

Moses—Exodus 2:1-25; 18:2-4

Moses' Youth

I. Additional Scriptures...

1. Numbers 26:59
2. Hebrews 11:23
3. **bulrushes: Gome**, is the papyrus, so famous in all antiquity. It grows on the banks of the Nile, and in marshy grounds; the stalk rises to the height of six or seven cubits above the water, is triangular, and terminates in a crown of small filaments, resembling hair. This reed was of the greatest use to the Egyptians; the pith serving them for food, and the woody part to build vessels with; which vessels frequently appear on various monuments of Egyptian antiquity. That boats were made of this reed is also attested by Pliny and others. [*The Treasury of Scripture Knowledge*].
4. Miriam references... Ex 15:20, 21; Num 12:1, 4, 5, 10, 15; 20:1; 26:59; Deut 24:9; 1 Chr 6:3; Micah 6:4.
5. (1) In the genealogical system Reuel is both a son of Esau by Basemath (Gen 36:4, Gen 36:10, Gen 36:13, Gen 36:17; 1Ch 1:35, 1Ch 1:37) and the father of the father-in-law of Moses, Hobab (Num 10:29). In the account of the marriage of Zipporah to Moses (Exo 2:16-21) Jethro seems to be called Reuel (compare HOBAB). The various names of Jethro perplexed the Talmudists, too; some held that his real name was "Hobab," and that Reuel was his father. Reuel is probably a clan name (Gray, "Nu," ICC), and Hobab is a member of the clan ("son") of Reuel (Num 10:29, the King James Version reads "Raguel"). [*ISBE*].
6. Moses slew an Egyptian... Acts 7:23-25. Possibly Moses was avenging the death of one of his brethren in the spirit of Genesis 9:6, but he went about it in the wrong manner.
7. Hebrews 11:27.

II. Chronology.

BIBLE PERIOD: **Egyptian Bondage.**

III. Summary.

During the period when the king of Egypt had given order that male babies were to be thrown into the river, Moses, a handsome child, arrived. He was hidden for a period of three months and then was carefully placed in an ark of bulrushes into the river at a location where he could be found easily by women from Pharaoh's house. Miriam, sister of Moses, was carefully keeping an eye on her floating brother. Pharaoh's daughter noticed the ark and commanded her maid to fetch it. The crying of the child moved her to want to take care of him, though she knew him to be a Hebrew.

Quickly Miriam appears to ask if she should call a woman from among the Hebrews to nurse the child and is given permission to do so. Thus the child would be cared for by his own mother. Pharaoh's daughter gave to the baby the name Moses and the child grew and prospered.

When Moses was grown he noticed mistreatment of one of the Hebrews by an Egyptian and Moses killed the Egyptian and hid his body in the sand. This deed became known and Moses found out that others had knowledge of what he had done.

Pharaoh sought to slay Moses when he learned of what he had done, but Moses fled to the land of Midian. While at a well, he came into contact with the daughters of the priest of Midian and helped them in watering their father's flock. He was invited to eat with the family and Moses was content to dwell with the man. He gave Moses his daughter Zipporah for his wife. A son, Gershom, was born of their union.

The children of Israel began to cry unto God regarding their bondage and mistreatment in Egypt. God heard their cries and thought about His covenant with Abraham.

In chapter 18 we read about Moses' father-in-law bringing Zipporah and the two sons, Gershom and Eliezer, back to Moses after he had sent them to Jethro while he went into Egypt to deliver the children of Israel from Egyptian bondage.

IV. Outline.

1. Moses' birth, concealment, and brief journey in an ark (Ex 2:1-5.)
2. Pharaoh's daughter finds baby Moses and unwittingly gets his mother to care for him (Ex 2:6-9).
3. Moses matures in Pharaoh's household (Ex 2:10).
4. Moses sees an injustice and seeks to avenge it (Ex 2:11-12).
5. Moses learns that others know about the death of the Egyptian (Ex 2:13-14).
6. Pharaoh wants to slay Moses; Moses flees to Midian (Ex 2:15).
7. Moses meets Jethro's family (Ex 2:16-20).
8. Moses marries Zipporah and has a son, Gershom (Ex 2:21-22).
9. The children of Israel cry out to God regarding their bondage and God hears their groaning (Ex 2:23-25).
10. A reunion of Moses and his wife and children (Ex 18:2-4).

V. Questions.

True or False

01. _____ Moses was of the tribe of Levi.
02. _____ The name ELIEZER has something to do with God.
03. _____ When Moses was a baby, his mother was paid to nurse him.
04. _____ God heard the cries of the children of Israel.
05. _____ Moses' wife had six sisters.

Who Am I? Who Said It? Who Did It?

06. _____ My name is connected with being a stranger.
07. _____ "Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women...?"
08. _____ Gave his daughter Zipporah to Moses.
09. _____ The daughters of the priest of Midian called Moses this.
10. _____ A goodly child.

Fill in the Blanks

11. "And God _____ upon the children of Israel, and God had _____ unto them."
12. _____ 11:23... "By _____ Moses, when he was born, was _____ three months of his parents, because they saw *he was* a _____ child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment."
13. "... And she called his name Moses: and she said, Because I _____ him out of the water."

14. Acts ____:24... “And seeing one of *them* _____ wrong, he defended *him*, and _____ him that was oppressed, and smote the Egyptian.”
15. Hebrews 11:____... “By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he _____, as seeing him who is _____.”

Each Question is worth 7 Points

My Score is: _____

Answers will be found on next week's handout

ANSWERS to Lesson 01-49 ... [01—b, 37:11; 02—c, 37:2; 03—c, 37:9; 04—a, 37:8; 05—b, 37:3; 06—b, 37:14; 07—c, 37:31; 08—a, 37:15; 09—b, 37:26-27; 10—c, Ps 5:6; 11—b, 39:3, 23; 12—c, 39:19; 13—a, 39:6; 14—b, 39:18; 15—a, 39:17; 16—a, 40:1; 17—b, 40:20-22; 18—d, 40:10-11; 19—b, 40:19; 20—a, 40:14; 21—b, 41:36; 22—c, 41:1; 23—a, 41:30; 24—c, 41:9; 25—b, 41:23; 26—a, 41:40; 27—c, 41:37; 28—c, 41:42; 29—a, 41:50; 30—b, 41:47; 31—c, 42:6; 32—b, 42:38; 33—a, 42:17-18; 34—b, 42:29; 35—c, 42:36; 36—a, 43:3; 37—b, 43:33; 38—b, 43:11; 39—b, 43:26, 28; 40—c, 43:23; 41—c, 44:31; 42—b, 44:1; 43—c, 44:26; 44—e, 44:13; 45—a, 44:18; 46—b, 45:27; 47—c, 43:3; 48—d, 45:19; 49—a, 45:10; 50—c, 45:16; 51—a, 46:1; 52—b, 46:33; 53—c, 46:12; 54—a, 46:23; 55—b, 46:17; 56—d, 47:1; 57—b, 47:29; 58—b, 47:9; 59—c, 47:17; 60—d, 47:11; 61—c, 48:2; 62—a, 48:20; 63—b, 48:7; 64—c, 48:14; 65—d, 48:5,11,16; 66—c, 49:8; 67—c, 49:27; 68—b, 49:30, 50:13; 69—a, 50:3; 70—49:29.]

VI. Lessons & Applications.

1. **...and when she saw that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months** (Ex 2:2). The word GOODLY here simply means handsome or good looking. What mother would not find their child to be goodly. Of course, this was a dangerous act of rebelling against the clear order of the Pharaoh at this time. According to the Pharaoh, the child, being a male, was to be cast into the river (Ex 1:22). His intent being to gain greater control over these Hebrews, whom he feared. What courage is seen in this Levite family! Their courage causes them to be listed in the great faith chapter of the New Testament, where it is said that they were not afraid of the king's commandment (Heb 11:23). Whenever the time comes that we are given orders by the civil government that would cause us to violate God's will, we need to look to Moses' parents as an example to follow. We must obey God rather than men (Acts 5:29).
2. **And his sister stood afar off, to wit what would be done to him** (Ex 2:4). There are many parts of the Bible that are quite humorous in a subtle way. The Pharaoh said throw the male babies into the river. Here the parents of Moses had devised a careful plan to do just that, but in doing so, they took safeguards for the protection of the child. Moses was cast into the river, but it was done gently inside of a device that would keep him from harm. And into whose home does the child wind up—the home of the one who ordered all male Hebrew babies thrown into the river. Of course, we can see the providential care of God in the protection this child was given.
3. **And the child grew....** (Ex 2:10). With the enormous advantage of having his own Hebrew mother to nurse him and care for him and teach him about his people coupled with the advantages of living in Pharaoh's household, Moses was receiving the best kind of training for the task God would call him to accomplish. The Bible tells us that he was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was mighty in words and deeds (Acts 7:22). His life was divided naturally into three 40-year periods: 40 in Egypt learning the wisdom of the Egyptians and about his heritage from his mother; 40 in the

wilderness preparing for the 40 years of wandering yet to come; 40 years leading the children of Israel in the wilderness.

4. **...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 ... and he slew the Egyptian...** (Ex 2:11-12). The compassion Moses had for his own people is something to admire and appreciate, however, his action was wrong and he should have been in better control.

VII. Seek-A-Word Puzzle.

Q A H Z W S X C D E R F V B G T Y R U J
M N I H H Y T G B V F R E E D C E W S X
Q A D X Z M N B V C X Z M V E V W S X C
R F E V H E B R E W S T I G I B V F R E
D C W S X Z A Q W S C C L R V B N M L K
J J H G F D S A P O H U S Y T R E W Q A
C V B N M L B J H G I F D S A P O I U Y
D R F V B G T A Y H L N M J U I K S O L
A T G B K R F V B C D D E W W S X I Q A
U Z X R C V B N M E R B V C E X Z S V F
G R A T G B N U D J E I K Y H P T T G B
H V F R E D C E W S N X C V B N T E M K
T U J N H Y B T G B V F R E D C X R S W
E S E H S U R L U B W S X C D E R F V B
R G T Y A Y H N M J U I K L O P Y H N T
G B V D M N B V S C X Z P I T C H Q A Z
Z X S W E D C G R F V B G T Y H N M J U
I M J L K I A O P I U Y T R E W Q A M K
H G F D S L A Z X S W E D C D I A M V F
R T G B F Y H N F E T C H R F V C D E W

[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]

³And 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. ⁴And his **sister** stood afar off, to wit what would be done to him. ⁵And 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. ⁶And 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**.