

## Exodus 2

JPS [\[Online\]](#)

### **The Birth and Adoption of Moses**

([Acts 7:20–22](#); [Hebrews 11:23](#))

<sup>1</sup>And there went a man of the house of Levi, and took to wife a daughter of Levi. <sup>2</sup>And the woman conceived, and bore a son; and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months. <sup>3</sup>And when she could not longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch; and she put the child therein, and laid it in the flags by the river's brink. <sup>4</sup>And his sister stood afar off, to know what would be done to him.

<sup>5</sup>And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe in the river; and her maidens walked along by the river-side; and she saw the ark among the flags, and sent her handmaid to fetch it. <sup>6</sup>And she opened it, and saw it, even the child; and behold a boy that wept. And she had compassion on him, and said: 'This is one of the Hebrews' children.' <sup>7</sup>Then said his sister to Pharaoh's daughter: 'Shall I go and call

thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee?' <sup>8</sup>And Pharaoh's daughter said to her: 'Go.' And the maiden went and called the child's mother. <sup>9</sup>And Pharaoh's daughter said unto her: 'Take this child away, and nurse it for me, and I will give thee thy wages.' And the woman took the child, and nursed it. <sup>10</sup>And the child grew, and she brought him unto Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. And she called his name Moses, and said: 'Because I drew him out of the water.'

## **The Rejection and Flight of Moses**

(Acts 7:23–29)

<sup>11</sup>And it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown up, that he went out unto his brethren, and looked on their burdens; and he saw an Egyptian smiting a Hebrew, one of his brethren. <sup>12</sup>And he looked this way and that way, and when he saw that there was no man, he smote the Egyptian, and hid him in the sand. <sup>13</sup>And he went out the second day, and, behold, two men of the Hebrews were striving together; and he said to him that did the wrong: 'Wherefore smitest thou thy fellow?' <sup>14</sup>And he said: 'Who made thee a ruler and a judge over us? thinkest thou to kill me, as thou didst kill the Egyptian?' And Moses feared, and said: 'Surely the thing is known.'

<sup>15</sup>Now when Pharaoh heard this thing, he sought to slay Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh, and dwelt in the land of Midian; and he sat down by a well.

<sup>16</sup>Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters; and they came and drew water, and filled the troughs to water their father's flock. <sup>17</sup>And the shepherds came and drove them away; but Moses stood up and helped them, and watered their flock. <sup>18</sup>And when they came to Reuel their father, he said: 'How is it that ye are come so soon to-day?' <sup>19</sup>And they said: 'An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds, and moreover he drew water for us, and watered the flock.' <sup>20</sup>And he said unto his daughters: 'And where is he? Why is it that ye have left the man? call him, that he may eat bread.' <sup>21</sup>And Moses was content to dwell with the man; and he gave Moses Zipporah his daughter. <sup>22</sup>And she bore a son, and he called his name Gershom; for he said: 'I have been a stranger in a strange land.'

## **God Hears the Cry of the Israelites**

<sup>23</sup>And it came to pass in the course of those many days that the king of Egypt died; and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage. <sup>24</sup>And God heard their groaning, and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. <sup>25</sup>And God saw the children of Israel, and God took cognizance of them.