

Moses—Exodus 1

Israelites Are Slaves in Egypt

I. Additional Scriptures...

1. Verse 5; Gen 46:27; Ex 12:37
2. Acts 7:17-19
3. Deuteronomy 4:20

II. Chronology.

BIBLE PERIOD: **Egyptian Bondage.**

III. Summary.

The Book of Exodus tells about the children of Israel exiting out of the land of Egypt. Joseph has died by this time and his children along with the children of his brothers have increased abundantly. Verse seven tells us that the land was filled with the children of Israel. Joseph had been a savior to the nation of Egypt because of his interpretation of the Pharaoh's dream and the plan he put forth for getting ready for the seven years of famine. However, there came another Pharaoh "which knew not Joseph." The thing that was prominent for this Pharaoh and many of the other Egyptians was that these Hebrew people were becoming mightier than the people of Egypt. Fear motivated the Pharaoh to begin to do something to maintain control of this large group of people. The major fear was that if an enemy attacked Egypt, the Hebrews might fight with the enemies and give a victory to the enemy.

Thus developed the office of "taskmaster" to afflict the Hebrew people with heavy burdens. This did not seem to be working in that the more they afflicted them, the more they grew and multiplied. The taskmasters made the children of Israel serve with "rigour," which means they were very severe and cruel in the way they dealt with the Israelites. In another desperate measure, the Pharaoh instructed the Hebrew midwives to kill all the male babies as they were born. These midwives, Shiprah and Puah, refused the appalling order and were blessed of God as a result. The final order from Pharaoh was that the male sons of the children of Israel were to be cast into the river, but the females could be saved alive.

Naturally, such conditions as this would cause this people to cry out to God and God did hear them.

IV. Outline.

1. A listing of the children of Israel (Ex 1:1-5).
2. Joseph and his brothers have died (Ex 1:6).
3. The descendants of Israel were very fruitful and developed into a large group of people (Ex 1:7).
4. A new king was ruling who was not familiar with the ways Joseph had blessed Egypt (Ex 1:8).
5. This new king of Egypt fear the children of Israel and began to place taskmasters over them to afflict them (Ex 1:9-11).
6. This affliction did not stop the Israelites from growing and increasing and the Pharaoh made them serve with rigour (Ex 1:12-14).

7. The king spoke to the Hebrew midwives and ordered them to kill the male babies at birth (Ex 1:15-16).
8. But the Hebrew midwives feared God and refused the king’s order, which disobedience brought them approval from God (Ex 1:17-21).
9. Pharaoh ordered the people to cast male babies into the river (Ex 1:22).

V. Questions.

True or False

01. _____ Pharaoh ordered the murder of all children of the Hebrew people.
02. _____ The Israelites bore many children in the land of Egypt.
03. _____ The midwives were rewarded by Pharaoh for their service.
04. _____ The Egyptians feared that the Hebrew people would become their enemies.
05. _____ The Hebrew midwives disobeyed the Pharaoh’s orders.

Multiple Choice (Select the BEST Answer)

06. _____ This chapter mentions the death of Joseph and—(a) his brethren; (b) all of his generation; (c) a & b; (d) none of these.
07. _____ Why did the Lord provide houses for the Hebrew midwives: (a) they asked for them; (b) they feared God; (c) Pharaoh destroyed their homes.
08. _____ What kind work did the Egyptians force the children of Israel to perform: (a) brick and mortar; (b) service in the field; (c) a & b.
09. _____ Which of the following was NOT one of the Hebrew midwives: (a) Shiphrah; (b) Miriam; (c) Puah.
10. _____ What word did the king of Egypt that knew not Joseph use to describe his plan of action in dealing with the children of Israel: (a) cruelly; (b) wisely; (c) harshly.

Fill in the Blanks

11. “Therefore they did set over them _____ to _____ them with their burdens.”
12. “And the Egyptians made the children of Israel to serve with _____.”
13. Exodus 12:___ “And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six _____ on foot *that were* _____, beside children.”
14. “Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which _____ Joseph.”
15. _____ 4:20... “But the LORD hath taken you, and brought you forth out of the _____, *even* out of Egypt, to be unto him a people of inheritance, as *ye are* this day.”

Each Question is worth 7 Points

My Score is: _____

Answers will be found on next week’s handout

ANSWERS to Lesson 01-48 ... [No Questions were given.]

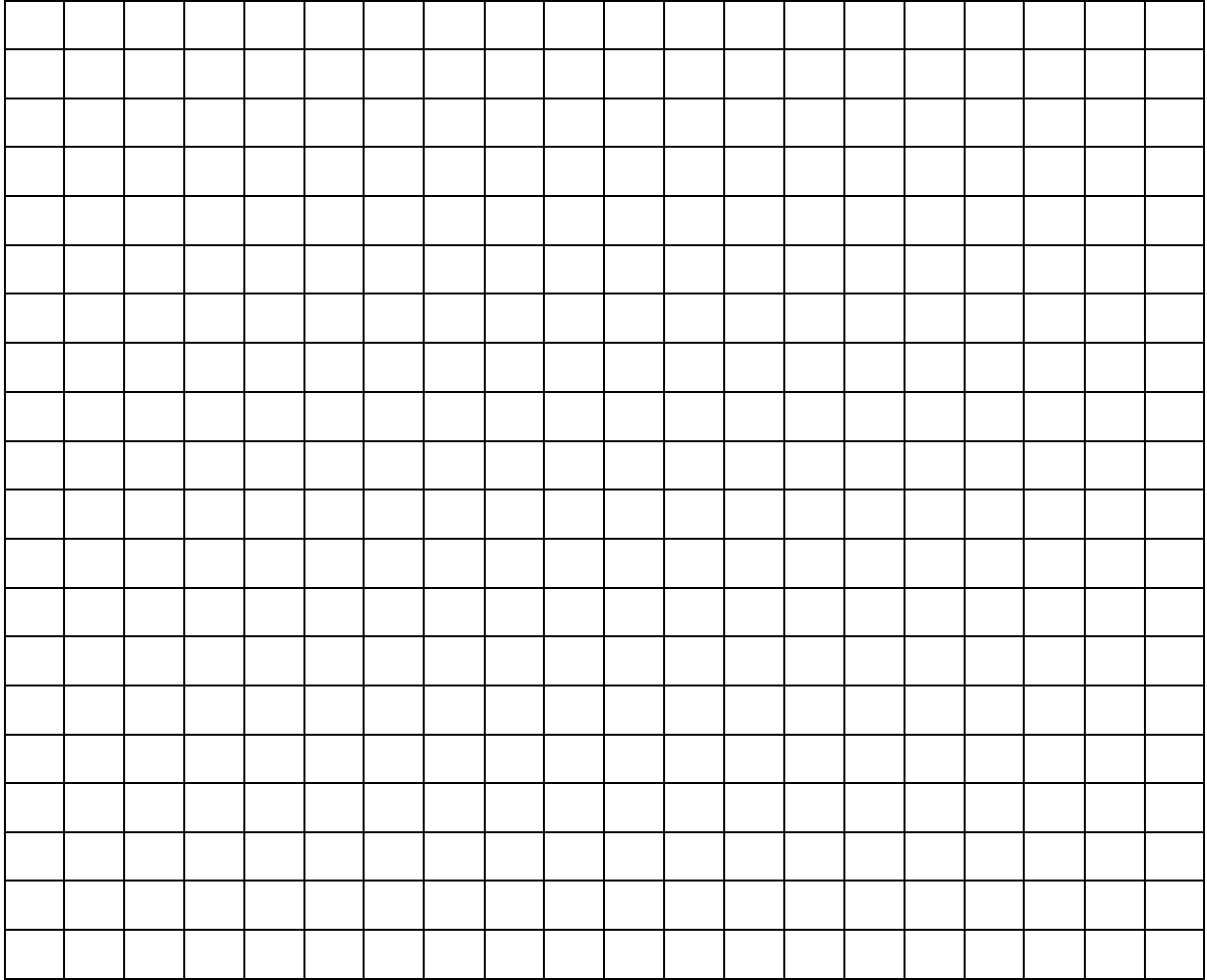
VI. Lessons & Applications.

1. **And Joseph died, and all his brethren, and all that generation** (Ex 1:6). Here is a very simple statement, but one that ought to cause any thinking person to pause and ponder. What will be left behind for the generation that follows? What is it that I am leaving behind for those who follow along behind me? What kind of parent am I? What kind of Christian example am I setting before the young ones? Hebrews 9:27 assures us that the same time will come for us as did come for Joseph and his brothers (i.e., unless the end of time—the Day of Judgment--comes first). How much thought are we giving the legacy we will leave behind? In this particular instance, God is using this people to

bring about His will and accomplish the promise he made to Abraham that through his seed all nations would be blessed (Gen 12:1-3). Sometimes this people cooperated in carrying out the will of the Lord and sometimes they did not. The same opportunity presents itself to every Christian. God wants us to be a separate and holy people and to be a part of saving lost souls. Is this our intent?

2. **Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph** (Ex 1:8). This statement was a part of Stephen's great sermon which brought on his death (Acts 7:18). His review of Israelite history was a powerful sermon—seeking to motivate the Jews to obey the gospel. All of this that we are reading about in Exodus is a part of God's great Scheme of Redemption. In Egypt God's people, the descendants of Abraham, have now developed into a mighty nation of people. They have been kept separated unto themselves during this time. It now is nearing the time when the second phase of becoming a great nation is about to be accomplished—receiving a Law. First, however, there must be a deliverance from this great bondage they are presently suffering. One of the great characters and godly men of all times will be chosen to lead the people out of this bondage. As we study Exodus we must keep it connected to the developing Scheme of Redemption. The purpose line that runs throughout the Bible is: THE GLORY OF GOD AND THE SALVATION OF MAN THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD.
3. **But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew** (Ex 1:12). Pharaoh will be **extremely slow to learn** that the God with Whom he is dealing is much more powerful than any plan or device he can bring to his aid. It is a part of God's plan for this people to go out of Egypt and Pharaoh CAN NOT STOP IT!
4. **...if it be a son, then ye shall kill him: but if it be a daughter, then she shall live** (Ex 1:16). Were it not the case that our own nation is so guilty in the matter of abortion, this instruction from this cruel king would seem much worse than perhaps it does. Hopefully, we will never allow the predominance of abortion in our land to cause us to forget the sanctity of life. What Pharaoh was requiring of these Hebrew midwives was horrific!!!
5. **But the midwives feared God, and did not as the king of Egypt commanded them...** (Ex 1:17). What courage! We applaud these two godly women for their choosing wisely with regard to a command given by a civil ruler. We are certainly charged in Romans 13 and 1 Peter 2 to be obedient to the civil authorities. However, whenever there comes a command given from the civil ruler which causes us to disobey the laws of God, we **must choose to obey God rather than man** (Acts 5:29).
6. **And it came to pass, because the midwives feared God, that he made them houses** (Ex 1:21). The reward of faithfulness has always been a prominent feature of God's dealings with man.

VII. Seek-A-Word Puzzle.



[The highlighted words can be found above. They may be backwards, diagonal, upside down, etc. See if you can find them all. The more you use the words of the Bible, the greater blessed you will be! You might be surprised at how much this little exercise will help you retain important truths. THANK YOU for the good effort you are putting forth in Bible study. DRL]