

Behold, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we:^d

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^e treasure^f 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.^g

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

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.

Ham's "jihad" to eliminate the Jews by genocide

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;⁴ if it be a son, then ye shall kill him: but if it be a daughter, then she shall live.ⁱ

17 But the midwives feared God, and did not as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the men children alive.

18 And the king of Egypt called for the midwives, and said unto them, Why have ye done this

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^d The motive was envy and fear (Jer. 50:17).

^e The "Pharaoh" is probably Rameses or Thothmes III. There are various other guesses.

^f Money; see Judg. 16:18.

^g 1 Cor. 15:33; see also Ezek. 20:7-8.

^h Paul's service to God wets with joy (Acts 20:24; Phil. 2:16-17).

ⁱ See comments under Rom. 13:1-3.

^j Exod. 11:7; Isa. 31:3; 1 Kings 22:4.

^k Ivan the Terrible said of the Jews in Russia, "Baptize them or drown them in the river." Notice how God let Pharaoh reap the drowning of the babies: He drowned Pharaoh.

Chapter 2

^a Exod. 6:18, 20.

^b Heb. 11:23; Acts 7:20.

^c Num. 26:59.

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;^j for they are lively, and are delivered ere the midwives come in unto them.

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,^{5k} and every daughter ye shall save alive.

CHAPTER 2

The birth of Moses

AND there went a man of the house of Levi, and took to wife a daughter of Levi.^{1a}

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.^b

3 And when she could no 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.

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

The adoption of Moses

5 ¶ 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.

6 And when she had opened it, she saw the child: and, behold, the babe wept. And she had com-

⁴(1:16) The "stools" were two circular stones that could also be found on a potter's wheel or a millstone (see Isa. 47:2).

⁵(1:22) Since the male has the "seed," the way to kill off the Jewish race is cut off all the men so the seed stops (2 Kings 17:24, 24:14). Review the notes on Genesis 3:15, 4:1, 18.

¹(2:1) The events that take place here take place at different times according to different chronologists. You could find about five different sets of dates. Scholars tend to move the date of the Exodus forward to 1400 or even 1200 B.C. in order to get the revelations given to Moses as late as they can, or denying Moses altogether so they can exalt in people like Hammurabi (see App. 108) and "The Gilgamesh Epic." A good date for the actual Exodus would be 1500 B.C., or possibly, 1530 B.C.