

Exodus 1

King James Version (KJV)

(The name of this Book in Hebrew is - These are the names;
In Greek Exodus means – going forth; as foretold in Genesis-15:13)

1 Now these are the names of the children of Israel, which came into Egypt; every man and his household came with Jacob.

2 Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah,

3 Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin,

4 Dan, and Naphtali, Gad, and Asher.

5 And all the souls that came out of the loins of Jacob were seventy souls: for Joseph was in Egypt already. (70 people went into Egypt; now 2 million will come out – 400 years later)

6 And Joseph died, and all his brethren, and all that generation.

7 And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceeding mighty; and the land was filled with them. (They worked hard and remained healthy. Their numbers increased greatly with God's blessings)

8 Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph. (Time passed; gratitude to the Israelites was forgotten)

9 And he said unto his people, Behold, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we: (They became a perceived threat to the power structure of Egypt)

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. (The Israelites were good workers. The Egyptians didn't want to lose them. By the same token, they didn't want the Israelites to rise up against them)

11 Therefore they did set over them taskmasters to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh treasure cities, Pithom and Raamses. (They used slavery to keep them under control)

¹² But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were grieved because of the children of Israel. (God was blessing Israel; so they prospered and multiplied, despite what the Egyptians were doing to them)

¹³ And the Egyptians made the children of Israel to serve with rigour: (rigour = a crushing oppression)

¹⁴ And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage, in morter, and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field: all their service, wherein they made them serve, was with rigour. (The Egyptians forced the Israelites to build cities and raise crops and herds for them. And they did it brutally)

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: (Shiphrah = brightness; Puah = splendid) (These midwives delivered babies to the Hebrews)

¹⁶ And he said, When ye do the office of a midwife to the Hebrew women, and see them upon the stools; if it be a son, then ye shall kill him: but if it be a daughter, then she shall live. (This is mass murder. Kill all the males at birth to ensure that the Israelites can't raise an army and revolt)

NOTE: (Centuries later, Herod tried to do the same thing to stop the birth of Jesus. He murdered all the boys under 2 years old)

¹⁷ But the midwives feared God, and did not as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the men children alive. (They were good women who refused to commit murder)

NOTE: (Today, emancipated women think nothing of murdering a baby in an abortion clinic)

¹⁸ And the king of Egypt called for the midwives, and said unto them, Why have ye done this 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; for they are lively, and are delivered ere the midwives come in unto them. (The Hebrew women are delivering their own babies without the midwives)

²⁰Therefore God dealt well with the midwives: and the people multiplied, and waxed very mighty. (God rewarded them)

²¹And it came to pass, because the midwives feared God, that he made them houses. (They prospered and had their own homes and families) (feared = revered – it's the same word in the Hebrew)

²²And Pharaoh charged all his people, saying, Every son that is born ye shall cast into the river, and every daughter ye shall save alive. (Drown the baby boys)