

# Moses and the Ten Great Plagues

After Joseph died, the children of Israel grew and prospered in Egypt. Many years passed. The new Pharaoh did not remember Joseph and his family.

Pharaoh noticed there were many Israelites. He was afraid they would take over Egypt. Pharaoh decided to make all the Israelites slaves. He made them work very hard. They suffered greatly and cried out to God for help. Pharaoh also ordered all the Israelite midwives to kill every newborn baby boy.

Soon, an Israelite woman gave birth to a beautiful baby boy. She had to hide him for three months so he would not be killed. But she could not hide him forever. So she made a thick basket from reeds and put her son in the basket. Then she set him in the water. She trusted God to protect her son.

Pharaoh's daughter was bathing in the river one morning and found the basket. She decided to keep the baby as her own son. She named him Moses.

Moses grew to become a powerful person in Egypt. But he also saw the suffering of the Israelites. He even killed an Egyptian guard who was beating an Israelite. Moses knew this was wrong and ran away to the land of Midian. He lived there for many years.

One day near Mount Sinai, Moses was tending his sheep. He saw a bush burning, but it was not burning up. A voice came out of the bush and commanded Moses to go to Pharaoh and demand that he let the Israelites go. Moses was terrified! He could not speak well. So he begged God to choose someone else. God allowed Moses' brother, Aaron, to go along to help him.

Moses and Aaron asked Pharaoh to set the children of Israel free. Pharaoh laughed at them, but they persisted. They warned of great plagues if Pharaoh did not let the people go. Pharaoh grew angry and made the slaves work even harder.

God told Moses and Aaron that He would send plagues on Egypt until Pharaoh let the people go. The first plague was turning the waters of the Nile River into blood. Pharaoh scoffed, and said, "Go ahead and try." So Aaron put his rod in the river, and the water became blood. It was stinking and unusable.

After one week, Pharaoh still would not change his mind. So God sent the second plague. Millions of frogs came out of the river. They went everywhere—in the houses and in the food. Pharaoh asked Moses to send the frogs away, and then he would release the Israelites. Moses and Aaron prayed to God to take away the frogs. Once the frogs were gone, Pharaoh changed his mind.

The third plague that God brought was dust turning into lice. They swarmed and attacked the people, the animals and every living thing. The pain and itching was unbearable. But Pharaoh would not change his mind.

The fourth plague that God brought was biting flies. The flies bit the Egyptians and their animals. But the flies did not bother the Israelites.

The fifth plague was a mysterious disease. The animals of all the Egyptians began to die from it. Soon there were hardly any camels, goats, horses, sheep or cows left in Egypt. But the Israelite's animals were not harmed. Pharaoh lost quite a few of his own herds and animals. Some of his people begged and pleaded with him to release the Israelites. They were scared because of all the plagues. But he still would not change his mind.

Next, God told Moses to blow some ashes into the air. When the ashes landed, great boils and sores developed on all the Egyptians. They were very painful. Some people could not even walk!

Then immediately after the sixth plague, God brought great hailstones. These giant balls of ice destroyed Egypt's crops and livestock.

The eighth plague was locusts. These insects swarmed over Egypt and ate all of the plant life. Pharaoh admitted that he had sinned, and would let the Israelites go. But he changed his mind again after God took away the locusts.

The ninth plague God brought was a thick, consuming darkness. It was so dark that the people could not see each other, or see where to walk. The darkness lasted for three days.

God told Moses that there would be one more plague, and then Pharaoh would let the people go. The tenth plague was God sending the death angel to kill all the firstborn children of Egypt. Only the Israelites that painted the blood of a lamb over their doors were spared.

After the plague on the firstborn, Pharaoh finally decided to let the children of Israel go. They left in a hurry because they knew Pharaoh might change his mind. And they were right— Pharaoh did change his mind! But it was too late, the people had already fled.

Pharaoh and his armies chased them. The armies were fast and very fierce. But God rescued the Israelites in a miraculous way.

## CROSSWORD

#### ACROSS

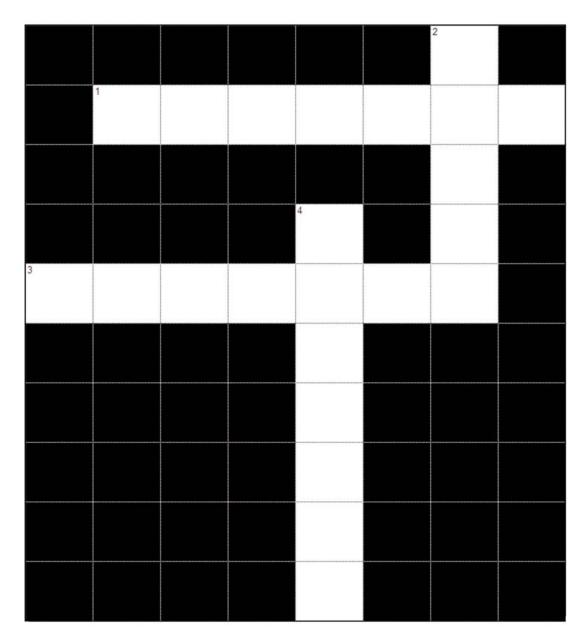
1- \_\_\_\_\_ did not want to free the Israelites.

3- God cursed Egypt with ten

### DOWN

2- As a baby, \_\_\_\_\_ was placed in the Nile River by his mother.

4- God spoke to Moses through a \_\_\_\_\_ bush





Moses was found and adopted by Pharaoh's daughter. He grew up in Egypt's royal court. He later fled to Midian because he killed an Egyptian.



In Midian, God called out to Moses from a burning bush. God told him to go to Egypt and tell Pharaoh to free the Israelite slaves. God said He would show great signs and wonders!



Pharaoh refused to listen to God. So God performed a miracle through Moses. He threw his staff down, and God changed it into a snake.



The first plague was turning the nile into _	
The second plague was many	
The third plague was dust turning into	e
The fourth plague was biting	
The fifth plague was a mysterious	





The tenth and final plague was the death angel that killed all the firstborn of Egypt, even Pharaoh's firstborn son. Finally, Pharaoh decided to let Israel go.

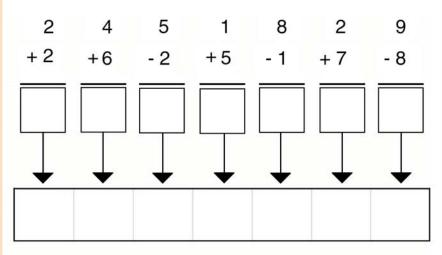
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BIBLE MEMORY: Exodus 14:14

#### MATH GAME

**First:** Solve the math problems below by writing the answers in the boxes provided.

**Next:** Use the code box to the right to write the correct letter for each number. You will learn what punishments God brought on Egypt because of Pharaoh's stubborn attitude.



	2
1 <b>-</b> S	8 <b>–</b> R
2 <b>—</b> T	9 <b>–</b> E
3 <b>-</b> A	10 – L
4 <b>—</b> P	11 <b>-</b> K
5 <b>— M</b>	12 <b>-</b> O
6 <b>–</b> G	13 <b>–</b> F
7 <b>—</b> U	