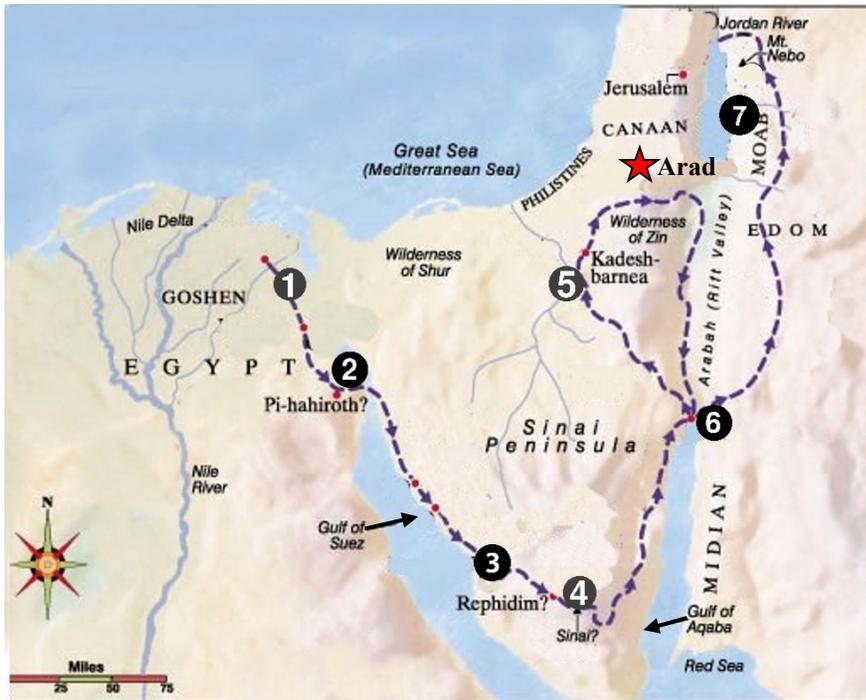


NAVIGATING THE IN BETWEEN

Numbers 21:1-10

1 When the Canaanite king of Arad, who lived in the Negev, heard that Israel was coming, he attacked the Israelites and captured some of them. 2 Then Israel made this vow to the LORD: "If you will deliver these people into our hands, we will totally destroy their cities." 3 The LORD listened to Israel's plea and gave the Canaanites over to them. They completely destroyed them and their towns. 4 They travelled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; 5 they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the desert? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!" 6 Then the LORD sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. 7 The people came to Moses and said, "We sinned when we spoke against the LORD and against you. Pray that the LORD will take the snakes away from us." So Moses prayed for the people. 8 The LORD said to Moses, "Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live." 9 So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. When anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, he lived.



Historical Background

1. The reason for their impatience – Being so close to the Promised Land, the Lord directed them to head _____.
2. The venomous snake in Israel – The Palestine _____ is indigenous to this area, known for its painful bite.
3. The meaning of the verb – “The LORD sent venomous snakes” actually means that God _____ them to attack the people.

Practical Insights

1. The snakes became a visual representation of their _____, causing pain, poisoning, and even death.
2. God did not totally eliminate the snakes but made _____ for the harm done by the snakes.
3. Those who looked to God's provision in _____, though bitten, still lived.