

Moses! Moses!

A Brief Lesson from Exodus 1 - 3

Sunday, September 10, 2000

**When the LORD saw that he turned aside to look,
God called to him from the midst of the bush and said,
“Moses, Moses!”**

And he said, “Here I am.”

- Exodus 3:4, NASB

The Background

Time: approximately 1570 BC

Location: Egypt

Key Players: יהוה - The Lord

מֹשֶׁה - Moses, which means “drawn”

עַמְרָם - Amram, Moses’ father

יֹדֵבֶד - Jochebed, Moses’ mother

אַהֲרֹן - Aaron, Moses’ older brother

מִרְיָם - Miriam, Moses’ older sister

פַּרְעֹה - Pharaoh, which means “great house”

אֶלְבַּת־פַּרְעֹה - Daughter of Pharaoh

Situation: Israel has been 360 years in Egypt
Joseph’s 70 persons have become many
A new dynasty of Pharaohs has come to power
Israelites are resented for their success, enslaved
Decree to kill all Hebrew newborn boys
Israelites cry to God for relief

The Outline

1:1-7 The growth of the family of Israel into tribes

1:8-14 Israelites enslaved, but thrive even more

1:15-22 Pharaoh’s decree: Israelite baby boys must die!

2:1-5

Amram and Jochebed have Moses, build an ark

2:6-10

Pharaoh’s daughter finds ark, claims Moses

2:11-15

Moses grows up, kills Egyptian taskmaster, flees

2:16-22

Moses in Midian, impresses Jethro, Marries Zipporah

2:23-25

Israel cries out to the LORD, and the LORD Hears

3:1-12

The LORD calls Moses

Gets Moses’ attention

Declares who He (the LORD) is

He has heard Israel’s cry

The LORD sends Moses to rescue Israel

3:13-22

The LORD tells Moses what he must now do

The Words

Lord - יהוה -- Yahweh or Jehovah = “the existing One,” the proper name of the one true God. Note that this was unpronounced out of reverence for God, and the word for Lord was substituted when the text was read. This proper name of God first appears in Exodus 3:14, in Moses’ encounter with God at the burning bush.

Ark - תִּבְתָּ -- a chest, box, or boat. This term is used in the account of Noah and the flood.

The Final Word

By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's edict. By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, choosing rather to endure ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, considering the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he was looking to the reward. - Hebrews 11:23-26, NASB

So God heard their groaning; and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God saw the sons of Israel, and God took notice *of them*. - Exodus 2:24, NASB