

THE BIRTH OF MOSES



Passages to Study: Exodus 1:1-22, 2:1-10, Hebrews 11:23.

Read with the class: Exodus 2:1-10.

Text for memorization:

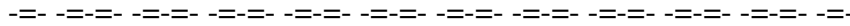
Younger: Hebrews 11:23a. "By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months by his parents."

Older Hebrews 11:23



OBJECTIVES: To show

1. The importance of obeying God rather than man.
2. That parents that truly love their children will do everything possible to protect them from things that will lead them to destruction.
3. That the Sunday School teacher also teaches children how to distinguish between what is right and what is wrong.
4. The importance of Bible teaching in early childhood.



SCENE No. 1. Israelites labouring for the Egyptian taskmasters.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE LESSON:

- Fearful of an Israelite uprising, (Ex.1:9-10), the new king in Egypt who does not know or appreciate Joseph, decides to "deal wisely" with the children of Israel and submit them to slavery.
- Pharaoh thinks that in this way, the Israelites will not continue to multiply, and thus will not endanger his kingdom.
- The Egyptians make the lives of the Israelites "bitter with hard bondage", obliging them to make bricks and build treasure cities as well as work in the fields.

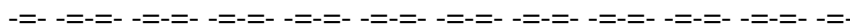
Cmt. This free labour enriched Egypt, a country considered one of the most advanced nations of its times.

- Impressive structures produced remain until today. Ex. The sphinx and pyramids.
- The hard work imposed upon the Israelites does not produce the desired effect and the Egyptians are concerned, fearful of the Israelites.
- Pharaoh decides on a new method of reducing the Israelite nation and orders the death of all male babies as soon as they are born.
- This attempt to eliminate newborn boys is blocked by the God-fearing midwives and by the "lively" (strong) Israelite mothers. (1:17 y 19).

Apl. It is important to obey God rather than man. God blessed the midwives because they feared Him.

- The failure to diminish the Israelite population leads Pharaoh to find another way to kill the newborn boys, and a new decree is announced.

Cns. Often people act foolishly because of unfounded fears. Pharaoh did so.



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SCENE No. 2. In a house.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE LESSON:

- A law was published requiring that all the males born to Israelite women be thrown into the river so they will die.
- It would be easy to see if this order is carried out, as there ought to be no male babies in any of the Israelite homes.
- After the new law comes into effect, a boy is born to a God-fearing Levite family which knows and understands God's purposes for Israel.
- Hebrews 11:23 speaks of the faith of Moses' parents in hiding him.
- True parental love is seen in concern for preserving a child's life, knowing that there are many enemies which would destroy it.

Cmt. The world, the flesh and Satan all work against the preservation of human life for God's glory. They want to cause them to perish.

- In later years Moses would recognize the wisdom of his parents in protecting him from death.

Cns. It is interesting to consider that Moses who wrote the book of Exodus, included what his parents had done in preserving his life.

Apl. It is wise for the teacher to encourage students to reflect on what their parents have done especially with regard to seeing them saved early in life. Besides encouraging the students to reflect on this, the teacher can encourage them to being appreciative.

Sug. Think of some examples of people known to you who credit their parents with wisdom in their care and concern for them early in life.

- What ambitions would Jochabed have for Moses and what motivated her to protect him in such a special way?
- Jochabed realized how difficult it was to continue to hide the child and, recognizing God's sovereign power, places him in His hands.

Cmt. The principle that she followed in trusting in the sovereign power of God is a principle which should remain constant throughout life for anyone.

- The whole family was involved in the task of saving the child.

Apl. It is the duty of parents to counsel their children and protect them as much as possible from the contamination of the world.

- Other members of the family ought to help to protect the younger ones.
- Not only should there be a concern for the family, but students should oppose all that is harmful for their friends and companions also.

