**CHAPTER** **2**

*Moses is born and exposed on the bank of the river; where he is taken up by the daughter of Pharao, and adopted for her son. He killeth an Egyptian, and fleeth into Madian; where he marrieth a wife.*

**1** After this there went a man of the house of Levi; and took a wife of his own kindred.

**2** And she conceived, and bore a son; and seeing him a goodly child, hid him three months.

**3** And when she could hide him no longer, she took a basket made of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and pitch: and put the little babe therein, and laid him in the sedges by the river’s brink,

**4** His sister standing afar off, and taking notice what would be done.

**5** And behold the daughter of Pharao came down to wash herself in the river: and her maids walked by the river’s brink. And when she saw the basket in the sedges, she sent one of her maids for it: and when it was brought,

**6** She opened it and seeing within it an infant crying, having compassion on it she said: This is one of the babes of the Hebrews.

**7** And the child’s sister said to her: Shall I go and call to thee a Hebrew woman, to nurse the babe?

**8** She answered: Go. The maid went and called her mother.

**9** And Pharao’s daughter said to her: Take this child and nurse him for me: I will give thee thy wages. The woman took, and nursed the child: and when he was grown up, she delivered him to Pharao’s daughter.

**10** And she adopted him for a son, and called him Moses, saying: Because I took him out of the water.

**11** In those days after Moses was grown up, he went out to his brethren: and saw their affliction, and an Egyptian striking one of the Hebrews his brethren.

**12** And when he had looked about this way and that way, and saw no one there, he slew the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.

**13** And going out the next day, he saw two Hebrews quarrelling: and he said to him that did the wrong: Why strikest thou thy neighbour?

**14** But he answered: Who hath appointed thee prince and judge over us: wilt thou kill me, as thou didst yesterday kill the Egyptian? Moses feared, and said: How is this come to be known?

**15** And Pharao heard of this word and sought to kill Moses: but he fled from his sight, and abode in the land of Madian, and he sat down by a well.

**16** And the priest of Madian had seven daughters, who came to draw water: and when the troughs were filled, desired to water their father’s flocks.

**17** And the shepherds came and drove them away: and Moses arose, and defending the maids, watered their sheep.

**18** And when they returned to Raguel their father, he said to them: Why are ye come sooner than usual?

**19** They answered: A man of Egypt delivered us from the hands of the shepherds: and he drew water also with us, and gave the sheep to drink.

**20** But he said: Where is he? why have you let the man go? call him that he may eat bread.

**21** And Moses swore that he would dwell with him. And he took Sephora his daughter to wife:

**22** And she bore him a son, whom he called Gersam, saying: I have been a stranger in a foreign country. And she bore another, whom he called Eliezer, saying: For the God of my father, my helper hath delivered me out of the hand of Pharao.

**23** Now after a long time the king of Egypt died: and the children of Israel groaning, cried out because of the works: and their cry went up unto God from the works.

**24** And he heard their groaning, and remembered the covenant which he made with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

**25** And the Lord looked upon the children of Israel, and he knew them.