

# Exodus 1&2

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**1** Now these are the names of the children of Israel, which came into Egypt; every man and his household came with Jacob.

**2** Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah,

**3** Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin,

**4** Dan, and Naphtali, Gad, and Asher.

**5** And all the souls that came out of the loins of Jacob were seventy souls: for Joseph was in Egypt already.<sup>1</sup>

**6** And Joseph died, and all his brethren, and all that generation.

**7** And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceeding mighty; and the land was filled with them.<sup>2</sup>

**8** Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph.<sup>3</sup>

**9** And he said unto his people, Behold, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we:

**10** Come on, let us deal wisely with them; lest they multiply, and it come to pass, that, when there falleth out any war, they join also unto our enemies, and fight against us, and so get them up out of the land.

**11** Therefore they did set over them taskmasters to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh treasure cities, Pithom and Raamses.

**12** But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were grieved because of the children of Israel.<sup>4</sup>

**13** And the Egyptians made the children of Israel to serve with rigour:

**14** And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage, in mortar, and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field: all their service, wherein they made them serve, was with rigour.

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<sup>1</sup> The bible here is giving us a quick summary of the children of Israel in Egypt. We get a reminder of where we left off in Genesis 50 after the death of Jacob and Joseph.

<sup>2</sup> The Children of Israel have multiplied greatly over the years, and now they are abundant over the land.

<sup>3</sup> The favor that Pharaoh showed the Children of Israel when Joseph was living, is now over.

<sup>4</sup> It is amazing how circumstances change when people change. Because there was no loyalty between Pharaoh and the Children of Israel, insecurity set in and they were made slaves.

**15** And the king of Egypt spake to the Hebrew midwives, of which the name of the one was Shiphrah, and the name of the other Puah:

**16** And he said, When ye do the office of a midwife to the Hebrew women, and see them upon the stools; if it be a son, then ye shall kill him: but if it be a daughter, then she shall live.

**17** But the midwives feared God, and did not as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the men children alive.<sup>5</sup>

**18** And the king of Egypt called for the midwives, and said unto them, Why have ye done this thing, and have saved the men children alive?

**19** And the midwives said unto Pharaoh, **Because the Hebrew women are not as the Egyptian women; for they are lively, and are delivered ere the midwives come in unto them.**<sup>6</sup>

**20** Therefore God dealt well with the midwives: and the people multiplied, and waxed very mighty.

**21** And it came to pass, because the midwives feared God, that he made them houses.

**22** And Pharaoh charged all his people, saying, Every son that is born ye shall cast into the river, and every daughter ye shall save alive.<sup>7</sup>

**2** And there went a man of the house of Levi, and took to wife a daughter of Levi.

**2** And the woman conceived, and bare a son: and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months.

**3** And when she could not longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein; and she laid it in the flags by the river's brink.<sup>8</sup>

**4** And his sister stood afar off, to wit what would be done to him.

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<sup>5</sup> Because of the threat the Children of Israel had become, the King of Egypt decided to take action. He tells the midwives to kill the male

<sup>6</sup> The midwives explain that the Hebrew women give birth before they can come in to tend to them. But the reality was that the midwives feared God and did not want to follow the king's order of murder. Instead of the Hebrews being lessened, they multiplied.

<sup>7</sup> Pharaoh now changes the game, and says all the male Hebrew children should be cast into the river.

<sup>8</sup> Moses' mother and sister devise a plan to save Moses. Moses was born after the decree of Pharaoh. Moses has an older brother (Aaron) and an older sister (Miriam).

<sup>5</sup> And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to wash herself at the river; and her maidens walked along by the river's side; and when she saw the ark among the flags, she sent her maid to fetch it.

<sup>6</sup> And when she had opened it, she saw the child: and, behold, the babe wept. And she had compassion on him, and said, This is one of the Hebrews' children.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>7</sup> Then said his sister to Pharaoh's daughter, Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee?

<sup>8</sup> And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, Go. And the maid went and called the child's mother.

<sup>9</sup> And Pharaoh's daughter said unto her, Take this child away, and nurse it for me, and I will give thee thy wages.<sup>10</sup> And the women took the child, and nursed it.

<sup>10</sup> And the child grew, and she brought him unto Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. And she called his name Moses: and she said, Because I drew him out of the water.

<sup>11</sup> And it came to pass in those days,<sup>11</sup> when Moses was grown, that he went out unto his brethren, and looked on their burdens: and he spied an Egyptian smiting an Hebrew, one of his brethren.

<sup>12</sup> And he looked this way and that way,<sup>12</sup> and when he saw that there was no man, he slew the Egyptian, and hid him in the sand.

<sup>13</sup> And when he went out the second day, behold, two men of the Hebrews strove together: and he said to him that did the wrong, Wherefore smitest thou thy fellow?

<sup>14</sup> And he said, Who made thee a prince and a judge over us? intendest thou to kill me, as thou killedst the Egyptian?<sup>13</sup> And Moses feared, and said, Surely this thing is known.

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<sup>9</sup> When God has a plan for you it does not matter what the rules are, or what man's plans for you are.

<sup>10</sup> Not only was Moses spared, but his mother was paid to take care of him, and nurse him. Moses was adopted and now he has the best life possible in these times.

<sup>11</sup> 40 years pass between verses 10 and 11.

<sup>12</sup> Everybody that sees you, you don't see them. That's why it's best to not do anything that you don't want anyone to know about.

<sup>13</sup> Here is an example of how quickly bad news spreads. Moses checked to see if there was anyone around to see his deed, and now he knows not only was he seen, but it was told.

<sup>15</sup> Now when Pharaoh heard this thing, he sought to slay Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh, and dwelt in the land of Midian:<sup>14</sup> and he sat down by a well.

<sup>16</sup> Now the priest of Midian<sup>15</sup> had seven daughters: and they came and drew water, and filled the troughs to water their father's flock.

<sup>17</sup> And the shepherds came and drove them away: but Moses stood up and helped them, and watered their flock.

<sup>18</sup> And when they came to Reuel their father, he said, How is it that ye are come so soon to day?

<sup>19</sup> And they said, An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds, and also drew water enough for us, and watered the flock.

<sup>20</sup> And he said unto his daughters, And where is he? why is it that ye have left the man? call him, that he may eat bread.

<sup>21</sup> And Moses was content to dwell with the man: and he gave Moses Zipporah his daughter.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>22</sup> And she bare him a son, and he called his name Gershom: for he said, I have been a stranger in a strange land.

<sup>23</sup> And it came to pass in process of time, that the king of Egypt died: and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage.<sup>17</sup>

<sup>24</sup> And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.

<sup>25</sup> And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God had respect unto them.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> Moses had to flee. This is the separation from part one to part two of Moses life.

<sup>15</sup> Jethro is the title of the priest of Midian, his name is Reuel.

<sup>16</sup> Moses is married in exile, but this time in exile teaches him the lay of the land in the wilderness he would be navigating after the children of Israel crossed the Red Sea.

<sup>17</sup> God heard their cry, and in chapter 3 we will see what God decides to do about it.

<sup>18</sup> God will never go back on his word. You may have to cry, and you may have to go thru something, but God will deliver you from your problems.