

More than 70 pieces of Banksy's work offer whimsical and searing commentary on the tumultuous state of the region.

756

00:42:37,000 --> 00:42:45,000

A not-so-secret passage through a bookcase leads the way to the guest rooms and, of course, more art to ponder.

757

00:42:45,000 --> 00:42:50,000

And the rooms are lavishly decorated in that provocative Banksy style.

758

00:42:50,000 --> 00:42:56,000

Here in the Presidential Suite, the hotel proudly advertises the worst view in the world.

759

00:42:56,000 --> 00:43:00,000

The hotel offering us a vision of a future without walls.

760

00:43:04,000 --> 00:43:05,000

There's a tomb here.

761

00:43:05,000 --> 00:43:06,000

Yeah.

762

00:43:06,000 --> 00:43:07,000

Of Moses?

763

00:43:07,000 --> 00:43:08,000

Yes.

764

00:43:08,000 --> 00:43:09,000

Can we see it?

765

00:43:09,000 --> 00:43:11,000

Yeah, it's downstairs.

766

00:43:11,000 --> 00:43:12,000

Please.

767

00:43:12,000 --> 00:43:13,000

Here we go.

768

00:43:13,000 --> 00:43:25,000

To answer the question of where the Prophet Moses is buried, I've come to the Palestinian territories to visit a site called Nabimousa, and what the Islamic faith contends is his tomb.

769

00:43:25,000 --> 00:43:26,000

Okay, Josh.

770

00:43:26,000 --> 00:43:28,000

Here we have the mosque.

771

00:43:28,000 --> 00:43:29,000

Wow.

772

00:43:31,000 --> 00:43:33,000

And here we have the tomb.

773

00:43:33,000 --> 00:43:34,000

The tomb of Moses?

774

00:43:34,000 --> 00:43:35,000

Yes, here.

775

00:43:35,000 --> 00:43:36,000

Up.

776

00:43:36,000 --> 00:43:37,000

Please.

777

00:43:41,000 --> 00:43:42,000

Wow.

778

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

So this is the burial?

779

00:43:44,000 --> 00:43:45,000

Yeah.

780

00:43:45,000 --> 00:43:48,000

When can we date all of this too?

781

00:43:48,000 --> 00:43:50,000

This is the oldest part of the site.

782

00:43:50,000 --> 00:43:57,000

And near the entrance to this Mosulium, there is an inscription from the 13th century, and we have the date.

783

00:43:57,000 --> 00:43:59,000

It's 1269.

784

00:43:59,000 --> 00:44:05,000

So the 13th century, we're talking about a few thousand years after the life of Moses.

785

00:44:05,000 --> 00:44:06,000

Yes.

786

00:44:06,000 --> 00:44:11,000

So do we have any indication of what was in this spot before the building was here?

787

00:44:11,000 --> 00:44:19,000

There are written evidences earlier than the 13th century, but not much earlier, mentioning the tomb of Moses in this area.

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00:44:19,000 --> 00:44:20,000

But nothing earlier than that.

789

00:44:20,000 --> 00:44:21,000

Something that you can touch?

790

00:44:21,000 --> 00:44:22,000

No.

791

00:44:22,000 --> 00:44:23,000

Right.

792

00:44:23,000 --> 00:44:24,000

Maybe an oral tradition, but it's been lost to history.

793

00:44:24,000 --> 00:44:25,000

Yes.

794

00:44:25,000 --> 00:44:26,000

Okay.

795

00:44:26,000 --> 00:44:29,000

So do we know who's inside this?

796

00:44:29,000 --> 00:44:31,000

This was a Mosulium.

797

00:44:31,000 --> 00:44:35,000

It's relying on Muslim traditions, and they pointed on this place.

798

00:44:35,000 --> 00:44:36,000

Right.

799

00:44:36,000 --> 00:44:40,000

And since this 13th century point, it became a whole compound.

800

00:44:40,000 --> 00:44:46,000

Not only the Mosulium and the mosque, it became like a Karavan Sarai, what we call Khan.

801

00:44:46,000 --> 00:44:51,000

Like people will come and stay for a few days, they will have food.

802

00:44:51,000 --> 00:44:53,000

So it became like a pilgrimage site?

803

00:44:53,000 --> 00:44:54,000

Yeah.

804

00:44:54,000 --> 00:44:55,000

And what about today?

805

00:44:55,000 --> 00:44:56,000

Do people still pilgrimage here?

806

00:44:56,000 --> 00:44:57,000

Do people still come here?

807

00:44:57,000 --> 00:45:00,000

Yeah, even from Indonesia, even from India.

808

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

These people still believe this is the tomb of Nabi Moses.

809

00:45:03,000 --> 00:45:06,000

Has this ever been opened, examined?

810

00:45:06,000 --> 00:45:08,000

It's religion.

811

00:45:08,000 --> 00:45:13,000

You don't mix religion with science and excavations, especially in the Holy Land.

812

00:45:13,000 --> 00:45:20,000

So as an archaeologist, this is one of the great challenges, is how to look at the stories of the Bible,

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00:45:20,000 --> 00:45:29,000

the stories of the Quran, and places like this, and find that intersection between faith and history and archaeology.

814

00:45:29,000 --> 00:45:31,000

Because we don't really know what's here.

815

00:45:31,000 --> 00:45:37,000

But spiritually, it's a place that's true for so many people.

816

00:45:37,000 --> 00:45:39,000

And how do we square that off?

817

00:45:39,000 --> 00:45:41,000

Because we're never going to be able to open this.

818

00:45:41,000 --> 00:45:42,000

We don't need to open that.

819

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

Like we have the inscriptions around the building.

820

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

So it's a different kind of archaeology.

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00:45:47,000 --> 00:45:48,000

You read the buildings.

822

00:45:48,000 --> 00:45:55,000

You don't have to go down and dig the place to see or meet the person who is buried here.

823

00:45:55,000 --> 00:45:57,000

For us, you have to accept it.

824

00:45:57,000 --> 00:46:01,000

Even for archaeologists, some things have to be left to faith.

825

00:46:01,000 --> 00:46:03,000

You can turn over every stone.

826

00:46:03,000 --> 00:46:05,000

You have to accept some traditions, some beliefs.

827

00:46:06,000 --> 00:46:11,000

By asking to see what's inside this tomb, I'm knocking on a door that will never open.

828

00:46:11,000 --> 00:46:17,000

At Nabi Musa, science and faith have reached an impasse, and neither will yield to the other.

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00:46:23,000 --> 00:46:28,000

But on my journey, I have seen how science and faith can intermingle.

830

00:46:29,000 --> 00:46:37,000

In an Egyptian tomb in Sakara, I've learned that a Semitic man rose to great power in Pharaoh's court, just as Moses did.

831

00:46:37,000 --> 00:46:42,000

Ancient monuments recount Israelites fleeing Egypt, just as Moses did.

832

00:46:42,000 --> 00:46:48,000

Again and again, verifiable historical events that echo the words of Exodus,

833

00:46:48,000 --> 00:46:54,000

though the specifics are slightly different and the timing doesn't line up to a single person's lifespan.

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00:46:54,000 --> 00:46:57,000

Is it possible that this is connected to the story of Exodus?

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00:46:57,000 --> 00:47:01,000

There's much work to be done. This is just the beginning of the story.

836

00:47:01,000 --> 00:47:06,000

My journey has also taught me that in this case, the literal is not all that matters.

837

00:47:06,000 --> 00:47:11,000

Here we have Semitic people who are worshiping a cow goddess.

838

00:47:15,000 --> 00:47:23,000

The story of Moses represents the movement of people and culture, with values that ring true across the human experience.

839

00:47:24,000 --> 00:47:27,000

The moral urgency for man to live free.

840

00:47:29,000 --> 00:47:32,000

Laws that bind us not just to God, but to each other.

841

00:47:33,000 --> 00:47:38,000

And the importance of service and humility during even the most arduous of trials.

842

00:47:40,000 --> 00:47:46,000

We may never be able to pinpoint the historical Moses, but his story shows us a real person.

843

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

Someone just like you or me.

844

00:47:49,000 --> 00:47:50,000

Proud.

845

00:47:50,000 --> 00:47:57,000

Maybe a little too stubborn, but with the right guidance, capable of greatness.