

## Moses the Deliverer

I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God, who brought you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians.— Exodus 6:7

**W**hen Jacob died, the age of patriarchs such as Noah, Abraham, and Isaac was over, which meant the end of God's special favor to individuals. His favor was now with the nation of Israel. All the families had grown large; they were called "the twelve tribes of Israel."

The families continued to grow until the Egyptians became worried that the Israelites would become too powerful, perhaps even taking over their country. They made slaves of the Hebrew people and worked them hard, but still they multiplied. So an order went out that all the Hebrew babies were to be killed.

When Moses was three months old, he was placed in the little covered basket his mother made and set afloat in the Nile River. His older sister, Miriam, watched over him from among the reeds along the river bank.

There he was found by the Egyptian princess and brought to the palace of her father, who was Pharaoh, to be reared as an Egyptian. Moses' own mother was asked to care for him—surely she could feel that her prayers for the safety of her little son had been answered.

Moses received an excellent education in "all the learning of the Egyptians," as well as the instruction he would have had from his Hebrew mother. But Moses could not enjoy the honors he had

in Egypt because of the way his people were being persecuted. Eventually he killed an Egyptian while defending a mistreated Israelite and fled to the land of Midian. He became a shepherd and lived there for forty years.

When God was ready for the Israelites to leave Egypt, he appointed Moses to lead them. His brother, Aaron, was appointed to speak for the Israelites in Pharaoh's court.

This commission was given to Moses at the burning bush. This was a bush which apparently was on fire, yet it did not burn up! Moses had learned a great lesson in humility while he lived in Midian and now God could use him in his plans to have the Israelites return to Canaan. So Moses became the great leader and man of God whom Pharaoh dreaded and the Hebrews needed (Acts 7:30-36).



Original Photo-Drama slide

Baby Moses was placed in a basket in the Nile River and found by a princess.