

1 Then הוהי said to Moses, “You shall soon see what I will do to Pharaoh: he shall let them go because of a greater might; indeed, because of a greater might he shall drive them from his land.”

1 נִאמֵר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי מֹשֶׁה עֵתָּה תֵּרְאֶה אֲשֶׁר אֶעֱשֶׂה לַפְּרֹעֶה כִּי בִּיד חֲזָקָה יִשְׁלַחֵם וּבִיד חֲזָקָה יִגְרֹעֵם מֵאֶרֶץ:

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| 1 | These are the names of the sons of Israel who came to Egypt with Jacob, each coming with his household: | 1 אֵלֶּה שְׁמוֹת בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל הַבָּאִים מִצְרָיִמָּה אֶת יַעֲקֹב אִישׁ וּבֵיתוֹ בָּאוּ: |
| 2 | Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah; | 2 רְאוּבֵן שִׁמְעוֹן לֵוִי וְיְהוּדָה: |
| 3 | Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin; | 3 יִשַׁשַׁכָּר זְבֻלֹן וּבִנְיָמִן: |
| 4 | Dan and Naphtali, Gad and Asher. | 4 דָּן וְנַפְתָּלִי גָד וְאַשֶׁר: |
| 5 | The total number of persons that were of Jacob's issue came to seventy, Joseph being already in Egypt. | 5 נִזְכָּר כָּל־נֶפֶשׁ יֶצְאֵי יִהְיֶה יַעֲקֹב שִׁבְעִים נֶפֶשׁ וַיֹּסֶף הֵיכָּה בְּמִצְרָיִם: |
| 6 | Joseph died, and all his brothers, and all that generation. | 6 וַיָּמָת יוֹסֵף וְכָל־אֶחָיו וְכָל־הַדּוֹר הַהוּא: |
| 7 | But the Israelites were fertile and prolific; they multiplied and increased very greatly, so that the land was filled with them. | 7 וּבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל פְּרִוּ וַיִּשְׁרָצוּ וַיִּרְבּוּ וַיַּעֲצֻמוּ בְּמֶאֱדָה מְאֹד וַתִּמָּלֵא הָאָרֶץ אֹתָם: |
| 8 | A new king arose over Egypt who did not know Joseph. | 8 וַיָּקָם מֶלֶךְ־חֲדָשׁ עַל־מִצְרָיִם אֲשֶׁר לֹא־יָדָע אֶת־יוֹסֵף: |
| 9 | And he said to his people, “Look, the Israelite people are much too numerous for us. | 9 וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהֵי־מִצְרָיִם הִנֵּה עַם בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל רַב וַעֲצוּם מִמֶּנּוּ: |
| 10 | Let us deal shrewdly with them, so that they may not increase; otherwise in the event of war they may join our enemies in fighting against us and rise from the ground.”* | 10 הִבֵּה נִתְחַכְמֶה לּוֹ פַּרְיוֹרָהּ וְהִנֵּה כִּי־תִקְרָאנָה מִלְחָמָה וְנוֹסֶף גִּם־הוּא עַל־שֹׁנְאָיו וְנִלְחֲמֻ־בָּנוּ וְעָלָה מִן־הָאָרֶץ: |
| 11 | So they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor; and they built garrison cities* for Pharaoh: Pithom and Raamses. | 11 וַיִּשְׁמְרוּ עֲלֵיו שָׂרֵי מִסִּים לְמַעַן עֲנֹתוּ בְּסִבְלָתָם וַיִּבְנוּ עָרֵי מִסְכְּנוֹת לַפְּרֹעֶה אֶת־פִּתּוֹם וְאֶת־רַעַמְסֵס: |
| 12 | But the more they were oppressed, the more they increased and spread out, so that the [Egyptians] came to dread the Israelites. | 12 וּכְאֲשֶׁר יֻעָצוּ אֹתוֹ כֵּן יִרְבֶּה וְכֵן יִפְרָץ וַיִּלָּצוּ מִפְּנֵי בְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל: |
| 13 | The Egyptians ruthlessly imposed upon the Israelites | 13 וַיַּעֲבְדוּ מִצְרָיִם אֶת־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּפִרְיוֹ: |
| 14 | the various labors that they made them perform. Ruthlessly* they made life bitter for them with harsh labor at mortar and bricks and with all sorts of tasks in the field. | 14 וַיַּמְרִדוּ אֶת־חַיֵּיהֶם בְּעִבְדָּה קָשָׁה בְּחֹמֶר וּבִלְבָנִים וּבְכָל־עֲבֹדָה בְּשָׂדֶה אֶת כָּל־עֲבֹדָתָם אֲשֶׁר־עֲבָדוּ בָהֶם בְּפִרְיוֹ: |
| 15 | The king of Egypt spoke to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, | 15 וַיֹּאמֶר מֶלֶךְ מִצְרָיִם לַמְּזִלֹת הָעִבְרִיָּת אֲשֶׁר שֵׁם הָאֶחָת שִׁפְרָה וְשֵׁם הַשֵּׁנִית פּוּעָה: |
| 16 | saying, “When you deliver the Hebrew women, look at the birthstool:* if it is a boy, kill him; if it is a girl, let her live.” | 16 וַיֹּאמֶר בִּלְדָתָן אֶת־הָעִבְרִיָּת וּרְאִיתָן עַל־הָאֲבָנִים אִם־בָּן הוּא וְהָמָתוֹן אוֹתוֹ וְאִם־בַּת הוּא נְתִיבָה: |

17 The midwives, fearing God, did not do as the king of Egypt had told them; they let the boys live.

18 So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this thing, letting the boys live?"

19 The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women: they are vigorous. Before the midwife can come to them, they have given birth."

20 And God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and increased greatly.

21 And [God] established households* for the midwives, because they feared God.

22 Then Pharaoh charged all his people, saying, "Every boy that is born you shall throw into the Nile, but let every girl live."

1 A certain member* of the house of Levi went and took [into his household as his wife] a woman of Levi.

2 The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw how beautiful he was, she hid him for three months.

3 When she could hide him no longer, she got a wicker basket for him and caulked it with bitumen and pitch. She put the child into it and placed it among the reeds by the bank of the Nile.

4 And his sister stationed herself at a distance, to learn what would befall him.

5 The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe in the Nile, while her maidens walked along the Nile. She spied the basket among the reeds and sent her slave girl to fetch it.

6 When she opened it, she saw that it was a child, a boy crying. She took pity on it and said, "This must be a Hebrew child."

7 Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a Hebrew nurse to suckle the child for you?"

8 And Pharaoh's daughter answered, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother.

10 So the taskmasters and overseers of the people went out and said to the people, "Thus says Pharaoh: I will not give you any straw.

11 You must go and get the straw yourselves wherever you can find it; but there shall be no decrease whatever in your work."

12 Then the people scattered throughout the land of Egypt to gather stubble for straw.

13 And the taskmasters pressed them, saying, "You must complete the same work assignment each day as when you had straw."

14 And the overseers of the Israelites, whom Pharaoh's taskmasters had set over them, were beaten. "Why," they were asked, "did you not complete the prescribed amount of bricks, either yesterday or today, as you did before?"

15 Then the overseers of the Israelites came to Pharaoh and cried: "Why do you deal thus with your servants?"

16 No straw is issued to your servants, yet they demand of us: Make bricks! Thus your servants are being beaten, when the fault is with your own people."

17 He replied, "You are shirkers, shirkers! That is why you say, 'Let us go and sacrifice to YHWH.' Be off now to your work! No straw shall be issued to you, but you must produce your quota of bricks!"

19 Now the overseers of the Israelites found themselves in trouble because of the order, "You must not reduce your daily quantity of bricks."

20 As they left Pharaoh's presence, they came upon Moses and Aaron standing in their path,

21 and they said to them, "May YHWH look upon you and punish you for making us loathsome to Pharaoh and his courtiers—putting a sword in their hands to slay us."

22 Then Moses returned to YHWH and said, "O my lord, why did You bring harm upon this people? Why did You send me?"

23 Ever since I came to Pharaoh to speak in Your name, he has dealt worse with this people; and still You have not delivered Your people."

28 והוא משה לאהרן את כל־דברי יהוה אשר שלחו ואת כל־האותות אשר צנחו:
 29 Then Moses and Aaron went and assembled all the elders of the Israelites.
 30 Aaron repeated all the words that הוהי had spoken to Moses, and he performed the signs in the sight of those assembled,
 31 and the assembly was convinced. When they heard that הוהי had taken note of the Israelites and that [God] had seen their plight, they bowed low in homage.

5

1 Afterward Moses and Aaron went and said to Pharaoh, "Thus says הוהי the God of Israel: Let My people go that they may celebrate a festival for Me in the wilderness."
 2 But Pharaoh said, "Who is הוהי that I should heed him and let Israel go? I do not know הוהי, nor will I let Israel go."
 3 They answered, "The God of the Hebrews has become manifest to us. Let us go, we pray, a distance of three days into the wilderness to sacrifice to our God הוהי, lest [God] strike us with pestilence or sword."
 4 But the king of Egypt said to them, "Moses and Aaron, why do you distract the people from their tasks? Get to your labors!"
 5 And Pharaoh continued, "The people of the land are already so numerous,* and you would have them cease from their labors!"
 6 That same day Pharaoh charged the taskmasters and overseers of the people, saying,
 7 "You shall no longer provide the people with straw for making bricks as heretofore; let them go and gather straw for themselves.
 8 But impose upon them the same quota of bricks as they have been making heretofore; do not reduce it, for they are shirkers; that is why they cry, 'Let us go and sacrifice to our God!'
 9 Let heavier work be laid upon those involved;* let them keep at it and not pay attention to deceitful promises."

9 And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will pay your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it.
 10 When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, who made him her son. She named him Moses,* explaining, "I drew him out of the water."
 11 Some time after that, when Moses had grown up, he went out to his kinsfolk and witnessed their labors. He saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his kinsmen.
 12 He turned this way and that and, seeing no one about, he struck down the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.
 13 When he went out the next day, he found two Hebrews fighting; so he said to the offender, "Why do you strike your fellow?"
 14 He retorted, "Who made you chief and ruler over us? Do you mean to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?" Moses was frightened, and thought: Then the matter is known!
 15 When Pharaoh learned of the matter, he sought to kill Moses; but Moses fled from Pharaoh. He arrived* in the land of Midian, and sat down beside a well.
 16 Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters. They came to draw water, and filled the troughs to water their father's flock;
 17 but shepherds came and drove them off. Moses rose to their defense, and he watered their flock.
 18 When they returned to their father Reuel, he said, "How is it that you have come back so soon today?"
 19 They answered, "An Egyptian rescued us from the shepherds; he even drew water for us and watered the flock."
 20 He said to his daughters, "Where is he then? Why did you leave the man? Ask him in to break bread."
 21 Moses consented to stay with the man, and he gave Moses his daughter Zipporah as wife.
 22 She bore a son whom he named Gershom,* for he said, "I have been a stranger in a foreign land."

ותאמר לה בת־פרעה הילכי את־הגלד הזה והניקהו לי ואני אתן את־שכרך ותקח והאשה הגלד ותניקהו:
 ויגדל הגלד ותבאהו לבת־פרעה ויהי־לה לבן ותקרא שמו משה ותאמר כי מן־המים משיתוהו:
 ויהי ׀ בנים ההם ויגדל משה ויצא אל־אחיו ויקרא בסבלתם ויקרא איש מצלי מקה איש־עברי מאתיו:
 ויפן כה נכה ויקרא כי אין איש ונח את־המצלי ויטמנהו בחול:
 ויצא ביום השלי והנה שני־אנשים עברים נצים ויאמר להשע למח תקח רעך:
 ויאמר מי שמך לאיש שר ושפט עלינו הלהרגני אתה אמר כאשר הרגת את־המצרי ויירא משה ויאמר אכן נודע הדבר:
 וישמע פרעה את־הדבר הזה ויבקש להרג את־משה ויברח משה מפני פרעה וישב בארץ־מדין וישב על־הבאר:
 ולכהן מדין שבע בנות ותבאנה ותדלגנה ותמלאנה את־הרהטים להשקות צאן אביהן:
 ויבאו הרעים ויגרשום ויקם משה וישלח וישק את־צאנם:
 ותבאנה אל־רעואל אביהן ויאמר מהגיע מהרתן בא היום:
 ותאמרן איש מצלי הצילנו מיד הרעים וגם־דלה דלה לנו וישק את־הצאן:
 ויאמר אל־בנותיו ואני למח זה עובתן את־האיש קראן לו ויאכל לחם:
 ויאל משה לשבת את־האיש ויחן את־צפרה בתו למשה:
 ותלד בן ויקרא את־שמו גרשם כי אמר גר הילתי בארץ נכריה:

22 Each woman shall borrow from her neighbor and the lodger in her house objects of silver and gold, and clothing, and you shall put these on your sons and daughters, thus stripping the Egyptians.”

4

1 But Moses spoke up and said, “What if they do not believe me and do not listen to me, but say: הוֹדִי did not appear to you?”

2 הוֹדִי said to him, “What is that in your hand?” And he replied, “A rod.”

3 [God] said, “Cast it on the ground.” He cast it on the ground and it became a snake; and Moses recoiled from it.

4 Then הוֹדִי said to Moses, “Put out your hand and grasp it by the tail”—he put out his hand and seized it, and it became a rod in his hand—

5 “that they may believe that הוֹדִי, the God of their ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, did appear to you.”

6 הוֹדִי said to him further, “Put your hand into your bosom.” He put his hand into his bosom; and when he took it out, his hand was encrusted with snowy scales!*

7 And [God] said, “Put your hand back into your bosom.”—He put his hand back into his bosom; and when he took it out of his bosom, there it was again like the rest of his body.—

8 “And if they do not believe you or pay heed to the first sign, they will believe the second.

9 And if they are not convinced by both these signs and still do not heed you, take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground, and it—the water that you take from the Nile—will turn to blood on the dry ground.”

10 But Moses said to הוֹדִי, “Please, O my lord, I have never been a man of words, either in times past or now that You have spoken to Your servant; I am slow of speech and slow of tongue.”

11 And הוֹדִי said to him, “Who gives humans speech? Who makes them dumb or deaf, seeing or blind? Is it not I, הוֹדִי?

12 Now go, and I will be with you as you speak and will instruct you what to say.”

ושאלה אשה משכנתה ומגרת ביתה כלי־כסף וכלי זהב ושמלת ושמןם עלי־בניכם ועל־בנותיכם ונצלתם את־מצרים:

10 Come, therefore, I will send you to Pharaoh, and you shall free My people, the Israelites, from Egypt.”

11 But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and free the Israelites from Egypt?”

12 And [God] said, “I will be with you; that shall be your sign that it was I who sent you. And when you have freed the people from Egypt, you shall worship God at this mountain.”

13 Moses said to God, “When I come to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers’ [house] has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is [God’s] name?’ what shall I say to them?”

14 And God said to Moses, “Ehyeh-Asher-Ehyeh.”* continuing, “Thus shall you say to the Israelites, ‘Ehyeh* sent me to you.’”

15 And God said further to Moses, “Thus shall you speak to the Israelites: הוֹדִי,* the God of your fathers’ [house]—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you: This shall be My name forever, This My appellation for all eternity.

16 “Go and assemble the elders of Israel and say to them: הוֹדִי, the God of your fathers’ [house]—the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—has appeared to me and said, ‘I have taken note of you and of what is being done to you in Egypt,

17 and I have declared: I will take you out of the misery of Egypt to the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, to a land flowing with milk and honey.’

18 They will listen to you; then you shall go with the elders of Israel to the king of Egypt and you shall say to him, הוֹדִי, the God of the Hebrews, became manifest to us. Now therefore, let us go a distance of three days into the wilderness to sacrifice to our God הוֹדִי.’

19 Yet I know that the king of Egypt will let you go only because of a greater might.

20 So I will stretch out My hand and smite Egypt with various wonders which I will work upon them; after that he shall let you go.

21 And I will dispose the Egyptians favorably toward this people, so that when you go, you will not go away empty-handed.

ועתה לכה ואשלחך אלי־פרעה והוצא את־עמי בני־ישראל ממצרים:

וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה אֶל־הָאֱלֹהִים מִי אֲנֹכִי כִּי אֵלֶךְ אֶל־פַּרְעֹה וְכִי אוֹצִיא אֶת־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמִּצְרַיִם:

וַיֹּאמֶר כִּי־אֶהְיֶה עִמָּךְ וְהָיָה הָאֹת כִּי אֲנֹכִי שֹׁלְחֶיךָ בְּהוֹצִיאֶךָ אֶת־הָעָם מִמִּצְרַיִם תַּעֲבֹדוּן אֶת־הָאֱלֹהִים עַל הַהָר הַזֶּה:

וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה אֶל־הָאֱלֹהִים הֲנֵה אֲנֹכִי בֹא אֶל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאָמַרְתִּי לָהֶם אֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵיכֶם שֹׁלְחֵנִי אֵלֵיכֶם וְאָמַרְתִּילֵךְ מִדֹּשְׁמוֹ מֶה אָמַר אֲלֵכֶם:

וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים אֶל־מֹשֶׁה אֲהֵי אֲשֶׁר אֶהְיֶה וַיֹּאמֶר כֹּה תֹאמַר לְבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲהֵי שֹׁלְחֵנִי אֵלֵיכֶם:

וַיֹּאמֶר עוֹד אֲלֹהִים אֶל־מֹשֶׁה כֹּה־תֹאמַר אֶל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵיכֶם אֱלֹהֵי אֲבֹרָהָם אֱלֹהֵי יִצְחָק וְאֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב שֹׁלְחֵנִי אֵלֵיכֶם וְהִשְׁמִי לַעֲלֹם תָּה זָכְרִי לְדֹר דֹּר:

לך ואספת את־זקני ישראל ואמרת אליהם יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵיכֶם נראה אלי אֱלֹהֵי אֲבֹרָהָם יצחק וַיַּעֲקֹב לאמר פקד פְּקֻדָּתִי אֲתֶלֶם וְאֶת־הַעֲשׂוֹי לָכֶם בְּמִצְרַיִם:

ואמר אעלה אתכם מקְנֵי מִצְרַיִם אל־אֶרֶץ חֲנָנִי וְהַחֲוֵלִי וְהַאֲמַרְלִי וְהַפְרֹאִי וְהַחֲוִי וְהַיְּבוּסִי אֶל־אֶרֶץ זָבַת חֶלֶב וְדִבְשׁ:

ושמעו לקלך ובאת אתה וְזַקְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אל־מֶלֶךְ מִצְרַיִם ואמרתם אליו יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי הָעִבְרִיִּים נִקְרָה עֲלֵינוּ וְעַתָּה נִלְכְּה־נָא הַיָּרֵךְ שְׁלֹשֶׁת יָמִים בְּמִדְבָּר וְנִנְבָּחָה לַיהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ:

וְאֲנִי יֹדְעֵתִי כִּי לֹא־יִתֶּן אֲתֶכֶם מֶלֶךְ מִצְרַיִם לְהֵלֵךְ וְלֹא בִגְדִי חֲזִיקָה:

ושלחתי את־יָדִי וְהַכִּיתִי אֶת־מִצְרַיִם כָּל נֶפְלְאוֹתֵי אֲשֶׁר אֲעֲשֶׂה בְּקִרְבּוֹ וְהִוְרִיכּוּ וְשִׁלַּח אֲתֶכֶם:

וְנִתַּתִּי אֶת־תֶּן הָעַם־הַזֶּה בְּעֵינֵי מִצְרַיִם וְהִיָּה כִּי תִלְכוּן לֹא תִלְכוּ רִיקָם: