

THE RESTORED CHURCH OF GOD®

# CHILDREN'S BIBLE LESSONS



Moses and the Nation of Israel



LEVEL 3  
LESSON 4

# Moses and the Nation of Israel

**I**n Lesson 3, we saw that Jacob wrestled with God and that his name was changed to Israel. We saw how one of Jacob's sons, Joseph, was thrown into prison, even though he did nothing wrong. And we learned that Joseph's two sons were blessed by their grandfather Jacob. Now, we will learn about a very brave man named Moses.

## Israel as Slaves

After Israel and Joseph had died, the children of Israel continued to live in Egypt. There came to be more and more of them. The new Pharaoh of Egypt did not know Joseph, so he said, "We need to deal with these people wisely, or else they will become stronger than us and overtake us!" The Egyptians forced Israel into slavery and dealt very harshly with them. They made them build great cities such as Pithom and Raamses. The Israelites were forced to live a very miserable life.

Israel kept growing and growing. To stop the growth of Israel, Pharaoh

told the Hebrew midwives to kill all male babies that were born. But the midwives feared God and did not listen to Pharaoh. God blessed them for their loyalty to Him. God will take care of you too, if you fear and obey Him—no matter what. If you do what is right, He will bless you.

## Birth of Moses

After the midwives' refusal to obey his command, Pharaoh told the Egyptians, "Kill all newborn male Israelite babies." During that time, a male baby was born to a Hebrew family. After three months, the mother could no longer hide him, so she put him in a waterproof basket and placed it into the water. She did this in the hope that someone would find the basket and take care of the baby. She was very sad, but it had to be done.

The Pharaoh's daughter was by the river one day taking a bath. In those days, they did not have showers as we do today. She noticed the basket with the baby in it and said to one of her maidens, "Go and bring me that bas-

ket.” She opened it and saw the baby weeping. She felt very sad and decided to keep the baby. She named him Moses.

## **Murder**

After some years had passed, Moses went out and observed his fellow Israelites’ sufferings. He noticed an Egyptian hurting one of his brethren and became angry. He looked around to see if anybody else was present. Then he murdered the Egyptian.

There are times when you will feel upset about the way someone is being treated. But murder is never okay. The Sixth Commandment says, “Do not kill.”

The very next day, Moses noticed two Israelites fighting and said, “Why are you doing this?” But one of the two men said sarcastically, “Who put you in charge of us? Are you going to kill us like you did the Egyptian?” Moses said to himself, “Oh no! People know what I have done!” The Pharaoh wanted to kill Moses for what he did. So Moses decided to flee to the land of Midian.

## **Test Your Memory:**

- 1) What was Jacob’s name changed to? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Who blessed Joseph’s two sons? \_\_\_\_\_

3) Where did Jacob’s children live? \_\_\_\_\_

4) What did the Hebrew mother do with her child? \_\_\_\_\_

5) Why did Moses murder an Egyptian? \_\_\_\_\_

## **The Burning Bush**

When Moses arrived in Midian, he sat down near a well and had a drink of water. Seven women came to get some water for their animals, but some shepherds came and chased them away. Moses saw this and helped the women. The women returned to their father, Jethro, and told him what had happened. He said, “Well, where is this man? Go and invite him to dinner.” Moses accepted the invitation. He liked the dinner so much that he decided to stay and live with the man and his daughters. He married Zipporah and loved her very much. They had a baby boy named Gershom.

After many years, the children of Israel cried out to God, saying, “Please help us! We cannot endure this slavery any longer!” God heard them and remembered His promises to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Moses was the shepherd of his father-in-law’s sheep. One day, he decided to lead them up to Mount Horeb. There, he noticed a bush that





was on fire but was not burning up. “Why is this bush not turning to ashes?” asked Moses. He went over to the bush so that he could see what was going on. At that moment, God called to him from the bush and said, “Moses, Moses!” Moses replied, “Here I am.”

Turn in your Bible to Exodus 3:5 and write down what God said to Moses. \_\_\_\_\_

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Moses was told to remove his sandals. He did not know that he was

standing on holy ground. When God tells you that something is holy, we must listen to Him. This is why we rest and do not do any work on the Sabbath. This day is holy to God.

Moses became very afraid and hid his face from God. Imagine being in God’s presence! Write down what you would do if you were before God.

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Then God said, “I have heard the cry of My people Israel. I will deliver them from their sorrows. And I will

give them a land full of milk and honey! Go to the Pharaoh of Egypt and tell him that I am going to deliver My people. I will be with you in order to help you.” Moses then asked, “What is your name?” And God said, “My name is I AM!”

I AM means “ever living or eternal.” God has always existed. There was never a time that He was not alive!

Moses became worried that the people would not believe him. God said to him, “What is that in your hand? Throw it to the ground and watch what happens!” Moses threw his rod to the ground and it became a serpent! God told Moses to pick it up. When he did, it became a rod again. Amazing! God then told him to put his hand on his chest. He did, and it became leprous as snow. Moses put his hand back to his chest, and it was healed!

God showed Moses these signs in order to demonstrate His power. Moses did not need to worry if people would believe him or not. God was going to show many wonders. They would definitely believe Moses after he showed them these signs.

But Moses had one more concern. He could not speak very well. God said, “I created your mouth. I will help you speak to the people.” Moses begged God to send somebody else. God became angry with Moses for not believing what He said to him. We must always trust what God tells us to

do! He told Moses that his brother Aaron was coming to meet him. God said, “Aaron will be your mouth to the people. I will speak to you and you will tell Aaron what I say.”



Moses went to Egypt in order to meet with Aaron and the elders of Israel. He told them all that God was going to do. He also showed them many signs. Aaron and the people believed Moses. They bowed and worshipped the God of heaven. They were very happy!

## Test Your Memory:

- 1) What did Moses sit down by? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Whom did Moses marry? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Who was Moses' father-in-law? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) What did God tell Moses to do at the burning bush? \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) What kind of land was God going to give Israel? \_\_\_\_\_

## Moses and the Pharaoh

After Moses had talked to the elders, he went to the Pharaoh. He said, "God has sent me to you to demand that you let Israel go into the wilderness. We must worship Him there." The Pharaoh replied, "Who is your God? I do not know Him. I will not let your people go anywhere! They must get back to work. Because you burden me with such silly requests, from now on your people must go out and find their own straw to make bricks. We will not help them any longer. And they must still make the same number of bricks in the same amount of time!"

The children of Israel became very angry with Moses. They said, "Why have you done this to us? Now our sorrows are even greater!" Moses then

went to God and asked Him why He was treating Israel so badly. God said, "Watch what I am about to do. Tell Israel to be prepared to see their deliverance. I will perform mighty signs and wonders."

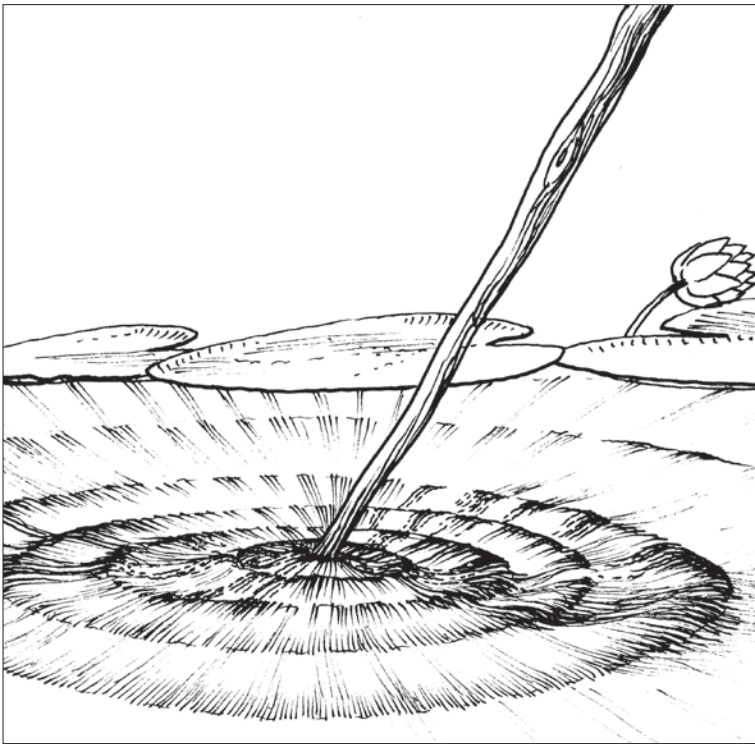
Moses went to tell Israel what was about to happen. Because of their sorrows, they did not believe him. But, when God says that He is going to do something, you can be certain that it will happen, even though you do not always know exactly when it will happen.

## The Plagues

After some time, Moses and Aaron went to see the Pharaoh of Egypt. They took their rods with them. God had told both of them that the Pharaoh would not listen to them. He also said that the Pharaoh was going to ask to see signs of God's power. When the Pharaoh asked this, Aaron threw his rod on the ground. It became a snake! The Pharaoh had his evil sorcerers do the same thing by their evil magic. But Aaron's snake ate all of the sorcerers' snakes! However, the Pharaoh was not impressed with this sign. He did not let Israel go.

God said to Moses, "In the morning, go out to the water and wait for the Pharaoh to come. And when he does come, tell him that you are going to stretch out your rod and





frogs came up and covered the whole land. Just imagine—frogs everywhere! The Pharaoh’s sorcerers did the same thing. But the Pharaoh said to Moses, “Ask your God to please remove these frogs from my land. I will let your people go—I promise!” Moses prayed to God for Him to do this. All of the frogs died and smelled horrible. Since all of the frogs were now dead, the Pharaoh changed his mind. He did not let Israel go.

change all the water of Egypt into blood.” Moses did as God had commanded him. But the Pharaoh’s sorcerers did the same thing. Once again, the Pharaoh did not let Israel go.

If you ever say that you are going to do something, make sure that you do it. When things are going badly, do not just say that you

Turn in your Bible to Exodus 8:1-2 and write down what God said next. \_\_\_\_\_

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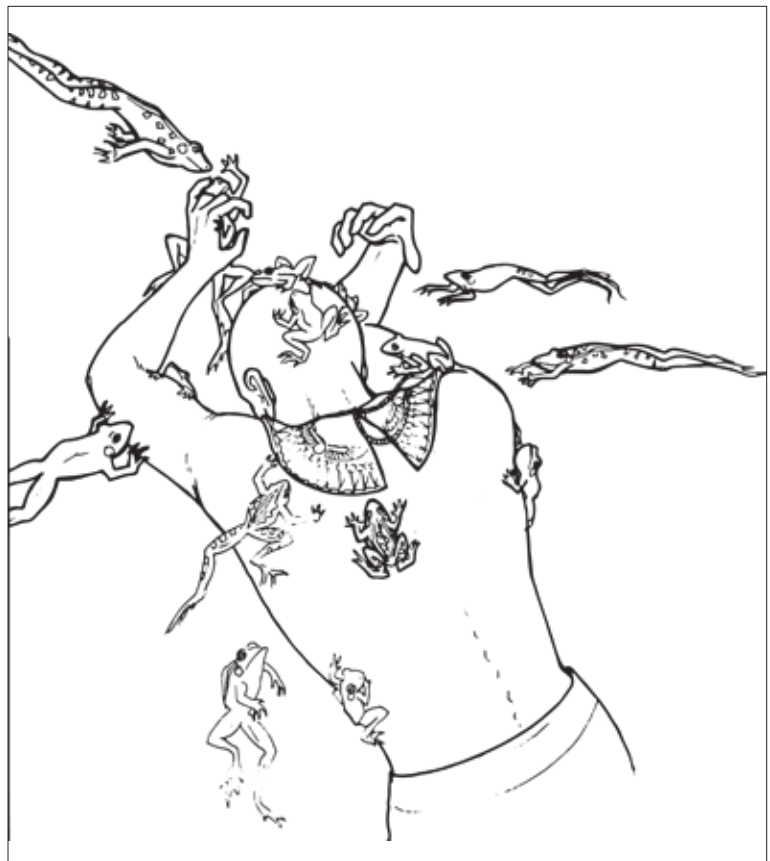
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Aaron stretched out his rod over the waters of Egypt and



will do something so that things will be better. Lying is never okay.

God then told Aaron to stretch out his rod and He would change all the dust of Egypt into lice. Suddenly, there were millions of tiny bugs. They were very annoying to the people. The evil sorcerers tried to do the same thing—but they could not make lice appear. They were very embarrassed. They said, “This has to be from the finger of God!” But Pharaoh did not listen to them. He said, “I will do as I please.”

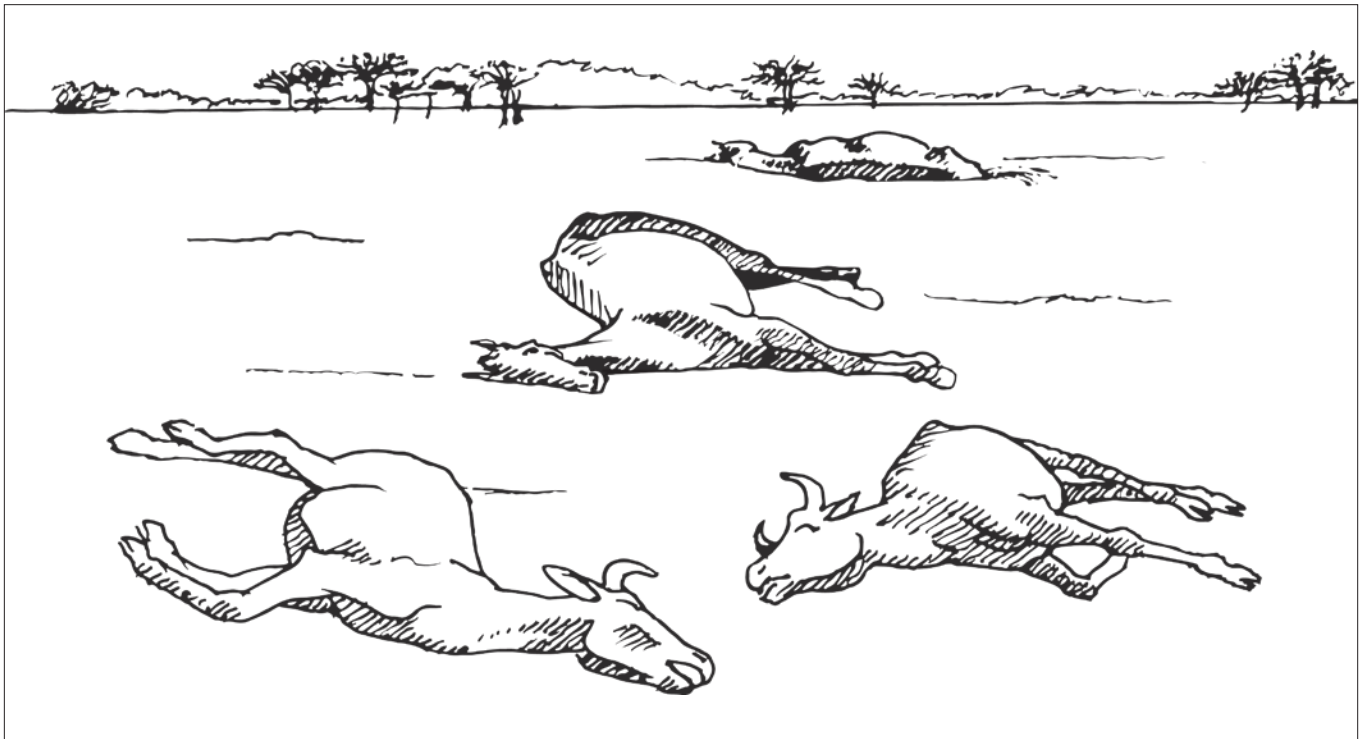


The next day, Moses appeared before the Pharaoh and asked him to let the people go. He announced that

God was going to send swarms of flies on all the Egyptians. But the flies would not touch any of the chil-





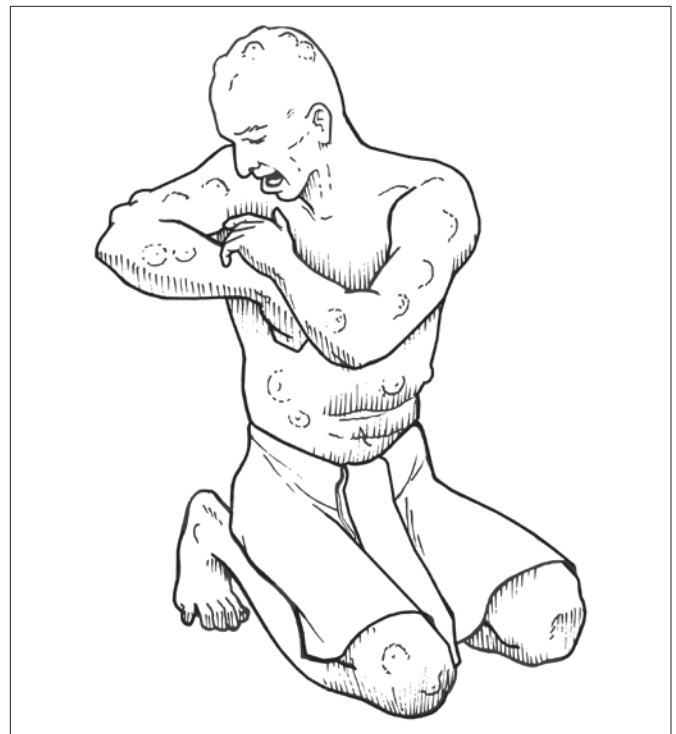


dren of Israel. The Egyptians were scared! There were flies everywhere! They destroyed all of the land. The Pharaoh told Moses that the Israelites could make sacrifices to God. Moses said, “We cannot do this here in Egypt. The people will kill us.” So the Pharaoh agreed to let them go into the wilderness. But, once again, he lied!

Moses again approached Pharaoh and asked him to let the Israelites go. He told him that God was going to kill all of Egypt’s cattle the next day if he didn’t release the people. However, none of Israel’s cattle would be harmed. God caused this to happen. But still, the Pharaoh did not let Israel go. Pharaoh was very stubborn!

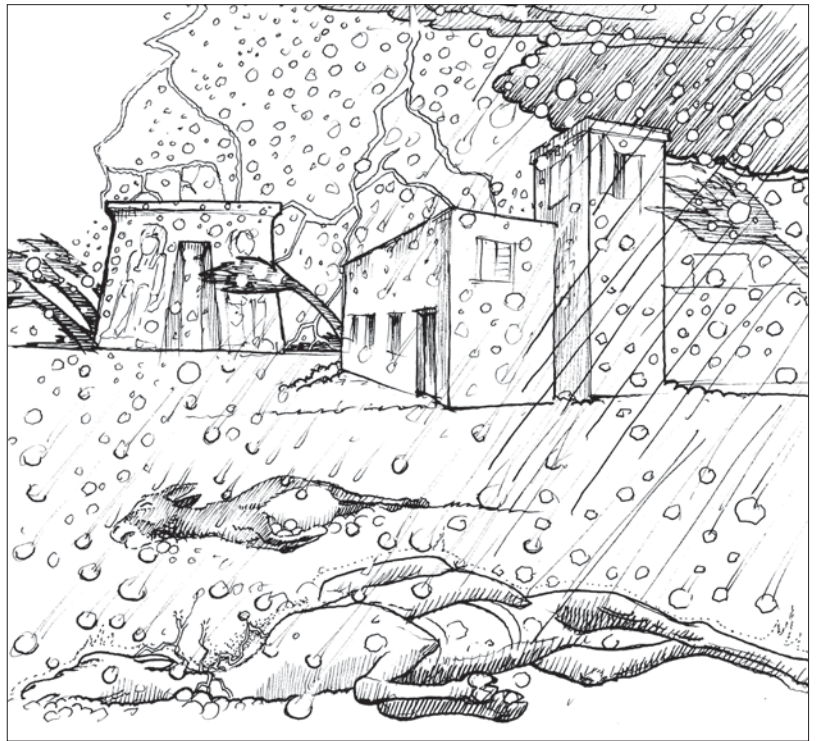
God then said to Moses, “Take some ashes from the furnace and throw

them into the sky in the sight of the Pharaoh. They shall turn into dust and cause sores to come upon all people and animals in Egypt.” Moses did as he was commanded, and very painful



sores came upon everyone. The sorcerers were in so much pain that they could not even try to copy this act. But still, the Pharaoh did not let Israel go.

The next day, Moses again appeared before the Pharaoh and asked him to let his people go. Moses said, “Tomorrow, God is going to cause the worst hailstorm in history to occur. Every man and beast outside will die!” Some of the people believed Moses and brought their servants and cattle inside. But some did not believe Moses. So Moses stretched out his rod and God caused hail and fire to rain down in all of Egypt. The children of Israel were not struck with



hail. They were very thankful. The Pharaoh said to Moses, “Pray to your God that He might stop this hail! I will let your people go.” When the hail had stopped, the Pharaoh changed his mind—again!

God said to Moses, “Go to the Pharaoh once again. I have hardened his heart so that he will not obey Me. I have done this so that you and your descendants may learn and understand that I am Almighty God!”

Moses appeared before the Pharaoh and told him to let his people go. “If you do not listen, God will send millions of locusts into the land. You will not be able to see. And all of your crops and



trees will be eaten,” said Moses. The Pharaoh’s servants told him to let Israel go. They were tired of all the destruction.

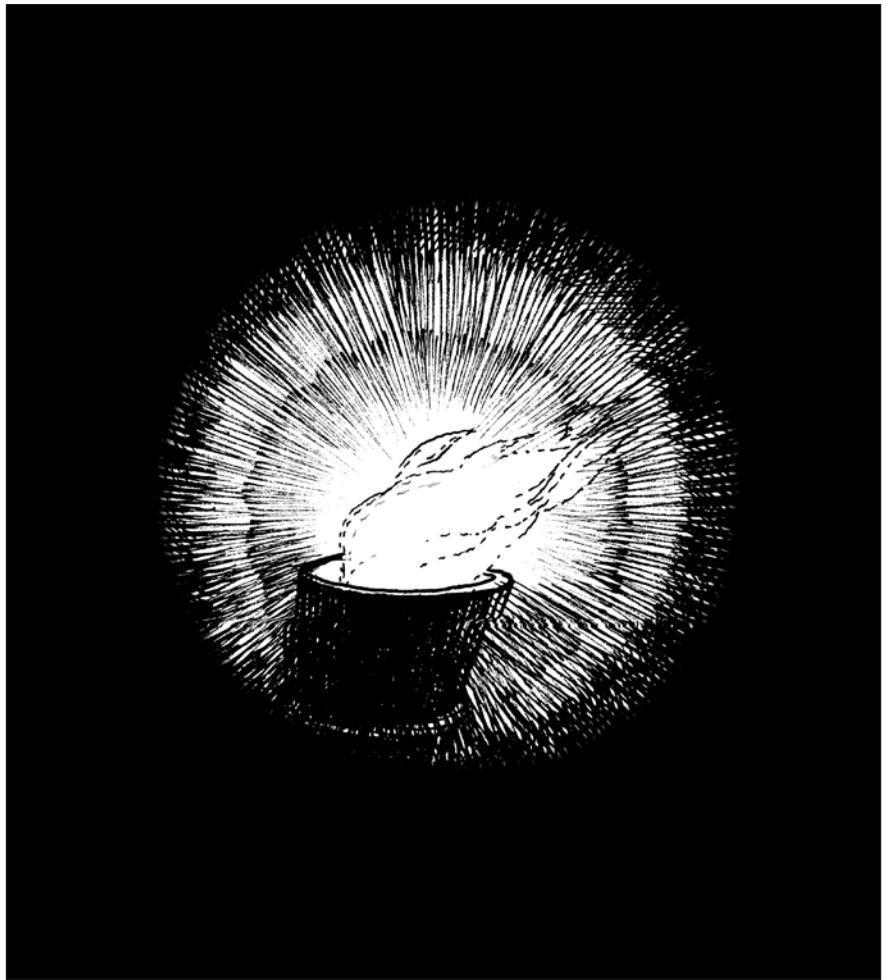
The Pharaoh said to Moses, “Which Israelites have to go to the wilderness?” Moses replied, “Every man, woman and child.” The Pharaoh said angrily, “No! Only the men may go!”

The next morning, Egypt was struck by the worst locust plague they had ever seen. Locusts covered the entire face of the land. Every single plant was destroyed!

The Pharaoh asked Moses to pray that God would end the plague. Moses did so, and the plague ended. But of course, the Pharaoh did not let Israel go.

God commanded Moses to stretch out his hand toward the heavens. Moses did so and it became pitch black throughout all of Egypt. It was so dark that the people could feel the darkness! It remained this way for three straight days. The Egyptians were very scared. But the children of Israel had light where they lived and were happy.

Would the Pharaoh ever let Israel go? Would he ever learn to fear the



great Creator God? In the next lesson, we will find out the exciting answers to these questions and more.

### **Test Your Memory:**

- 1) Did Israel become angry with Moses? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Will God always do what He says? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) What did Aaron’s rod change into? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) What did the dust of Egypt change into? \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Were Israel’s cattle harmed by the cattle plague? \_\_\_\_\_

## BIBLE MEMORY: Exodus 3:2

### A Tricky Situation

Uh oh! While you were reading this lesson, someone came along and scrambled the sentences that are in the story! Use the word bank to fix the errors in the ten sentences below. Not all of the words in the word bank are used.

- 1) Joseph's two daughters were blessed by their grandfather Jacob.  
**Correct Word:**\_\_\_\_\_
- 2) After Israel and Joseph had died, the children of Israel continued to live in Canaan. **Correct Word:**\_\_\_\_\_
- 3) The Egyptians forced Israel into slavery and dealt very kindly with them. **Correct Word:**\_\_\_\_\_
- 4) After some years had passed, Jacob went out and observed his fellow Israelites' sufferings. **Correct Word:**\_\_\_\_\_
- 5) So Moses decided to flee to the land of Egypt.  
**Correct Word:**\_\_\_\_\_
- 6) Moses was told to remove his hat. **Correct Word:**\_\_\_\_\_
- 7) Then God said, "I have forgotten the cry of My people Israel."  
**Correct Word:**\_\_\_\_\_
- 8) God showed Moses these signs in order to demonstrate His weakness. **Correct Word:**\_\_\_\_\_
- 9) God then said to Moses, "Take some wood from the furnace and throw them into the sky in the sight of the Pharaoh."  
**Correct Word:**\_\_\_\_\_
- 10) The ruler of Egypt was called Caesar. **Correct Word:**\_\_\_\_\_

#### Word Bank

Egypt  
sandals  
heard  
Moses  
power  
water  
harshly  
Midian  
ashes  
Israel  
river  
sons  
jacket  
paper  
Pharaoh