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| Event | Exod 14:14–28 | Philo, <i>Mos.</i> 1.175–79 | Philo, <i>Mos.</i> 2.252–55 |
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| <p>1) Prophecy of the destruction of the Egyptians</p> | <p>εἶπεν δὲ Μωυσῆς πρὸς τὸν λαόν· Θαρσεῖτε· στήτε καὶ ὁρᾶτε τὴν σωτηρίαν τὴν παρὰ τοῦ θεοῦ, ἣν ποιήσει ἡμῖν σήμερον· ὃν τρόπον γὰρ ἑώρακατε τοὺς Αἰγυπτίους σήμερον, οὐ προσθήσεσθε ἔτι ἰδεῖν αὐτοὺς εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα χρόνον· κύριος πολεμήσει περὶ ὑμῶν, καὶ ὑμεῖς σιγήσετε.¹</p> <p>And Moses said to the people, “Take courage! Stand firm and see the deliverance from God, which he will do for us today; The way that you have seen the Egyptians today, you will no longer ever continue to see them. The Lord will fight for you, and you will be silent.”</p> | <p>μικρὸν δ’ ἐπισχῶν ἔνθους γίνεται καταπνευσθεὶς ὑπὸ τοῦ εἰωθότος ἐπιφοιτᾶν αὐτῷ πνεύματος καὶ θεσπίζει προφητεύων τάδε· “ἦν ὁρᾶτε στρατιὰν εὐοπλοῦσαν, οὐκέτ’ ἀντιτεταγμένην ὄψεσθε· πεσεῖται γὰρ προτροπάδην πᾶσα καὶ βύθιος ἀφανισθήσεται ὡς μηδὲ λείψανον αὐτῆς ὑπὲρ γῆς ἔτι φανῆναι, καὶ οὐ μήκει χρόνου, ἀλλὰ τῇ ἐπιούσῃ νυκτί.”²</p> <p>But waiting a short time, he became possessed and inspired by the spirit that was accustomed to enter him, and he prophesied, foretelling these things: “The well-armed army which you see, you will no longer see it arrayed against you; for all of it shall fall headlong, and it will be concealed in the deep, with the result that no longer will a remnant of it be seen on the earth, and not at any length of time, but on this coming night.”</p> | <p>βλέπω μέλλουσαν κονίεσθαι, βρόχους τοῖς ἀχέσι περιβάλλουσαν τῶν ἀντιπάλων· ἔλκει κατὰ τῆς θαλάττης· μολύβδου τρόπον εἰς βυθὸν χωροῦσιν. ὑμεῖς μὲν ἔτι ζώντων αἰσθάνεσθε, τεθνεώτων δ’ ἐγὼ φαντασίαν λαμβάνω· τήμερον δὲ καὶ ὑμεῖς νεκροὺς αὐτοὺς θεάσεσθε. καὶ ὁ μὲν ταῦτ’ ἀπεφθέγγετο μείζονα ὄντα πάσης ἐλπίδος, οἱ δ’ ἐπειρῶντο ἔργοις τῆς περὶ τὸ λόγιον ἀληθείας. ἀπέβαινε γὰρ τὰ χρησθέντα θείας δυνάμεσι μύθων ἀπιστότερα.³</p> <p>“I see it preparing for combat, placing snares around the necks of the enemy. It drags them down into the sea. Like lead they go into the deep. You see them while still alive, but I have a vision of them dead. And today, you too will see them dead.” He now uttered these things, which were greater than every hope. And they experienced in deeds the truth of the oracles. For the things he predicted through divine powers came to pass in a manner more incredibly than can be related.</p> |
| <p>South wind blows</p> | | <p>καταδύντος δ’ ἡλίου, νότος εὐθὺς ἤρξατο κατασκήπτειν βιαιότατος, ὑφ’ οὗ τὸ πέλαγος ἐξανεχώρησεν, εἰωθὸς μὲν ἀμπωτίζειν, τότε δὲ καὶ μᾶλλον ὠθούμενον τὸ πρὸς αἰγιαλοῖς ὑπεσύρη</p> | |

¹ Exod 14:13–14.

² Philo, *Mos.* 1.175.

³ Philo, *Mos.* 2.252–53.

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| | | <p>καθάπερ εἰς χαράδραν ἢ χαρύβδιν·</p> <p>When the sun had set, immediately an exceedingly strong south wind began to rush down, by which the sea withdrew; it was accustomed to ebb and flow, but then instead, pushed against the shore, it was drawn down as into eddies and whirlpools.</p> | |
| Cloud and darkness come | | <p>ἀστήρ τε προῦφαίνεται ὀυδείς, ἀλλὰ πυκνὸν καὶ μέλαν νέφος ἅπαντα τὸν οὐρανὸν ἐπεῖχε, γνοφώδους τῆς νυκτὸς οὕσης εἰς κατάπληξιν τῶν διωκόντων.⁴</p> <p>And no star appeared but a dense, black cloud covered the whole sky, and the night became dark to the terror of the pursuers.</p> | |
| 2) God commands Moses | <p>καὶ σὺ ἔπαρον τῇ ράβδῳ σου καὶ ἔκτεινον τὴν χειρὰ σου ἐπὶ τὴν θάλασσαν καὶ ῥῆξον αὐτήν, καὶ εἰσελθάτωσαν οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραὴλ εἰς μέσον τῆς θαλάσσης κατὰ τὸ ξηρόν.⁵</p> <p>“And as for you, raise your rod and stretch out your hand over the sea, and break it, and let the sons of Israel enter into the midst of the sea on dry land.</p> | <p>προσταχθεὶς δέ⁶</p> <p>And having been commanded</p> | |
| 3) God says that he will harden Pharaoh's heart | <p>καὶ ἰδοὺ ἐγὼ σκληρυνῶ τὴν καρδίαν Φαραῶ καὶ τῶν Αἰγυπτίων πάντων, καὶ εἰσελεύσονται ὀπίσω αὐτῶν· καὶ ἐνδοξασθήσομαι ἐν Φαραῶ καὶ ἐν πάσῃ τῇ στρατιᾷ αὐτοῦ καὶ ἐν τοῖς ἄρμασιν καὶ ἐν τοῖς ἵπποις αὐτοῦ. καὶ γνώσονται πάντες</p> | | |

⁴ Philo, *Mos.* 1.176.

⁵ Exod 14:16.

⁶ Philo, *Mos.* 1.177.

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| | <p>οἱ Αἰγύπτιοι ὅτι ἐγὼ εἰμι κύριος ἐνδοξαζομένου μου ἐν Φαραῶ καὶ ἐν τοῖς ἄρμασιν καὶ ἵπποις αὐτοῦ.</p> <p>And behold, I will harden the heart of Pharaoh and all the Egyptians, and they will enter after them. And I will be glorified in Pharaoh and in all his army and in his chariots and in his horses. And all the Egyptians will know that I am the Lord when I am glorified in Pharaoh and in his chariots and in his horses.”</p> | | |
| <p>4) An angel of God, a pillar of cloud, and darkness arrive</p> | <p>ἐξῆρεν δὲ ὁ ἄγγελος τοῦ θεοῦ ὁ προπορευόμενος τῆς παρεμβολῆς τῶν υἱῶν Ἰσραὴλ καὶ ἐπορεύθη ἐκ τῶν ὀπισθεν· ἐξῆρεν δὲ καὶ ὁ στῦλος τῆς νεφέλης ἀπὸ προσώπου αὐτῶν καὶ ἔστη ἐκ τῶν ὀπίσω αὐτῶν· καὶ εἰσῆλθεν ἀνά μέσον τῆς παρεμβολῆς τῶν Αἰγυπτίων καὶ ἀνά μέσον τῆς παρεμβολῆς Ἰσραὴλ καὶ ἔστη· καὶ ἐγένετο σκότος καὶ γνόφος, καὶ διῆλθεν ἡ νύξ, καὶ οὐ συνέμιζαν ἀλλήλοις ὅλην τὴν νύκτα.⁷</p> <p>And the angel of God, who was going before the camp of the sons of Israel, rose up and went behind. And the pillar of cloud also rose up from before them and stood behind them. And it went in and stood between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. And there was darkness and gloom, and the night spread, and they did not mix with one another for the whole night.</p> | | |

⁷ Exod 14:17–20.

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| 5) Moses carries out the command | ἐξέτεινεν δὲ Μωσῆς τὴν χεῖρα ἐπὶ τὴν θάλασσαν, ⁸ And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, | Μωσῆς τῇ βακτηρίᾳ παῖει τὴν θάλασσαν. ⁹ Moses struck the sea with his staff | |
| 6) South wind blows | καὶ ὑπήγαγεν κύριος τὴν θάλασσαν ἐν ἀνέμῳ νότῳ βιαίῳ ὅλην τὴν νύκτα καὶ ἐποίησεν τὴν θάλασσαν ξηράν, and the Lord drove back the sea with a strong south wind for the whole night, and made the sea dry land, | | |
| 7) The sea is divided | καὶ ἐσχίσθη τὸ ὕδωρ. ¹⁰ And the water was divided. | ἡ δὲ ῥαγεῖσα δίσταται ¹¹ καὶ τῶν τμημάτων τὰ μὲν πρὸς τῷ ῥαγέντι μέρει μετέωρα πρὸς ὕψος ἐξαίρεται καὶ παγέντα τρόπον τείχους κραταιῶς ἠρέμει καὶ ἠσύχαζε, τὰ δ' ὀπίσω σταλέντα καὶ χαλινωθέντα τὴν εἰς τὸ πρόσω φορὰν καθάπερ ἠνίαις ἀφανέσιν ἀνεχαίτιζε, τὸ δὲ μεσαίτατον, καθ' ὃ ἐγένετο ἡ ῥῆξις, ἀναξηρανθὲν ὁδὸς εὐρεῖα καὶ λεωφόρος ¹² γίνεται. τοῦτο ἰδὼν Μωσῆς καὶ θαυμάσας ἐγεγήθει καὶ πληρωθεὶς χαρᾶς ἐθάρσυνε τοὺς ἰδίους καὶ ἦ τάχιστα προὔτρεπεν ἀναζευγνύοναι. ¹³ And it was broken and separated, and some parts at the place where it was broken were raised up aloft, and having hardened like a strong wall, they lied | ῥῆξις θαλάττης, ἀναχώρησις ἑκατέρου τμήματος, πῆξις τῶν κατὰ τὸ ῥαγὲν μέρος διὰ παντὸς τοῦ βάθους κυμάτων, ἵν' ἀντι τειχῶν ἢ κραταιοτάτων, εὐθυτενῆς ἀνατομῆ τῆς μεγαλοουργηθείσης ὁδοῦ, ἡ τῶν κρυσταλλωθέντων μεθόριος ἦν, ¹⁴ There was a breaking of the sea, a withdrawal of each section, a fixing of the waves along the broken part through the entire deep, so that they might be stronger than walls, a straight cut of a road miraculously made, which was a boundary for the frozen waves, |

⁸ Exod 14:21.⁹ Philo, *Mos.* 1.177.¹⁰ Exod 14:21.¹¹ See Exod 15:8 for the use of δίστημι.¹² See Ps 76:20 LXX for the idea of a ὁδός and τρίβοι created in the midst of the sea.¹³ Philo, *Mos.* 1.177.¹⁴ Philo, *Mos.* 2.253.

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| | | unmoving and quiet; and other parts that were behind were gathered up and bridled, as if someone held back its rushing forward with invisible reins. And the space between, where the break had occurred, was dried up and became a wide road and highway. When Moses saw this, he was amazed and filled with joy, and he encouraged his people and urged them to break camp as quickly as possible. | |
| 8) The Israelites begin crossing | καὶ εἰσῆλθον οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραηλ εἰς μέσον τῆς θαλάσσης κατὰ τὸ ξηρὸν, καὶ τὸ ὕδωρ αὐτοῖς τεῖχος ἐκ δεξιῶν καὶ τεῖχος ἐξ εὐωνύμων. ¹⁵ And the sons of Israel entered into the midst of the sea on dry land, and the water became for them a wall on their right side and a wall on their left side. | | ὁδοιπορία τοῦ ἔθνους ἀκινδύνως πεζεύοντος διὰ θαλάττης ὡς ἐπὶ ξηρᾶς ἀτραποῦ καὶ λιθώδους ἐδάφους ἐκραυρώθη γὰρ ἡ ψάμμος καὶ ἡ σποράς αὐτῆς οὐσία συμψῦσα ἠνώθη, ¹⁶ there was a journey for the nation walking without danger through the sea as on a dry path and stony ground. For the sand was dried up, and its fine substance was united as a unified substance, |
| 9) The Egyptians begin crossing | κατεδίωξαν δὲ οἱ Αἰγύπτιοι καὶ εἰσῆλθον ὀπίσω αὐτῶν, πᾶσα ἡ ἵππος Φαραῶ καὶ τὰ ἄρματα καὶ οἱ ἀναβάται, εἰς μέσον τῆς θαλάσσης. ¹⁷ And the Egyptians pursued them and went after them, and every horse of Pharaoh and the chariots and the drivers entered into the midst of the sea. | | ἐχθρῶν ἀπνευστὶ διωκόντων ἐφόρμησις σπευδόντων ἐπ' οἰκεῖον ὄλεθρον, ¹⁸ there was an attack of the enemy breathlessly pursuing, hastening to their destruction, |
| Cloud | | περαιοῦσθαι δὲ μελλόντων, | νεφέλης ὀπισθοφυλακούσης |

¹⁵ Exod 14:22.¹⁶ Philo, *Mos.* 2.254.¹⁷ Exod 14:23.¹⁸ Philo, *Mos.* 2.254.

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| <p>becomes rear guard</p> | | <p>σημείον ἐπιγίνεται τερατωδέστατον ἢ γὰρ ὀδηγὸς νεφέλη πρωτοστατοῦσα τὸν ἄλλον χρόνον ἀνακάμπτει πρὸς τὰ οὐραῖα τοῦ πλήθους, ὅπως ὀπισθοφυλακῆ καὶ ταχθεῖσα μεθόριος τῶν διωκόντων καὶ τῶν διωκομένων τοὺς μὲν ἠνιοχοῦσα σωτηρίως καὶ ἀσφαλῶς ἐπήλαυνε, τοὺς δὲ ἀνεῖργε καὶ ἀνέκρουεν ἐφορμῶν ἐπειγομένους·</p> <p>When they were about cross over, a very prodigious sign occurred. For the guiding cloud, which was had been in the lead for the rest of the time, turned back to the rear of the multitude so that it might be the rear guard. And being situated between the pursuers and the pursued, the one group, it was guiding and driving them with safety and security; the other group, it was restraining and checking those who were hastening to attack them.¹⁹</p> | <p>ἠνιόχησις, ἐν ἣ θεία τις ὄψις πυρὸς ἀύγην ἀπαστράπτουσα ἦν,²⁰</p> <p>a driving forward of the cloud as a rear guard, in which there was a divine appearance of fire flashing forth a light,</p> |
| <p>10) God throws the Egyptians into disorder</p> | <p>ἐγενήθη δὲ ἐν τῇ φυλακῇ τῇ ἑωθινή καὶ ἐπέβλεψεν κύριος ἐπὶ τὴν παρεμβολὴν τῶν Αἰγυπτίων ἐν στύλῳ πυρὸς καὶ νεφέλης καὶ συνετάραξεν τὴν παρεμβολὴν τῶν Αἰγυπτίων καὶ συνέδησεν τοὺς ἄξονας τῶν ἀρμάτων αὐτῶν καὶ ἤγαγεν αὐτοὺς μετὰ βίας. καὶ εἶπαν οἱ Αἰγύπτιοι Φύγωμεν ἀπὸ προσώπου Ἰσραηλ· ὁ γὰρ κύριος πολεμεῖ περὶ αὐτῶν τοὺς Αἰγυπτίους.²¹</p> <p>And it happened at the morning watch that the Lord</p> | <p>ἄπερ ὁρῶντες οἱ Αἰγύπτιοι θορύβου καὶ ταραχῆς πάντ' ἐπλήρουν τάς τε τάξεις ὑπὸ δέους συνέχεον ἐπεμίπτοντες ἀλλήλοις καὶ ζητοῦντες ἤδη φυγεῖν, ὅτ' οὐδὲν ἦν ὄφελος.²²</p> <p>Seeing these things, the Egyptians were completely filled with disorder and confusion. Due to their fear, they were confounding their ranks, falling onto one another and seeking to flee immediately, although there</p> | |

¹⁹ Philo, *Mos.* 1.178.

²⁰ Philo, *Mos.* 2.254.

²¹ Exod 14:24–25.

²² Philo, *Mos.* 1.178.

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| | looked upon the camp of the Egyptians in the pillar of fire and cloud, and he threw the camp of the Egyptians into confusion. And he bound together the axles of their chariots and drove them violently. And the Egyptians said, “Let us flee from before Israel. For the Lord is fighting the Egyptians for them.” | was no benefit to do so. | |
| 11) God commands Moses to raise his hand to close the sea | εἶπεν δὲ κύριος πρὸς Μωϋσῆν Ἔκτεινον τὴν χεῖρά σου ἐπὶ τὴν θάλασσαν, καὶ ἀποκαταστήτω τὸ ὕδωρ καὶ ἐπικαλυψάτω τοὺς Αἰγυπτίους, ἐπὶ τε τὰ ἄρματα καὶ τοὺς ἀναβάτας. ²³ And the Lord said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea, and let the water be restored and let it cover the Egyptians, both over the chariots and over the drivers.” | | |
| 12) Moses carries out the command | ἐξέτεινεν δὲ Μωϋσῆς τὴν χεῖρα ἐπὶ τὴν θάλασσαν, ²⁴ And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, | | |
| Israelites begin crossing | | οἱ μὲν γὰρ Ἑβραῖοι διὰ ξηρᾶς ἀτραποῦ περι βαθὸν ὄρθρον μετὰ γυναικῶν καὶ παιδῶν ἔτι κομιδῆ νηπίων περαιοῦνται· For around early morning the Hebrews crossed over on a dry path with their wives and children, who were still very much infants. | |
| North wind blows | | τοὺς δὲ τὰ τμήματα τοῦ πελάγους ἐκατέρωθεν ἐπικυλισθέντα καὶ ἐνωθέντα αὐτοῖς ἄρμασι καὶ ἵπποις καταποντοῖ, βορείοις | |

²³ Exod 14:26.

²⁴ Exod 14:27.

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| | | <p>πνεύμασι</p> <p>But the portions of the sea rolled up and gathered on either side drown the Egyptians with their chariots and horses, with a north wind</p> | |
| 13) The water is restored to normal | <p>καὶ ἀπεκατέστη τὸ ὕδωρ πρὸς ἡμέραν ἐπὶ χώρας·</p> <p>and the water was restored to its place toward the day.</p> | <p>τῆς παλιρροίας ἀναχυθείσης</p> <p>the reflux was poured out</p> | <p>πελαγῶν ἃ τέως ἀνακοπέντα διειστήκει παλίρροια, τοῦ διακοπέντος καὶ ἀναξηρανθέντος μέρους αἰφνίδιος θαλάττωσις,</p> <p>there was a reflux of water, which until then was driven back and separated, and a sudden submergence of the part that had been cut off and dried up,</p> |
| 14) Fulfillment of the destruction of the Egyptians | <p>οἱ δὲ Αἰγύπτιοι ἔφυγον ὑπὸ τὸ ὕδωρ, καὶ ἐξετίναξεν κύριος τοὺς Αἰγυπτίους μέσον τῆς θαλάσσης. καὶ ἐπαναστραφὲν τὸ ὕδωρ ἐκάλυψεν τὰ ἄρματα καὶ τοὺς ἀναβάτας καὶ πᾶσαν τὴν δύναμιν Φαραῶ τοὺς εἰσπεπορευμένους ὀπίσω αὐτῶν εἰς τὴν θάλασσαν, καὶ οὐ κατελείφθη ἐξ αὐτῶν οὐδὲ εἷς.²⁵</p> <p>And the Egyptians tried to flee under the water, and the Lord shook off the Egyptians in the middle of the sea. And when it had returned, the water covered the chariots, and the drivers, and the entire force of Pharaoh that had entered after them into the sea, and not even one of them was left.</p> | <p>καὶ μετεώροις τρικυμῖαις ἐπιδραμούσης, ὡς μηδὲ πυρφόρον ὑπολειφθῆναι τὸν ἀπαγγελοῦντα τοῖς ἐν Αἰγύπτῳ τὰς αἰφνιδίους συμφοράς.²⁶</p> <p>and it was running over them with high waves, with the result that not even a torchbearer was left to bring back news to those in Egypt of the sudden misfortunes.</p> | <p>πολεμίων φθορά, οὓς τὰ τε κρυσταλλωθέντα τεῖχη καὶ ἀνατραπέντα κατεύνασε καὶ αἱ πλήμυραι τοῦ πελάγους ὥσπερ εἰς φάραγγα τὴν ὁδὸν ἐπενεχθεῖσαι κατέκλυσαν, ἐπίδειξις τῆς φθορᾶς διὰ τῶν ἐπαναπλευσάντων σωμάτων, ἃ τὴν ἐπιφάνειαν τοῦ πελάγους κατεστόρεσε,²⁷</p> <p>there was a destruction of the enemy, whom the frozen walls that were overturned put to sleep and whom the flood of the sea overwhelmed, carried along the path as into a valley. There was proof of the destruction due to the bodies floating on the surface, which covered the surface of the sea.</p> |

²⁵ Exod 14:27-28.

²⁶ Philo, *Mos.* 1.179. The phrase τὰς αἰφνιδίους συμφοράς may reflect a slight echo to several potential ancient works. For example, see Pyrrhus, *Fr. Hist.* 3; Dionysius of Halicarnassus, *Ant. rom.* 3.53.3.11; 20.10.2.2.

²⁷ Philo, *Mos.* 2.254-55.