

For Discussion

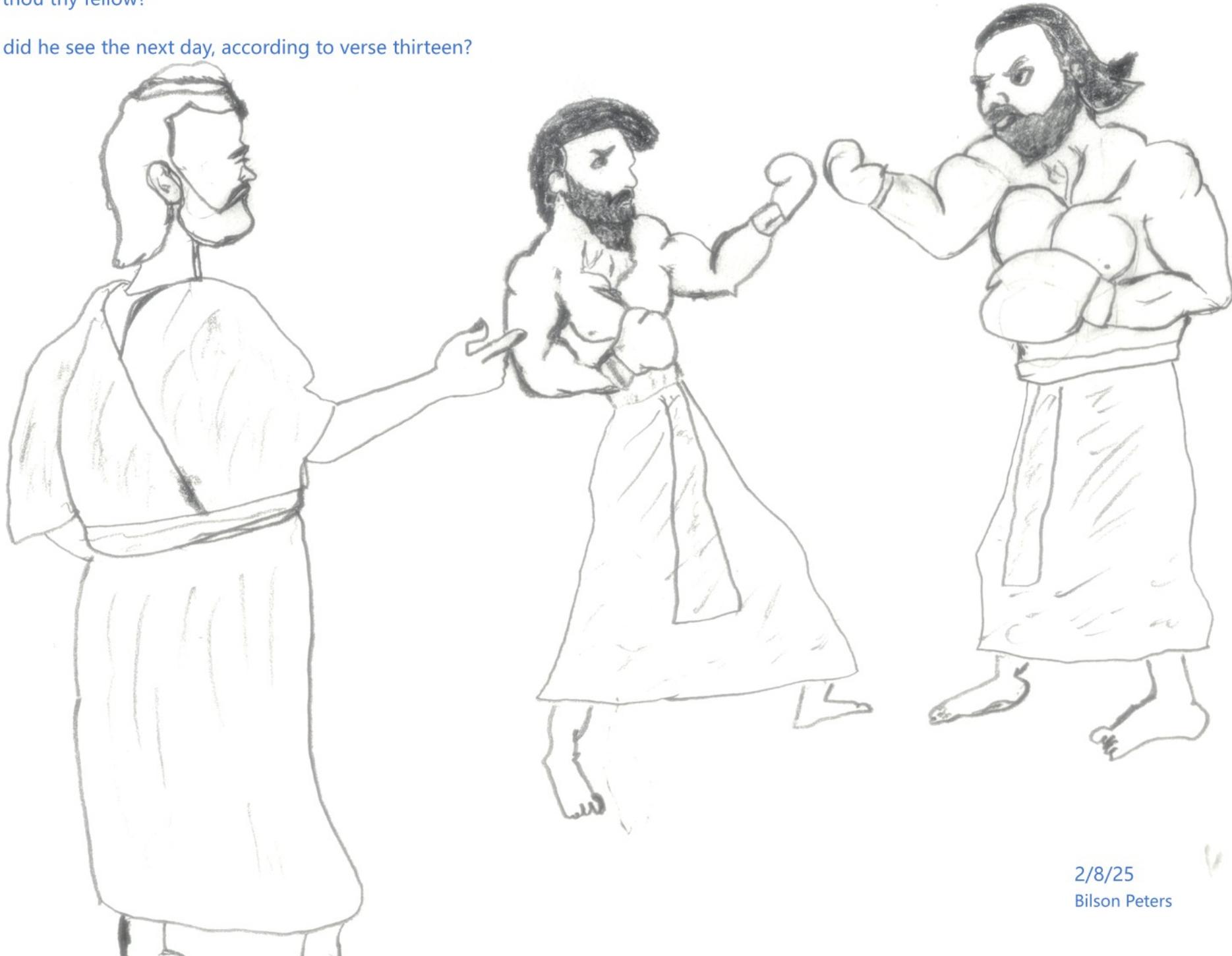
Theme	First Cycle, 1:1-4:17	Second Cycle, 4:18-40:38
Entering Egypt	1:1-7, Eleven tribes go to Egypt & multiply	4:18-31, Moses returns to Egypt with his family
Oppression	1:8-22, Pharaoh oppresses Israel	5:1-23, Oppression increases
Leaders raised up	2:1-4, Moses born	6:1-27, Moses & Aaron appointed
Moses & Pharaoh	2:5-10, Moses as a son	6:28-13:16, Moses as a deliverer
Travel to Horeb	2:11-15, Moses flees to Midian	13:17-17:7, Israel from Egypt to Sinai
Conflict	2:16-17, Moses overcomes shepherds	17:8-16, Moses overcomes Amalek
Moses and Jethro	2:18-22, Moses' Midianite family	18:1-27, Moses' Midianite family
Encounter with God at Horeb	2:23-4:17, Moses to serve God "upon this mountain," 3:12	19:1-40:38, At Horeb, Israel enters covenant with God

- What events in Exodus 2 show God's equipping of Moses to be Israel's lawgiver?
- How does the response of the Hebrews to Moses' intervention anticipate the nation's later behavior?
- Who were the Midianites, and where did they live?
- What biblical parallels lend depth to the account of Moses' meeting at the well?
- What is the function of a priest?
- Who are the first and final priests mentioned in the Bible?
- Who performed priestly functions before there were priests?
- What clues do we have about the God whom Reuel/Jethro worshipped?
- Why did Moses name his son "Gershom"?

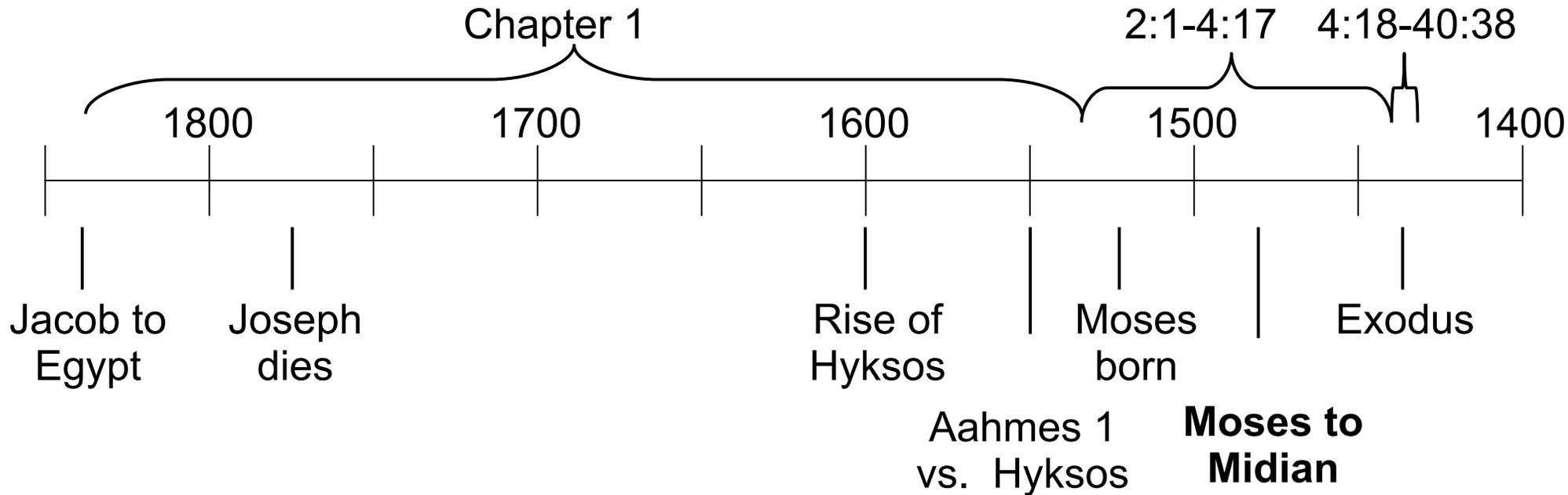
Exodus 2:13

13 And when he went out the second day, behold, two men of the Hebrews strove together: and he said to him that did the wrong, Wherefore smitest thou thy fellow?

What did he see the next day, according to verse thirteen?



Moses Goes to Midian

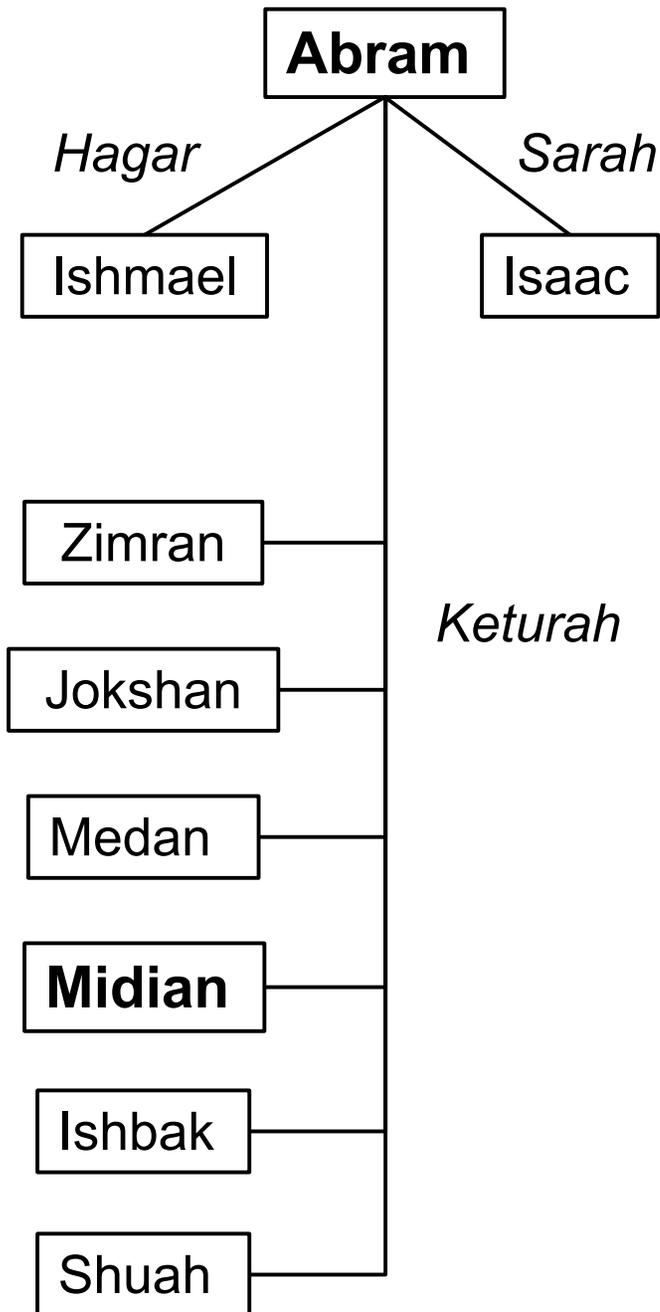


Ex. 18:13 And it came to pass on the morrow, that Moses sat to **judge** the people: and the people stood by Moses from the morning unto the evening.

Ex. 18:16 When they have a matter, they come unto me; and I judge between one and **another** (רַעַי re-a H7453, cf. Ex 2:13).

Ex. 18:25 And Moses chose able men out of all Israel, and made them heads over the people, **rulers** of thousands, **rulers** of hundreds, **rulers** of fifties, and **rulers** of tens. 26 And they **judged** the people at all seasons: the hard causes they brought unto Moses, but every small matter they **judged** themselves.

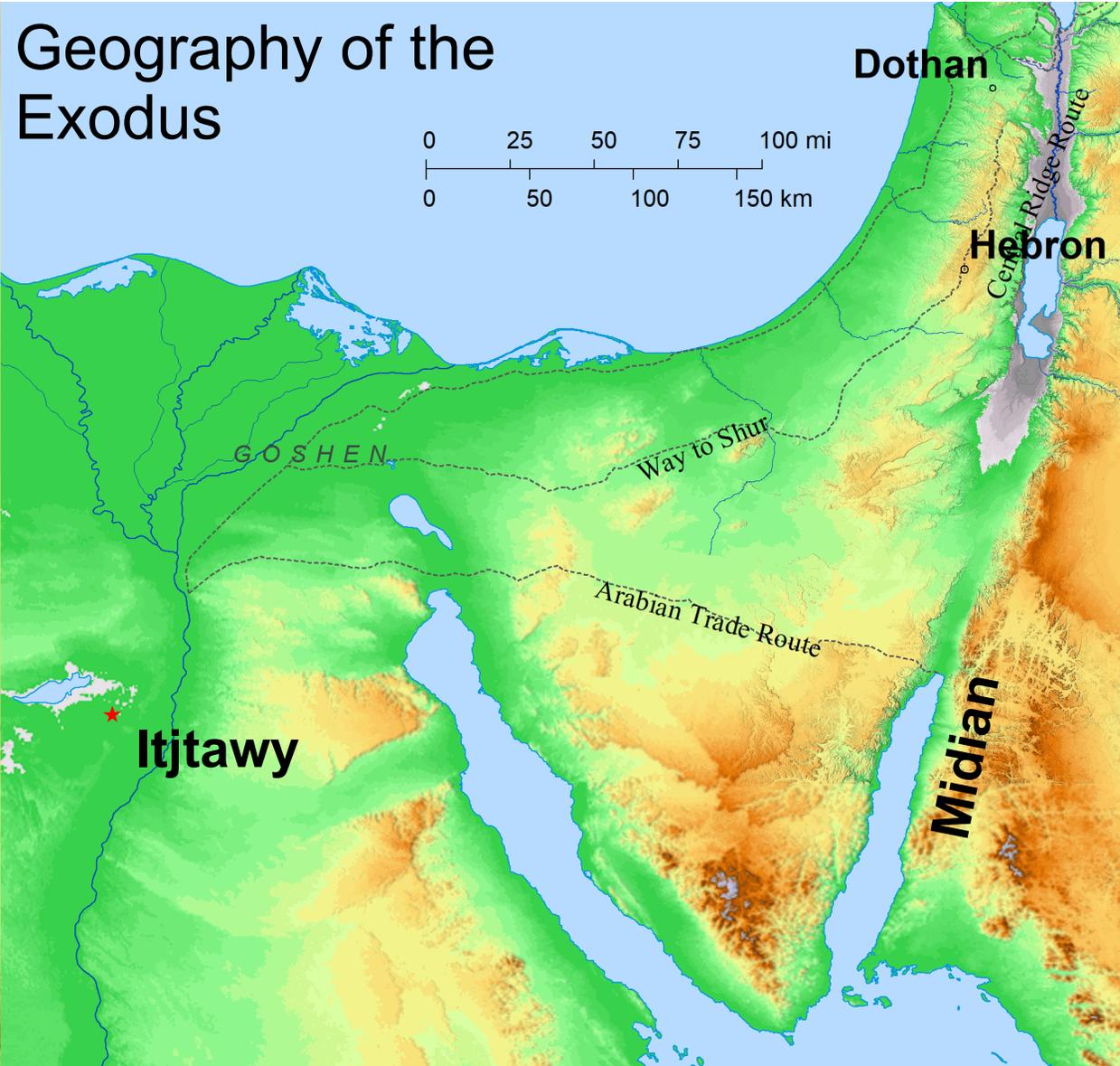
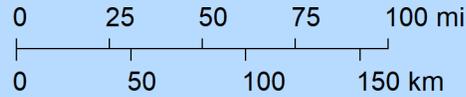
The Sons of Abraham



Gen 25:1 Then again Abraham took a wife, and her name was Keturah. 2 And she bare him Zimran, and Jokshan, and Medan, and **Midian**, and Ishbak, and Shuah.

Gen 25:5 And Abraham gave all that he had unto Isaac. 6 But unto the sons of the concubines, which Abraham had, Abraham gave gifts, and **sent them away from Isaac his son, while he yet lived, eastward**, unto the east country.

Geography of the Exodus



Meetings at a Well

Gen 24:10 And the servant took ten camels of the camels of his master, and departed; for all the goods of his master were in his hand: and he arose, and went to Mesopotamia, unto the city of Nahor. 11 And he made his camels to kneel down without the city **by a well of water** at the time of the evening, even the time that women go out to draw water.

Gen 29:1 Then Jacob went on his journey, and came into the land of the people of the east. 2 And he looked, and behold **a well in the field**, and, lo, there were three flocks of sheep lying by it; for out of that well they watered the flocks: and a great stone was upon the well's mouth.

Gen 37:28 Then there passed by **Midianites** merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the **Ishmeelites** for twenty pieces of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt.

2:16 ... they came, and drew water, and filled the troughs to water the flock ...



Goats at a well in the wilderness of Judea (Van and Anita Parunak, June 1975)

“... the priest of Midian ...”

The First Priest in the Bible

Gen 14:18 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of **the most high God** (אל עליון *el elyōn* H410+H5945).

What does a Priest Do?

Heb 5:1 For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins:

Before there were Priests ...

Gen 4:3 And in process of time it came to pass, that **Cain** brought of the fruit of the ground an **offering** unto the LORD.
4 And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto **Abel** and to his **offering**:

Gen 8:20 And **Noah** builded an altar unto the LORD; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and **offered burnt offerings** on the altar.

Gen 12:7 And the LORD appeared unto **Abram**, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an **altar** (מִזְבֵּחַ *mizbēach* H4196 “place of slaughter”) unto the LORD, who appeared unto him.

Job 1:5 And it was so, when the days of their feasting were gone about, that **Job** sent and sanctified them, and rose up early in the morning, **and offered burnt offerings** according to the number of them all: for Job said, It may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts. Thus did Job continually.

“... the priest of Midian ...” (cont.)

Priests in Egypt

Gen 41:45 And Pharaoh called Joseph's name Zaphnathpaaneah; and he gave him to wife Asenath the daughter of **Potipherah priest of On.**

What God did Reuel/Jethro serve?

Gen 17:1 And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, **I am the Almighty God (El Shaddai)**; walk before me, and be thou perfect.

Exo 18:10 And Jethro said, Blessed be the **LORD**, who hath delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of Pharaoh, who hath delivered the people from under the hand of the Egyptians.

The Last Priest

Heb 7:15 ... after the similitude of Melchisedec there ariseth another priest, 16 Who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of an endless life. 17 For he testifieth, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec. 18 For there is verily **a disannulling of the commandment going before** for the weakness and unprofitableness thereof.

Both Priest and Sacrifice

Jhn 10:17 Therefore doth my Father love me, because **I lay down my life**, that I might take it again. 18 No man taketh it from me, but **I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down**, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.

Moses names his First-Born

The Family History

1Ch 6:16 The sons of Levi; **Gershom**, Kohath, and Merari.

A Meaning for the Name:

גֵר *gēr* H1616 = “stranger”; *shom* ~ שָׁם *sham* H8033 “there”

Gen. 23:4 I am a **stranger** and a sojourner with you: give me a possession of a buryingplace with you, that I may bury my dead out of my sight.

Gen. 15:13 And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a **stranger** in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years; 14 And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and **afterward shall they come out** with great substance. 15 And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age. 16 But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full.