

bulk of evidence seems to favor the later date, but it is far from conclusive.

Nearly all of the great amount of material that has been preserved regarding early Egyptian history comes from monuments that were put up by the Pharaohs to celebrate their great deeds, or, in a few cases, from inscriptions in the tombs of the nobles. Such records glorify successes and ignore failures. From the viewpoint of the Egyptian rulers the exodus represented a great failure, and is consequently not mentioned in any of their records. Anti-Christian scholars who have worked in the field of Egyptology admit that events as great or greater than the Exodus could occur in Egypt without leaving any trace in such monuments.

In Palestine, Babylonia, and elsewhere, remains of ancient cities can be excavated. Evidence of ordinary life at different periods often sheds light on aspects of their history. In Egypt nearly all of such remains would be in the Delta, where the water level is very high, instead of in Upper Egypt. Therefore most of this type of material has either been destroyed or has become inaccessible. There is so much interesting material from Egypt on monuments or on the walls of temples that Egyptologists are very busy interpreting it and usually have neither money nor time available to do this other type of work, even in the few places in Egypt where it would be possible.

Throughout its history Egypt has consisted of a wide region in the Delta and a very narrow area in Upper Egypt along the edges of the Nile. Most of its remaining territory was barren desert. The Biblical record gives the impression that all the land where the Egyptians lived was affected by the plagues.

Our knowledge of these events is limited to the Biblical statements. The Scripture does not give precise data as to the time period from the first plague until the exodus, but two years might be a good guess.

Except for the last one, all the Egyptian plagues are similar to natural phenomena that have occurred in Egypt at various times. The supernatural elements in the plagues are principally as follows: 1) Their very great intensification; 2) The occurrence within a comparatively short time of so many of these disasters; 3) Most important of all, the fact that each of them was specifically predicted before it occurred....