

THE BIRTH OF MOSES

Old Testament Lesson #34

After the death of Joseph, God blessed the people of Israel so they “became exceedingly numerous, so that the land was filled with them.” Eventually a new king came into power in Egypt; he did not know Joseph. He believed the Israelites had become too numerous and feared they would turn against Egypt some time in the future. The Egyptians decided to make the Israelites their slaves.

The more the Egyptians oppressed Israel, however, the more they multiplied and spread. Yet the Egyptians made their lives bitter with hard labor.

Then the king of Egypt tried a different approach. He ordered the Hebrew midwives to kill every male child but let the girls live. But the midwives feared God and disobeyed the king. They let the baby boys live. Then the king commanded every boy born to Israel to be thrown into the Nile. The girls were to live.

A couple who were descendants of Levi had a son. The child’s mother hid him for three months. When the baby became too big to hide, she placed him in a water-proof basket and hid the basket in the reeds along the shore of the Nile River. The boy’s sister hid nearby to watch what would happen.

When Pharaoh’s daughter came to the Nile to bathe, she found the basket with the baby inside. She knew it was one of the Hebrew babies, but he was crying, and she felt sorry for him. The boy’s sister asked Pharaoh’s daughter if she should go get one of the Hebrew women to come and nurse the baby for her. Pharaoh’s daughter said “Yes,” so the girl got the boy’s own mother to nurse the child.

Pharaoh’s daughter named the baby Moses, which means “drawn out,” because she drew him out of the water.

POINTS TO CONSIDER:

- Moses’ early life and training, though he was in the court of the Pharaoh of Egypt, was supplied by his own mother, who cared for him under the authority of Pharaoh’s daughter. This arrangement gave him the education of an Israelite.

- Moses’ parents are commended in Hebrews 11:23 for their faith in hiding him and not obeying Pharaoh.
- Stephen retells the story in Acts 7:18-21.

The Birth of Moses

- I. After Joseph died, God blessed his descendants, and the land was filled with them.
- II. A new king came into power in Egypt.
 - A. He didn’t know Joseph and thought there were too many Israelites.
 - B. The new king believed the Israelites would someday turn against Egypt.
- III. The new king made the Israelites into slaves.
 - A. The number of Israelites increased anyway.
 - B. The king then ordered the Hebrew midwives to kill every male child.
 - C. The midwives disobeyed the king and let the boy babies live.
 - D. Then the king commanded that all infant boys be thrown into the Nile River.
- IV. A Levite couple had a baby son.
 - A. The mother hid him for three months.
 - B. When the baby was too big to hide, she put him in a basket in the river.
 - C. The baby’s sister hid beside the river to watch.
- V. Pharaoh’s daughter found the baby in the basket.
 - A. The baby’s sister saw Pharaoh’s daughter and asked her if she needed a nurse.
 - B. The answer was yes.
 - C. The girl brought her mother, but did not tell Pharaoh’s daughter that the woman was the baby’s mother as well.

ANSWER KEY:

The Egyptians made the Israelites their slaves.

He ordered every male Hebrew child to be killed.

mother, baby, basket, reeds, shore, Nile River, baby, sister, Pharaoh, Nile River, baby, sister, Pharaoh, Nile River, bathe, basket, baby, crying, baby, baby, sister, nurse, baby, Pharaoh, baby, mother, nurse

Use the code to find what happened.

A	B	E	F	J	M	N
D	1	H	2	L	3	P
K		O		4		
R	S	V	W			Q
U	5	T	6	X		7

After Joseph died, God blessed Israel and caused the Israelites to become “exceedingly numerous” in Egypt. This scared the new king, who did not know Joseph. He feared the Israelites would turn against Egypt. What happened?

5 2 2 2 2 6 4 5 3 1 4 5 4 1 1 2 5 2 2

3 5 5 1 2 3 3 5 2 5 5 2 2 3 5 5 3 1 6 2 5

The king also tried another way to oppress Israel.

2 2 4 5 1 2 5 2 1 2 6 2 5 6 4 1 3 2

2 2 1 5 2 6 1 2 3 3 1 5 4 1 2 3 3 3 3 2 1



Fill in the words of the story below.



A man of Levi and his wife disobeyed the king.

The _____ hid her _____ boy for 3 months. When he became too big to hide, she placed him in a _____ and hid it in the _____ along the _____ of the _____. The _____'s _____ hid nearby to see what would happen. _____'s daughter came to the _____ to _____. She found the _____ with the _____ inside. He was _____, and she felt sorry for him. She knew he was a Hebrew _____. The _____'s _____ asked if she could get a Hebrew woman to come and _____ the _____. _____'s daughter said “Yes.” The girl went to get the _____ boy's own _____ to _____ him.

Name _____

The new Pharaoh wanted all Hebrew baby boys to be killed. Moses' mother hid her baby. Pharaoh's daughter found him and adopted him.

Circle the following items.



Name _____