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The Wilderness of Sin

16: 1-36



According to **Numbers 33:10-13** the **Israelites** continued on **their** journey southward along the Gulf of Suez, which occupies the northwestern arm of **the Sea of Reeds**. **They left Elim and** at some point stopped **and** temporarily **camped by the Red Sea**, in **the Desert of Sin** or the Sinai Peninsula. The word **Sin** is a proper name probably derived from Sinai, the meaning of which is unknown, but here it has no moral implication. From there they **camped at the third important stop of Dophkah**. Some believe that **Dophkah** was probably the modern city of Serabit el-Khadem in west central Sinai, where the Egyptians had a flourishing turquoise-mining industry. But even though we cannot be certain of the exact location of **Dophkah**, we can be certain of the lessons learned there.