



Way Point Chronicles

Traveling through the Old Testament by Chronological Stories

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because of the children of Israel. 13 And the Egyptians made the children of Israel to serve with rigour: 14 And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage, in mortar, and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field: all their service, wherein they made them serve, was with rigour.

The children of Israel, who had done no harm to the Egyptians, we made to be the slaves and servants of the ruling Egyptians. Even as they were afflicted, God continued to increase them and made them strong and tough. Even in these afflictions, God was beginning to prepare them for the rigors of the wilderness. The Pharaoh was afraid of their growing strength was the reason for this change. They were used to build cities and treasures for Pharaoh. The policy of Pharaoh to make them slaves was failing miserable. He had to do something else.

III- Decrees of Death to the Male Children:

After the first failed policy, Pharaoh next calls in the midwives who were in charge of the delivering of babies. We find two of these called by name here. May I suggest that God named them to honor them?

Exodus 1:15-22 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: 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. 17 But the midwives feared God, and did not as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the men children alive.

The decree of Pharaoh was death to the male children at birth. Notice however that God had place a reverence of life in the hearts of the Egyptian midwives. I cannot read this without thinking of the travesty we have in our nation of aborting babies before birth. If this had been an option in this day it would certainly have been the policy of the Pharaoh. But the midwives feared God...what a blessing.

The Pharaoh notices that his instructions were not being followed. He calls the midwives it to answer as to why. *Exodus 1:18 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 reasoning that is given is that the Hebrew women are strong and lively and deliver without assistance. The hard life was making them a hardy people ready for the rigors of the coming exodus.



Coordinates:

Exodus 1:1-2:10

Sights to See:

- 1- God uses adversity and valleys to strengthen our faith and prepare us for the future.
- 2- While Satan may wish to derail the plans of God, God still rules in the affairs of mankind to advance His purposes.
- 3- The value of human life has often been devalued for reasons that are wrong.
- 4- God worked and works in the background many days, weeks and years in advance to bring about what many think is only chance but in fact is providence.
- 5- God was conscious of the future needs of Israel and aware that they would cry for a deliver as he protected the child.
- 6- The hand of God is also seen in preparation of men by circumstances to serve Him.
- 7- The plan of God marches on.



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The reason I suggested that God honored these women by naming them is found in the next verse. ***Exodus 1:20 Therefore God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied, and waxed very mighty. 21 And it came to pass, because the midwives feared God, that he made them houses.***

This policy was not successful. May I say it was the providential care of God toward His chosen people? God was protecting them and thereby protecting the lineage of Messiah. If all the boys were killed it would be but one generation before the lineage of Messiah would be destroyed.

So, with two plots against the Hebrew people not working Pharaoh hatches another.

Exodus 1:22 And Pharaoh charged all his people, saying, Every son that is born ye shall cast into the river, and every daughter ye shall save alive. The instructions were to all the Egyptians now, not just the midwives. They were now to throw all the male children into the river. The former cruelty that had been hidden in the closet now become open policy of murder of the children.

IV- A Boy in a Basket:

Joseph had been the first deliverer of Israel that God used. Now He is working with His providential care to bring about the next one, Moses. By the way, this shouts out to us that God is aware of the situation that will develop many years before and had began the preparation for deliverance of them many years before it would come to pass. Nothing in the economy of God is done in a vacuum of time. He prepares circumstance and arranges event to meet at the crossroads of history as needed.

The first preparation of this was that Moses father and mother were united. Notice this recorded for us in ***Exodus 6:20 And Amram took him Jochebed his father's sister to wife; and she bare him Aaron and Moses: and the years of the life of Amram were an hundred and thirty and seven years.***

Amram was the grandson of Levi. Now remember that the line of Messiah is the line of Judah. Levi's descendants became the tribe of the priests. He married his father sister or his aunt. We also see this information in ***Numbers 26:59 And the name of Amram's wife was Jochebed, the daughter of Levi, whom her mother bare to Levi in Egypt: and she bare unto Amram Aaron and Moses, and Miriam their sister.***

The narrative of the birth of Moses is found in ***Exodus 2:1-10 And there went a man of the house of Levi, and took to wife a daughter of Levi. 2 And the woman conceived, and bare a son...***

We are not told if his mother named the child after birth. She recognized that because of his sex he was under a death threat and had to be protected.

Exodus 1:2b and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months. Now this was certainly a task to keep a child secret. The decree was death. If discovered he would be thrown in the river.

Exodus 1:3 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 put the child therein; and she laid it in the flags by the river's brink. When she no longer could hide him his mother made a basket for the boy and set him afloat in the river. Miriam, his older sister was given charge to watch from a distance to see what would happen. ***Exodus 1:4 And his sister stood afar off, to wit what would be done to him.***

V- Pharaoh's Daughter's Discovery:

Most of the church community knows the story well about what happened next. ***Exodus 1:5 And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to wash herself at the river; and her maidens walked along by***

