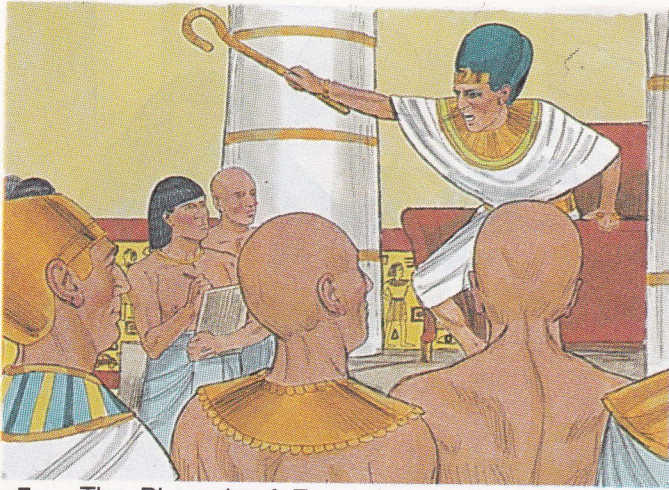
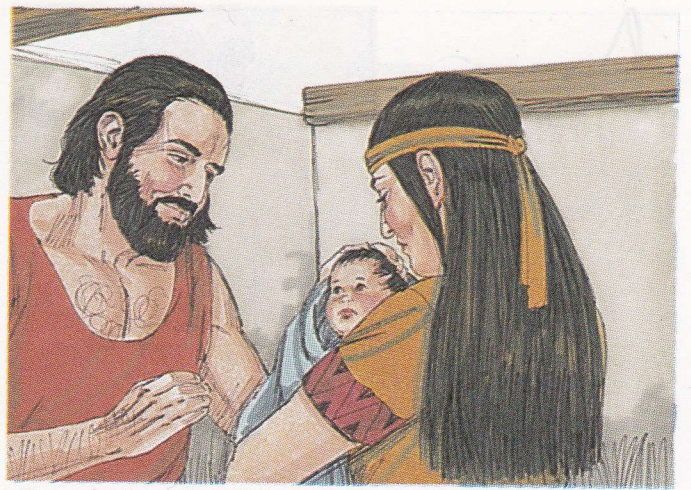


The Birth of Moses



1 The Pharaoh of Egypt feared the Israelites because there were so many of them. So he made them work as slaves. Then he ordered that all baby boys born to the Israelites be thrown into the Nile River.



2 An Israelite of the tribe of Levi named Amram was at that time married to a woman named Jochebed, who was also of the tribe of Levi. During this time, Jochebed gave birth to a son.



3 His mother loved her baby boy, and of course she did not want him to be thrown into the Nile River. So she hid him in her house for three months.



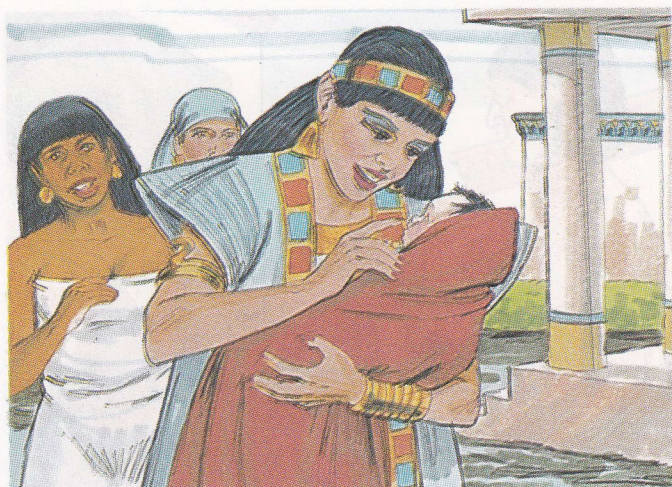
4 Finally, hiding him became too dangerous. Jochebed made a basket of reeds and covered it with tar to make it waterproof.



5 When the little boat was finished, she placed her baby in it and hid it in the tall grass at the edge of the river. The baby's sister, Miriam, watched the basket from a distance to see what would happen.



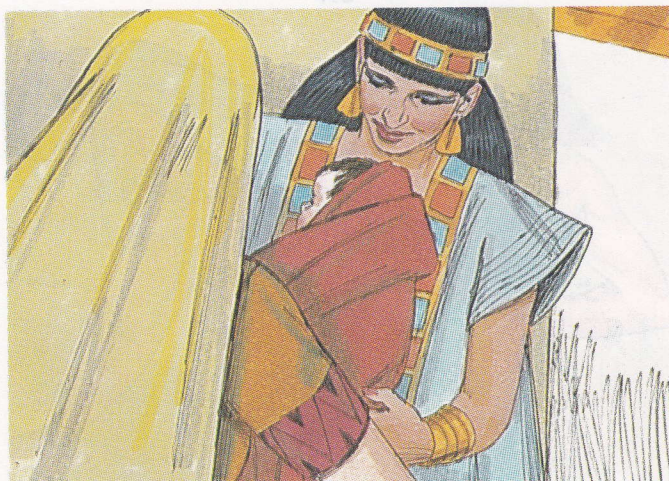
6 Before long, Pharaoh's daughter came to the river to bathe. Her servants walked along the bank. Suddenly Pharaoh's daughter noticed the basket in the tall grass and sent a slave girl to get it.



7 When she opened the reed basket, she found the baby boy. He was crying and she felt sorry for him. She could tell that it was a Hebrew baby.



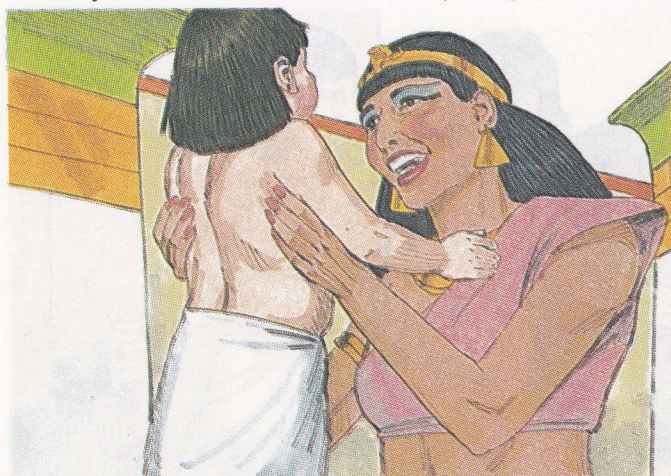
8 Then Miriam, who had been watching all this, came up to the Pharaoh's daughter. She asked the princess, "Would you like for me to get a Hebrew woman to nurse the baby?"



9 The princess said yes, so Miriam ran and brought her mother. The princess told Jochebed she would pay her to nurse the baby, so Jochebed was able to keep her baby in her own home without any danger.



10 When the boy was old enough, his mother took him to the home of Pharaoh's daughter.



11 The princess adopted the boy and named him "Moses," because she had pulled him out of the water. "Moses" sounds like the Hebrew word which means "pull out."



12 So Moses grew up in Pharaoh's household in Egypt. What he learned there would be very useful to him one day, because God intended for Moses to become the leader of the people of Israel.