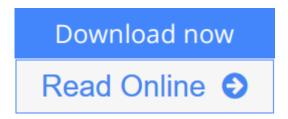


The Miracles of Exodus: A Scientist's Discovery of the Extraordinary Natural Causes of the Biblical Stories

By Colin J. Humphreys



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Did the Red Sea really part before the Israelites? Why didn't the fire consume the Burning Bush? What was the Manna in the Wilderness? *The Miracles of Exodus* explores the truth about these and all the other Exodus mysteries, including the precise locations of Mount Sinai, the Red Sea Crossing, and the route of the Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt 3,000 years ago. This investigative tour de force explains the Ten Plagues, the true location of Mt. Sinai, the ultimate crossing of the Jordan, and much more. Colin Humphreys, a distinguished British scientist, uses physics, astronomy, biology, and other scientific resources to show that the mysteries and miracles of the Exodus have scientific explanations. These explanations allow us to pinpoint the exact nature, time, and place of these miracles, and to reconstruct, for the first time, the true route of the Exodus.

Presented in a "you are there" style, this book reveals what really happened and how the biblical account is remarkably accurate and historical when scientifically investigated. Profusely illustrated with maps, photographs, and explanatory tables, this book by one of the world's great scientists unlocks the mysteries of the ultimate Bible story in a fascinating and convincing way.



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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Reconstructions of biblical events by modern investigators are nothing new, but Humphreys's analysis of the Exodus reflects an unusual combination of homework, legwork and creativity. Humphreys, a materials scientist at Cambridge University, is a self-confessed amateur in the fields of archeology and biblical studies. But he emerges as the best sort of amateur, whose enthusiasm for his subject and joy in puzzle solving have a contagious appeal in spite of occasional quirkiness. As an outsider asking pesky but often astute questions, Humphreys will remind some readers of a certain physicist portrayed in Surely You're Joking, Mr. Feynman!; and like Feynman, Humphreys shows an ability to sidestep scholarly assumptions by checking facts. Humphreys runs numbers, consults disused geological charts and old explorers' memoirs, and investigates sites on foot, unearthing fragmentary but wide-ranging evidence. The book's title is somewhat misleading since Humphreys's goal is to reconstruct the whole Exodus narrative and in particular, to retrace the likeliest route of travel and identify the correct location of Mount Sinai rather than to focus on the miracles themselves. Still, Humphreys rises to a self-imposed challenge to account for the Exodus miracles in terms of natural events (some more feasible than others) that become miraculous in light of their timing and significance for the escaping Hebrews. Although many of his hypotheses have been published before, Humphreys' refinements of detail and especially his comprehensive retracing of the Exodus route will invite curiosity, debate and perhaps some new ways of approaching the Exodus story in historical terms. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From **Booklist**

Humphreys, a Cambridge University physicist, takes a look at the story of the Exodus through the prism of science. Using ancient maps and employing such disciplines as geology, astronomy, and agriculture, he attempts to ground the stories in Exodus in the natural world, even to the point of positing a precise location for Mt. Sinai. It's not on the Sinai Peninsula, as many scholars assume, but instead, it's an active volcano in Arabia, Mt. Bedr. Although the complexity of some of the techniques he employs (and the scrutiny with which he examines the most minute details) may prove taxing for some general readers, most of the time the narrative is nicely paced and thoroughly intriguing. Certainly, Humphreys' enthusiasm is infectious. When he explains, for instance, the scientific reasons for the Ten Plagues and how the plagues are linked through science, readers will be carried along on the excitement of discovery. There are, of course, other books that offer theories about the Exodus, but this one deserves a place in the forefront. *Ilene Cooper Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved*

Review

"A simply fascinating, and extremely readable, study of the Israelites in Egypt and on the desert way to Sinai." (Professor Robert Gordon, Regius Professor of Hebrew, Cambridge University)

"A strikingly novel interpretation of the Exodus story that will interest many students of the Bible." (Rev. Dr. John Polkinghorne, Templeton Prize winner, and author of Belief in God in an Age of Science)

"This book will re-open the question of what happened when the Hebrews left Egypt for the Promised Land." (John Ray, Professor of Egyptology, University of Cambridge)

"Biblical history buffs will likely enjoy Humphrey's exodian excursions." (Kirkus Reviews)

"Fascinating, highly readable...carefully researched and cogently argued. Recommended." (Library Journal)

Users Review

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Stanley Kamp:

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