

## **RECAP: Early World & Patriarchs**

### **Part 1: CREATION- recap**

We learned the stories of creation. Are they facts? We don't say whether or not they are facts because that's not the point. The point is the WHY of what happens in the early world.

- **God loves us and God can be trusted; God made the world from nothing; sin entered the world when Adam and Eve (or the first humans) decided to NOT trust God and disobeyed him**
- Sin has entered the world with Adam and Eve

### **Part 2: PATRIARCHS-**

- We learned about Abram who God makes 3 promises: **1) give him land in Canaan 2) his name would be great and a great nation would come from him 3) the entire earth would be blessed through him.** Thus he would be the Father of All Nations! Abraham is a huge player in the salvation story. God changed his name to Abraham and his wife whom God changed her name to Sarah- because God is giving that person a new mission
- Abraham's lineage is important because it's from his line of descendants that the true king will be born: Jesus.
- God blessed Abraham and Sarah w/ a son Isaac- He is the patriarch and Jews, Christians and Muslims look to him as their father.
- Isaac had which 2 sons (Jacob and Esau) and what happened? (Jacob stole Esau's blessing and inheritance)
- Jacob then ran away and married. He had how many sons? (12) and these sons became known as the what? (12 tribes of Israel). Which son was most famous and why? (Joseph because he was sold into slavery in Egypt and later his family came there.

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## **Book of Exodus**

### **SLAVERY IN EGYPT & Birth of Moses (Exodus 1-2:22)**

(Background) Exodus begins after Joseph had been sold into slavery, was hired on by the pharaoh, was helping rule the country during economic despair and ultimately after Joseph's family moved into Egypt where they would have food. Eventually Joseph and his family died, however the Israelites (Joseph's people) had many children and prospered in Egypt. A new king came to power and saw that the Israelites were so many that he felt threatened. He was concerned that if they were ever to go to war then the Israelites might join an opposing army. Thus he decided to tax and oppress the Israelites with forced labor. Before long they became slaves. In addition, the pharaoh demanded that all Israelite male children who were born were to be killed. (then the story of Moses begins)

### **The Oppression of the Israelites in Egypt**

**Jacob's Descendants in Egypt.** <sup>5</sup> The total number of Jacob's direct descendants<sup>[c]</sup> was seventy. Joseph was already in Egypt. <sup>6</sup> Now Joseph and all his brothers and that whole generation died. <sup>7</sup> But the Israelites multiplied and became so very numerous that the land was filled with them.<sup>[d]</sup>

**The Oppression.** <sup>8</sup> Then a new king, who knew nothing of Joseph, rose to power in Egypt. He said to his people, "See! The Israelite people have multiplied and become more numerous than we are! <sup>10</sup> Come, let us stop their increase; otherwise, in time of war they too may join our enemies to fight against us, and so leave the

land.” They oppressed them with forced labor. Yet the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied so that the Egyptians began to loathe the Israelites. <sup>13</sup> So the Egyptians reduced the Israelites to cruel slavery.

**Command to the Midwives.** <sup>22</sup> Pharaoh then commanded all his people, “Throw into the Nile every boy that is born, but you may let all the girls live.”

**Birth and Adoption of Moses.** <sup>1</sup> Now a man<sup>[i]</sup> of the house of Levi married a Levite woman, <sup>2</sup> and the woman conceived and bore a son. Seeing what a fine child he was, she hid him for three months. <sup>3</sup> But when she could no longer hide him, she took a papyrus basket, and putting the child in it, placed it among the reeds on the bank of the Nile. <sup>4</sup> His sister stationed herself at a distance to find out what would happen to him.

<sup>5</sup> Then Pharaoh’s daughter came down to bathe at the Nile, while her attendants walked along the bank of the Nile. Noticing the basket among the reeds, she sent her handmaid to fetch it. <sup>6</sup> On opening it, she looked, and there was a baby boy .., and he became her son. She named him Moses; for she said, “I drew him out of the water.”

**Moses’ Flight to Midian.** <sup>11</sup> On one occasion, after Moses had grown up, he saw an Egyptian striking a Hebrew, one of his own kinsmen. He killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. When Pharaoh heard of the affair, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from Pharaoh and went to the land of Midian.<sup>[o]</sup> There he sat down by a well.

## **THE BURNING BUSH (Exodus 2:22 – 4:22)**

### **BACKGROUND**

Moses has just fled to Midian (a far off land) after killing an Egyptian. Moses married and settled in the foreign land. Meanwhile in Egypt God’s people (the Israelites) were suffering greatly and GOD HEARD THEIR CRY and God remembered his promise/covenant w/ Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Moses sees the burning bush and that is where God speaks to him- reminding him that he is on holy ground and thus must remove his sandals. God tells Moses that he will go and bring the Israelites out of Egypt. Moses replies “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and lead the Israelites out of Egypt?” Moses lack confidence and the ability to speak. Moses asks for God’s name (something that no one has ever asked for and something that no one knows.) God’s name is important because to know one’s name is to know someone. This shows us the extreme significance in a name. God tells Moses that God’s name is “I am who am”. God tells Moses what he is to do. Moses replied as many of us sometimes do and said “BUT”. He lacked confidence in God that this could be done by him. God assures him that God will be with him and he gives him Aaron as his assistant.

**The Burning Bush.** A long time passed, during which the king of Egypt died. The Israelites cried from slavery God heard their moaning and God was mindful of his covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Meanwhile Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law. Leading the flock beyond the wilderness, he came to the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD\* appeared to him as fire flaming out of a bush. When he looked, although the bush was on fire, it was not being consumed. So Moses decided, “I must turn aside to look at this remarkable sight. Why does the bush not burn up?” When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to look, God called out to him from the bush: Moses! Moses! He answered, “Here I am.” God said: Do not come near! Remove your sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father,\* he continued, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

**The Call and Commission of Moses.** But the LORD said: Now, go! I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.

But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” God answered: I will be with you; “But,” said Moses to God, “if I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what do I tell them?” God replied to Moses: I am who I am.\* Then he added: This is what you will tell the Israelites: I AM has sent me to you. God spoke further to Moses: This is what you will say to the Israelites: The LORD, the God of your ancestors, has sent me to you. This is my name forever; this is my title for all generations. So now, let us go a three days’ journey in the wilderness to offer sacrifice to the LORD, our God. Yet I know that the king of Egypt will not allow you to go unless his hand is forced. So I will stretch out my hand and strike Egypt with all the wondrous deeds I will do in its midst. After that he will let you go.

“But,” objected Moses, “suppose they do not believe me or listen to me? For they may say, ‘The LORD did not appear to you.’” The LORD said to him: What is in your hand? “A staff,” he answered. 3God said: Throw it on the ground. So he threw it on the ground and it became a snake,<sup>a</sup> and Moses backed away from it. Then the LORD said to Moses: Now stretch out your hand and take hold of its tail. So he stretched out his hand and took hold of it, and it became a staff in his hand. That is so they will believe that the LORD, the God, did appear to you.

**Aaron’s Office as Assistant.** Moses, however, said to the LORD, “If you please, my Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor now that you have spoken to your servant; but I am slow of speech. The LORD said to him: Who gives one person speech? Who makes another mute or deaf, seeing or blind? Is it not I, the LORD? Now go, I will assist you in speaking\* and teach you what you are to say. But he said, “If you please, my Lord, send someone else!”<sup>b</sup> Then the LORD became angry with Moses and said: I know there is your brother, Aaron, who is a good speaker; even now he is on his way to meet you. When he sees you, he will truly be glad. You will speak to him and put the words in his mouth. I will assist both you and him in speaking and teach you both what you are to do. He will speak to the people for you: he will be your spokesman,<sup>c</sup> and you will be as God to him.<sup>d</sup> Take this staff\* in your hand; with it you are to perform the signs.

## **THE TEN PLAGUES (Exodus 5:1-6:13; 7-8:28)**

**BACKGROUND:** God calls Moses back in to Egypt to take the Israelites away from the Pharaoh and the slavery they were enduring. When Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh he laughed at their request and put more work on the Israelites. The Israelites became angry with Moses for stirring up the waters with Pharaoh. As a result the Lord decided to show Pharaoh, Moses and Israelites the power of God. God sent a number of plagues on Egypt: water to blood, frogs, gnats, flies. With each plague Pharaoh promised to let the people go and then changed his mind.

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