

THE MIDWIVES OF EGYPT EXODUS 1:8-12

THE EXPERIENCE OF THESE MIDWIVES IS RELATED TO THE LIBERATION OF THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL FROM SLAVERY IN EGYPT.

--- **Genesis 12:1-3** Now the Lord had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, From your family And from your father's house, To a land that I will show you. **2** I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. **3** I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

--- **But Genesis 15:13-15 speaks of slavery,** "Then He said to Abram: "Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them four hundred years. **14** And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions. **15** Now as for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried at a good old age. **16** But in the fourth generation they shall return here, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete.

--- **The book of Genesis concludes with the people of Israel entering Egypt where they prospered under God's care. They were richly blessed because Joseph, son of Jacob, was Governor of the land.**

--- **But the book of Exodus opens with great change.**

--- **Exodus 1:8-12, "A new king arose over Egypt who had not known Joseph.** Look," he said to his people, "the Israelites have become far too numerous for us. **10** Come, we must deal shrewdly with them or they will become even more numerous and, if war breaks out, will join our enemies, fight against us and leave the country." **11** So they put slave masters over them to oppress them with forced labor, and they built Pithom and Rameses as store cities for Pharaoh. ¹² **But the more they oppressed them, the more they multiplied and the more they spread, so that the Egyptians came to fear the children of Israel."**

--- **Exodus 1:15 "The king of Egypt spoke to the midwives of the Hebrews, one of whom was called Siphra, and the other Puah," Egyptian names. As**

midwives of the Hebrews they had learned of God and feared Him with a strong fear.

--- **Exodus 1:16-21, "16 When you attend the Hebrew women in their births, and see the sex, if it is a son, kill him; and if it is a daughter, then she shall live."**

--- THE KING OF EGYPT DECIDED TO IMITATE SATAN. HE DID NOT HAVE THE COURAGE TO TRY TO DESTROY THE VALIANT WARRIORS OF ISRAEL, but he demonstrated all manner of **cruelty, cowardice, and barbarism by killing the male infants (Exodus 1:22).**

--- **Herod repeated these satanic acts: Matthew 2:16-18,** "When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the male children in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. ¹⁷Then it was fulfilled what was said through the prophet Jeremiah, when he said: ¹⁸A VOICE WAS HEARD, WEEPING, AND GREAT LAMENTATION; RACHEL WHO MOURNS HER CHILDREN, AND WHO DID NOT WANT TO BE COMFORTED BECAUSE THEY NO LONGER EXIST."

--- **The condition of the infants destroyed by Pharaoh sounds like the description of the childhood of the people of Israel.**

... **Ezekiel 16:1-6,** "¹⁷Then it was fulfilled what was said through the prophet Jeremiah, when he said: The word of the LORD came to me: **2** "Son of man, confront Jerusalem with her detestable practices **3** and say, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says to Jerusalem: Your ancestry and birth were in the land of the Canaanites; your father was an Amorite and your mother a Hittite. **4** On the day you were born your cord was not cut, nor were you washed with water to make you clean, nor were you rubbed with salt or wrapped in cloths. **5** No one looked on you with pity or had compassion enough to do any of these things for you. Rather, you were thrown out into the open field, for on the day you were born you were despised. **6** " 'Then I passed by and saw you kicking about in your blood, and as you lay there in your blood I said to you, "Live!"

--- **ABORTION** is another example of the killing of infants. In whatever way this act is carried out it is pure barbarianism and totally inhuman and all who are

involved in this diabolical process of destroying the lives of infants will account to God as murderers.

----- **Exodus 1:17, "But the midwives feared God, and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but preserved the lives of the children."**

--- Didn't they fear the king? Weren't their lives at stake for disobeying an edict from the king?

--- **Acts 4:18-20**, "Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. [19](#) But Peter and John replied, "Which is right in God's eyes: to listen to you, or to him? You be the judges! [20](#) As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard."

This is precisely what the midwives had to decide, to obey God or the king of Egypt, whatever the cost.

ESTER. Esther's life was at stake when she dared to approach the king without his permission. But she said (Esther 4:16), "So will I go to the king, which is not according to the law, and if I perish, I perish."

--- Let us recall the other cases of people who were in such a situation. **Daniel (ch. 1) had to choose between the law of God and the law of the king of Babylon, refusing to eat the king's food.**

--- **Rahab committed treason against the Canaanite king when she hid the Hebrew spies but she had more faith in God than the Hebrews themselves.**

---EMPLOYMENT. Many brethren know that they must obey God by faithfully attending church services, but their employment is at stake. They fear their employers or supervisors and forget the fear of God.

--- **THERE ARE MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH WHO WANT TO PUT FAMILY FIRST. LUKE 14:26, "If anyone comes to me, and hates not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brothers, and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple."**

--- A sister failed to attend a certain church service because "there was a relative visiting them" and when I told her that she should say "You accompany me" and if they do not want to go with you tell them to make themselves at home and that you will return at a certain time " and she said, "No, that would be like running them off." In other words so far as she was concerned, it's all right to put God in second place.

--- 2 Corinthians 5:11, "**Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade men, but we are manifest to God, and I hope that we also will be manifest in your consciences.**" **Knowing the fear of God, the midwives did not fear the king.**

--- **All the examples in the Bible that illustrate God's wrath cannot be compared to eternal punishment in hellfire. For example, Romans 1:18 speaks of "the wrath of God."** His wrath is seen in the universal flood in Noah's day, when He burned Sodom and Gomorrah, as well as Nadab and Abihu. Jesus speaks of the destruction of Jerusalem (**Matthew 24:21**), saying, "For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not happened from the beginning of the world until now, nor will it ever happen." But even that horrible destruction of Jerusalem cannot compare to being thrown body and soul into the fire of hell. I doubt that the human mind is capable of imagining such torture and anguish. Christ says there will be "weeping and gnashing of teeth."

--- **Exodus 1:18, And the king of Egypt called the midwives and said to them, Why have ye done this, that ye have preserved the lives of the children?** Then the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and asked them, "Why have you done this? Why have you let the boys live? **19** The midwives answered Pharaoh, "Hebrew women are not like Egyptian women; they are vigorous and give birth before the midwives arrive."

--- **So God was very kind to the midwives and the people increased and became even more numerous And because the midwives feared God, he prospered their families."**

--- **GOD ALWAYS PROSPERS THOSE WHO FEAR HIM!**
