

Approaches To The Chronology of Exodus

BIBLE NOT AN INSPIRED HISTORICAL ACCOUNT



Need not look for correspondnece between Biblical account & archaeological record



Not disturbed when chronological placement of a Biblical period reveals discrepancies between Biblical account & archaeological record

Need Objective Evidence Outside Bible for Basis of Claim

Willing to make chronological placement only in light of "objective" evidence (artifacts or inscriptions)

CLAIM BIBLE IN ERROR WHEN have a discrepancy.

BIBLE IS AN INSPIRED HISTORICAL ACCOUNT

BELIEVE Accurate



Must look for correspondnece between Biblical account & archaeological record



Disturbed when chronological placement of a Biblical period reveals discrepancies between Biblical account and archaeological record

Should it have discrepancies to this view -



In light of such discrepancies, must seek a new chronological placement which demonstrates harmony between Biblical account and archaeological record

This must be done ^{Even} if no evidence outside the Bible justifies the new chronological placement

DATING THE EXODUS

Significant Factors

Interpretation

Conclusion

1. Exodus 1:11 mentions Israelites building the treasure city of Ramses in Egypt

This must be in honor of Ramses II (19th dynasty).

*Assumes a connection between Ramses II and city of Ramses
Gen 47:11 shows name at time of Jacob*

This would place the Exodus in the 13th century B.C.

2. Numbers 20:14-21 and Judges 11:16-18 both record that Edom & Moab refused Israel permission to pass through their territories, along the King's Highway

No archaeological remains have been located in these areas prior to the 13th century B.C.

(gap between times of Patriarchs and 13th Century)

The Conquest could not be before the middle of the 13th century B.C.

*FALSE
Assumption here is that Moab & Edom had strong military*

3a Scripture does not mention the military activities of Seti I c.1300 B.C. or Ramses II c.1290 B.C. in Canaan

These Egyptian campaigns must have taken place PRIOR to Israel's conquest of Canaan

Israel's conquest of Canaan was after c.1290 B.C. and prior to c.1220 B.C.

3b The records of Merneptah's campaign in Canaan c.1220 mention the presence of the Israelites
No dispute of this date



Accepted by those who don't believe that the Bible entirely accurate -

*Can't be condemning for scholars holding to this set of interpretations of evidence
Fairly weighty evidence - There is logic behind their approach*

Significant Factors

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1. In Judges 11:26 Jephthah refers to Israel's occupation of land east of the Jordan for 300 years

Jephthah lived c.1100 B.C.
No disagreement on this date

The Israelite conquest took place c.1400 B.C.
15th Century

2. I Kings 6:1 indicates that the 4th year of King Solomon was 480 years after the Exodus

Since Solomon's 4th year was c.965 B.C.

The Exodus took place c.1445 B.C.

3. Moses was adopted by the daughter of Pharaoh, (the throne princess)

Hatshepsut, the throne princess-wife of Thutmose II (18th dynasty-16th century B.C. She was childless (known))

She was likely to adopt a child like Moses

one through whom the throne will be inherited

↓ Royal capital of Egypt / Storage spot of diplomatic letters

4. The Amarna tablets c.1400-1350 B.C. speak of a period of chaos in Canaan caused by the Apiru

The Apiru was a general term used to describe peoples living outside the established political-social framework of a given region

In this case the Apiru of Canaan were probably the Israelites

would have entered Canaan about 1400 B.C. - have many years of conquest

Conservative Bible Scholars

(accepting Biblical Narrative as historically accurate).