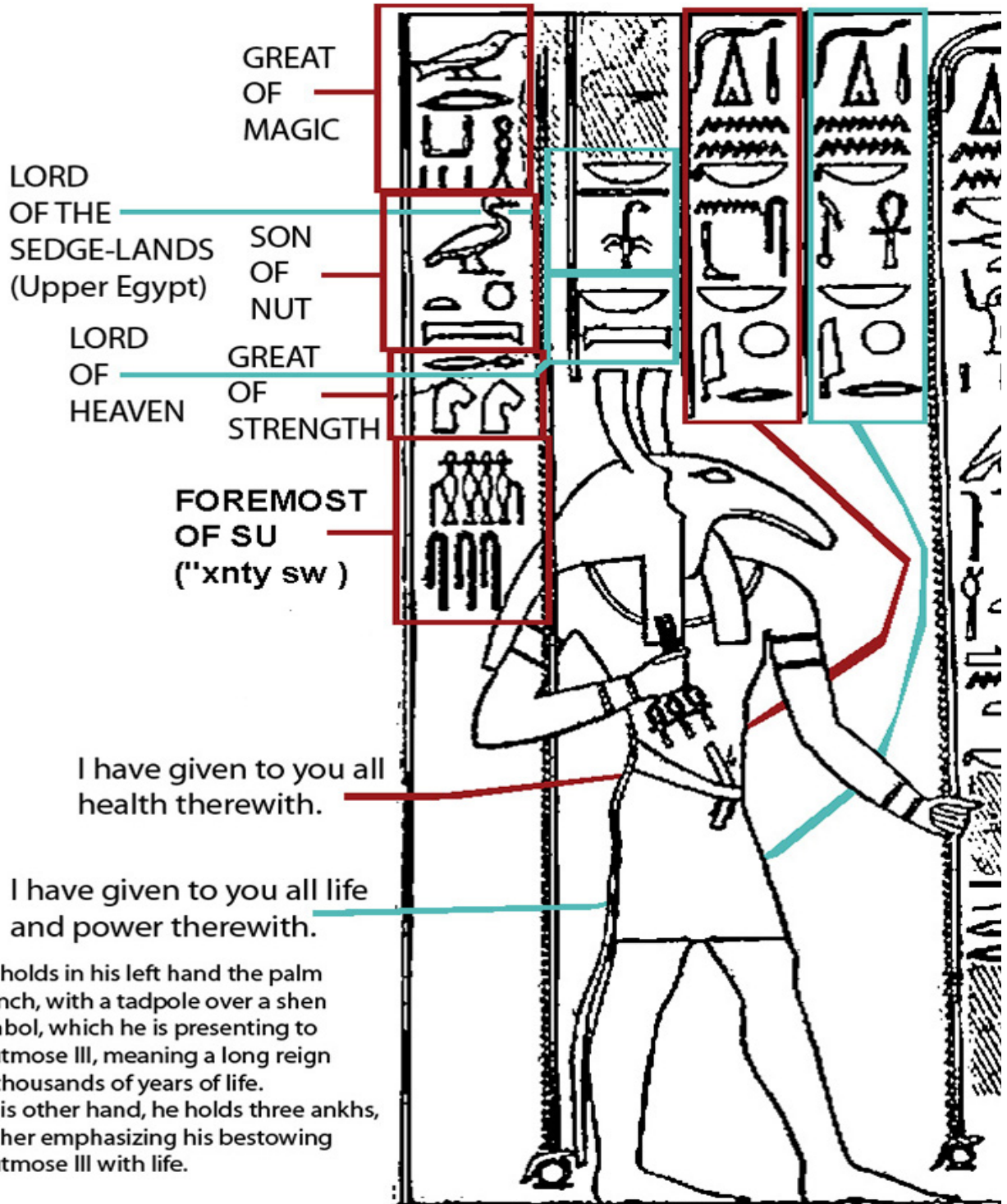


Set at Thutmose III's Heb Sed Race

By Joan Lansberry



Many of the ancient monuments left out in the (acid) rain have undergone much damage through the centuries. But thanks to the careful records of Lepsius, we have knowledge of what they looked like in better days. Thus it is with Thutmose III's Heb

Sed Scene at Karnak. In the larger scene, we see Set at far left, and in front of him is Amun Ra. Then Thutmose III is making his race, carrying heset jars in his hands. Behind Thutmose is one of the Herus.

I (with a little help) was able to work out translations of some of the hieroglyphs. From the right (by Set's nose), we have "I have given to you all life and power therewith." Then, "I have given to you all health therewith." Then there's a damaged area, but I suspect the whole sentence read "[Words spoken by] Lord of the Sedge-lands (Upper Egypt), Lord of the Heavens." Then we have further descriptions of Set, "Great of Magic", "Son of Nut", "Great of Strength" and "Foremost of Su" (*xnty sw*).

Set holds in his left hand the palm branch, with a tadpole over a shen symbol, which he is presenting to Thutmose III, meaning a long reign of thousands of years of life. In his other hand, he holds three ankhs, further emphasizing his bestowing Thutmose III with life. Amun-Ra and Heru are offering similar gifts, ensuring the King will be well protected.