

# חִרְבַּ

## Strong's Concordance

**Choreb:** "waste," a mountain in Sinai

**Original Word:** חִרְבַּ

**Part of Speech:** Proper Name Location

**Transliteration:** Choreb

**Phonetic Spelling:** (kho-rabe')

**Short Definition:** Horeb

<http://biblehub.com/hebrew/2722.htm>

**Chorob** Angel of the 10th hour of the day, serving under Oriel.

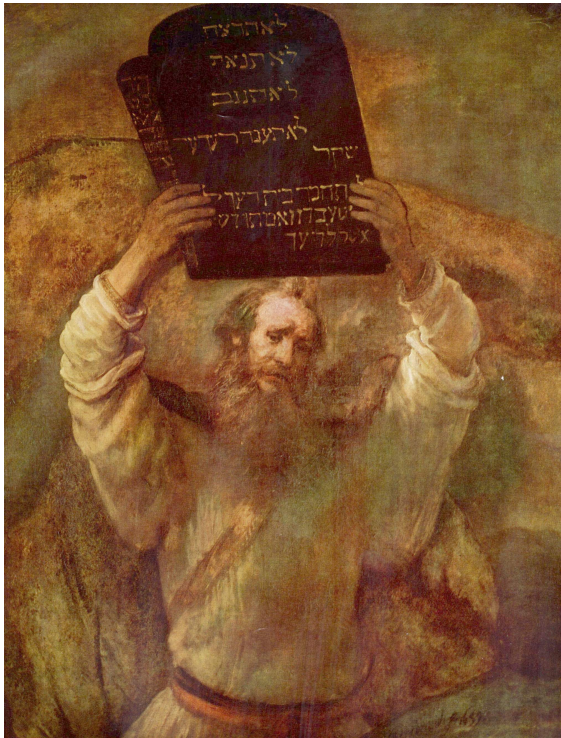
<http://www.angelfire.com/journal/cathbodua/Angels/Cangels.html>

# Mount Horeb

For other uses of the names Horeb or Mount Horeb, see Horeb.

For the biblical Mount Sinai, see [Biblical Mount Sinai](#).

**Mount Horeb**, Hebrew: הֹרֵב, Greek in the Septuagint:



*Moses with tablets of the Ten Commandments, painting by Rembrandt, (1659)*

χωςηβ, Latin in the Vulgate: *Horeb*, is the mountain at which the book of Deuteronomy in the Hebrew Bible states that the Ten Commandments were given to Moses by God. It is described in two places (Exodus 3:1, 1 Kings 19:8) as הַר הָאֱלֹהִים the “Mountain of God”. The mountain is also called the Mountain of YHWH.<sup>[1]</sup>

In other biblical passages, these events are described as having transpired at Mount Sinai. Although Sinai and Horeb are often considered to have been different names for the same place, there is a body of opinion that they may have been different locations.<sup>[1]</sup>

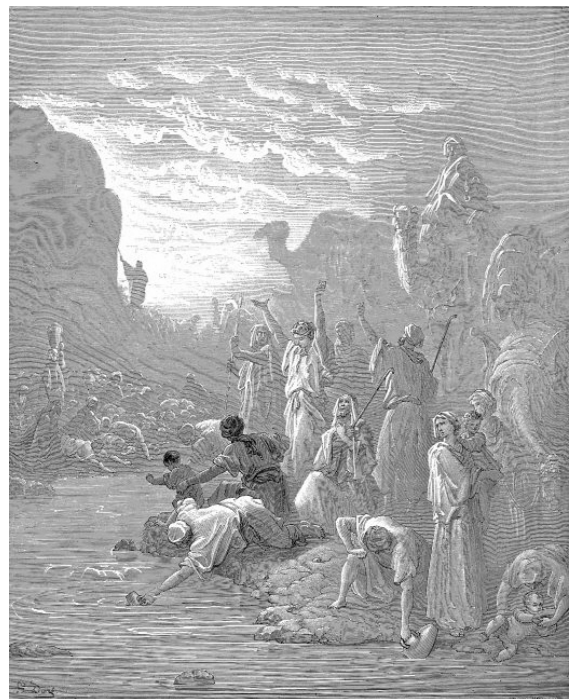
## 1 Etymology

Horeb is thought to mean *glowing/heat*, which seems to be a reference to the sun, while Sinai may have derived from the name of Sin, the Sumerian deity of the moon,<sup>[2][3]</sup>

and thus Sinai and Horeb would be the mountains of the moon and sun, respectively.<sup>[2]</sup>

In Matityahu Clark’s *Etymological Dictionary of Biblical Hebrew*, the Semitic root for Horev, *Chorev* (Hebrew: חרב, *Chet, Reish, Beit*) is related to the Hebrew word for sword, *Cherev* (Hebrew: חרב) (again *Chet, Reish, Beit*) showing the meaning of *Chorev* as being “desolation as after a mighty battle”, where the root for Sinai being *Sineh* (*Samech, Nun, Hey*) relating to both “bush” and the idea “to fend off an attack”. The relationship between “fend off” and “bush” being that this bush has thorns to in fact “fend off” its enemies.

## 2 Occurrences



*Moses Striking the Rock at Horeb, engraving by Gustave Doré from “La Sainte Bible”, 1865*

The name Horeb first occurs at Exodus 3:1, with the story of Moses and the Burning bush. According to Exodus 3:5, the ground of the mountain was considered holy, and Moses was commanded by God to remove his shoes.

Exodus 17:6 describes the incident when the Israelites were in the wilderness without water. Moses was “upon the rock at Horeb”, struck the rock and obtained drink-

ing water from the rock. The only other use of the name in Exodus is at Exodus 33:6, where Horeb is the location where the Israelites stripped off their ornaments.

In Deuteronomy, Horeb is mentioned several times in the account of the wanderings of the Israelites in the wilderness, Deuteronomy 1:2, 1:6, 1:19. The account of the delivery to Moses of the Ten Commandments, and references back to it, include mentions of *Horeb* at Deuteronomy 4:10, 4:15, 5:2,9:8, 18:16, 28:69. There are similar references back at Psalms 106:19 and Malachi 3:22.

At 1 Kings 8:9 2 Chronicles 5:10 it is stated that the Ark of the Covenant contained only the tablets delivered to Moses at Horeb. At 1 Kings 19:8, Elijah visits “Horeb the mount of God”.

According to the documentary hypothesis, the name Sinai is used in the Torah only by the Jahwist and Priestly Source, whereas Horeb is used only by the Elohist and Deuteronomist.<sup>[3][4]</sup>

There are no occurrences of “Horeb” in the New Testament. At Galatians 4:24-25, Mount Sinai is mentioned: extquotedbl ... One covenant is from Mount Sinai and bears children who are to be slaves: This is Hagar. Now Hagar stands for Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present city of Jerusalem, because she is in slavery with her children.”

### 3 Location

Main article: Biblical Mount Sinai - Suggested locations

The location of Horeb is disputed. Jewish and Christian scholars have advanced varying opinions as to its whereabouts since biblical times.<sup>[2]</sup> Elijah is described in 1 Kings 19:8 as traveling to Horeb, in a way which implies that its position was familiar when that was written, but there are no biblical references set any later in time.

### 4 References

- [1] *Jewish Encyclopedia*, Mount Horeb
- [2] Jacobs, Joseph; Seligsohn, Max; Bacher, Wilhelm. “Mount Horeb”. *Jewish Encyclopedia*. Retrieved 23 December 2013.
- [3] D. M. G. Stalker (1963). “Exodus”. In Matthew Black and H. H. Rowley. *Peake’s Commentary on the Bible* (second edition ed.). Thomas Nelson. pp. section 178c.
- [4] Harris, J. Rendel (1902). “Sinai, Mount”. In James Hastings. *A Dictionary of the Bible*.

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