



**Moses:
He Leads the
Children of
Israel Out of
Egypt and
Across the Red
Sea!**

A long time ago, in the wilderness outside of Egypt, lived a shepherd, named Moses. He lived with his wife's family and took care of the family sheep for many years. It was a middle-of-the-road job compared to the two lives he had been destined for. He had been born to a Hebrew family who were slaves in Egypt. However, at the time of his birth, the rulers of Egypt had decided that the slaves were getting too numerous. It was declared that all the new-born slave baby boys were to be drowned in the river. His mother, however, wanting to save his life, kept him hidden for as long as she could. When she couldn't keep him hidden, anymore, she put him in a little water-proof basket and set him to float on the river.

By and by, when the Pharaoh's daughter, the princess, came down to wash by the river, she noticed the little baby floating on the river and loved him. She decided to raise him as her own, which made the little slave boy destined to become a prince.





One day, he was walking around, watching his birth-people working so hard as slaves... maybe feeling just a little guilty for being so rich by chance, when his people were so poor. He happened to see an Egyptian beating up on one of the Hebrew slaves, and suddenly, he became very angry. He hit the Egyptian so hard that he killed him. Then, afraid of what he had done, he hid the Egyptians body in the sand, hoping that the whole ordeal would remain secret.

However, a short time later, when he was walking among the slaves again, he noticed two slaves fighting. He asked them to stop and not fight among themselves, but they did not respect him. One of the slaves asked, why he thought he was in charge and was he going to kill him like he did the Egyptian.

Soon, Moses was in fear for his life. He ran away to the desert!

One day while out in the desert, he noticed some young women at a watering-hole, trying to water their sheep. It wasn't going very well for them, because other, male shepherds there giving them a hard time. Moses stuck up for the ladies, defended them against the other shepherds, and watered their sheep for them.

When they returned home, their father, Jethro, asked them why they were back so soon, and they said it was because Moses had helped them. Jethro asked Moses to stay, which he was happy to do. Eventually, Moses married one of Jethro's daughters, and they lived happily for many years on the family farm.





One day, when Moses was walking along, he saw the strangest thing he had ever seen before. He saw a bush on fire, but it wasn't getting burned up. He decided to walk over to it, to try and figure out what was going on.

When he got close, he heard a voice coming from the bush, a voice that told him to stop... to stop and take off his shoes because he was standing on holy ground.

Then, the voice said, "I Am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob."

Moses hid his face because he was afraid to look at God.

The Lord said, “I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrow; and I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.... Come now, therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.”

And Moses said unto God, “who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?”

God replied, “Certainly I will be with thee....”





Then Moses asked God, what he should tell the people about who sent him, more than likely, not wanting to say he'd been talking with a bush.

“And God said to Moses, ”I AM that I AM: Thus shalt thou say to the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you. ... The Lord God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared unto me saying, I have surely visited you, and seen that which is done unto you in Egypt: And I have said, I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt... unto a land flowing with milk and honey.” Then, God told him to go with the elders, the older, wise men of Israel, to Pharaoh. He told him that Pharaoh would not let them go, at first, and that God would show Egypt many wonders through Moses.

Moses said that he didn't think anyone was going to believe him.

God told Moses to take the rod that was in his hand and throw it down on the ground. Moses did it, and when he did, the rod turned into a snake. At first Moses ran from the snake, but then, God told him to catch it by the tail. Moses caught it by the tail, and it changed back into a rod.

Next, God told Moses to put his hand inside his clothes. When he did, his hand became very white and leprous with sores. Then, He told him to put it back. When he did, his hand changed back to normal. God told him that he would do these signs before the people and that because of the signs, they would believe him.





Moses had one more argument. He said that he wasn't a good speaker. In fact, he said he wasn't good at talking at all.

The Lord said to him, "Who hath made man's mouth? Or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? Have not I the Lord? Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say."

Again, Moses asked the Lord to send someone else.

The Lord got angry with Moses, but He said that He knew that Aaron, Moses's brother, could speak well. He told him that Aaron would go with him and speak for him, but that Moses would tell Aaron what to say.

So, Moses went home and told Jethro that he needed leave to go see his family back in Egypt. Jethro told him to go. So, Moses took his wife and his sons, and they all headed back to Egypt.

He met up with Aaron in the wilderness and they talked in the mountain of God. Moses told Aaron about what God had told him and about the miracles of his rod and his hand.

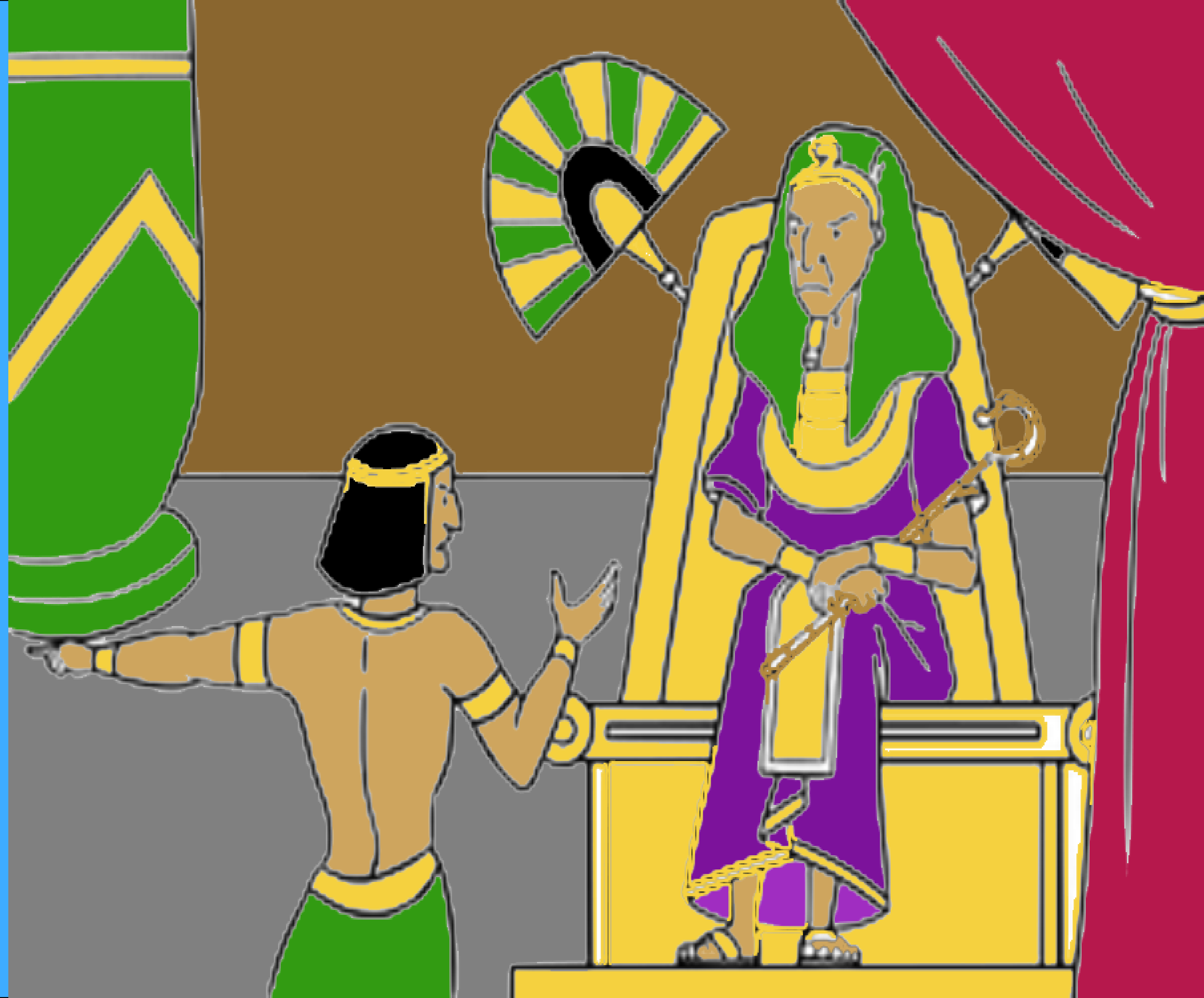
Together, Aaron and Moses went to the children of Israel and Aaron told them what God had told Moses, and he showed them the miracles.

The people believed, were thankful that the Lord was going to help them, and bowed their heads to worship the Lord.



Moses and Aaron went and told Pharaoh, “Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Let my people go, that they may hold a feast unto me in the wilderness.”

And Pharaoh said, “Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go.” That same day, Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters of the people to not give the Israelites straw to make the bricks for their building. He, also, commanded that they make the same amount of bricks as before. The people were scattered all over Egypt looking for stubble to use for straw. The officers in charge of the workers were beaten when the people didn’t make the same number of bricks as before. And the people complained to Moses and Aaron that life was worse, now, than before they came.





God told Moses and Aaron to go back to Pharaoh and speak with him. He said to throw down their rod in front of him for it to become a snake. They did, but then, Pharaoh, also, brought out magicians, who were able to throw down their rods to become snakes. However, Moses's snake ate up the magicians' snakes. Still, Pharaoh would not give in. Then, God said to Moses and Aaron to wait by the river for Pharaoh to come out in the morning to get water. Then, he said to stretch out the rod over the river to turn the water to blood. They did this. The water turned to blood, all the fish died, and the river stunk. The Egyptians dug around the river to find water. The river stayed blood for seven days.

God told Moses and Aaron to go ask Pharaoh again, and if he said, 'no,' to go and stretch the rod over the rivers and the ponds and the streams.

Pharaoh said, "No," and when Aaron stretched the rod over the water, frogs started hopping up on land. Many, many frogs covered the land of Egypt. Then, Pharaoh called Moses and Aaron. He said he would let the people go if Moses took away the frogs. Moses went out and cried to the Lord to take away the frogs, and they all died... in the houses, and fields, and villages.

The people gathered the dead frogs and stacked them in heaps. Again, the land stunk. However, Pharaoh changed his mind and wouldn't let the Hebrews go."





Then, God told Moses to tell Aaron to stretch forth his rod over the dust, and the dust became lice all over Egypt.

After that, God sent a great swarm of flies to the Egyptians only. The flies did not go to the land of Goshen, where the Israelites lived.

Then, when Pharaoh still did not relent, God sent a disease to kill the Egyptian cattle, only. Pharaoh sent to check the Israelites cattle and saw that none of them had died. This made him angry, and he would not let them go.

Then, Moses took ashes and sprinkled them toward heaven, and boils broke out on all the Egyptians. They were so bad that the magicians could not even come out to stand before Moses.

Then, Moses met Pharaoh again, in the morning, when he came out to get water. He told him that tomorrow there was going to be a great hail storm, and that any people or cattle left outside would get killed. Some Egyptians hurried to get everything inside. Others, refused to believe Moses. The next day, was the worst storm that Egypt had ever seen since they became a country. There was thunder and lightning, fire and hail. All the Egyptians crops, trees, and anything left outside was destroyed. However, nothing in the land of Goshen, where the Israelites lived, was harmed. Pharaoh said it was enough... that he would let the people go, but once the storm stopped, he changed his mind.





After the hail, some of Egypt's crops began to grow again. Moses returned and told Pharaoh that if he didn't let the Israelites go... all of them... men, women, children, and their cattle, that there would be a great swarm of locust to cover the ground and destroy everything that the hail had left. Now, even, Pharaoh's servants were telling him to just let the people go. They said that Egypt was getting destroyed. Pharaoh said that some of them could go but not everyone. Then, he drove Moses and Aaron from his presence. So, God sent the locusts that ate every herb of the land that the hail had not destroyed.

After the locusts, God sent a great darkness, so that there was no light, at all, in the land of Egypt for three days. The darkness was so great that none of the Egyptians left their houses. However, the Israelites had light.

Finally, Pharaoh said that all of the Israelites could leave just not their cattle. Moses said that they would be taking their cattle, too, but Pharaoh said, "No."

God told Moses that he would be sending one final plague, and this time, they would be leaving. In fact, He said that the Egyptians would be pushing them to get out. He told them to get ready.



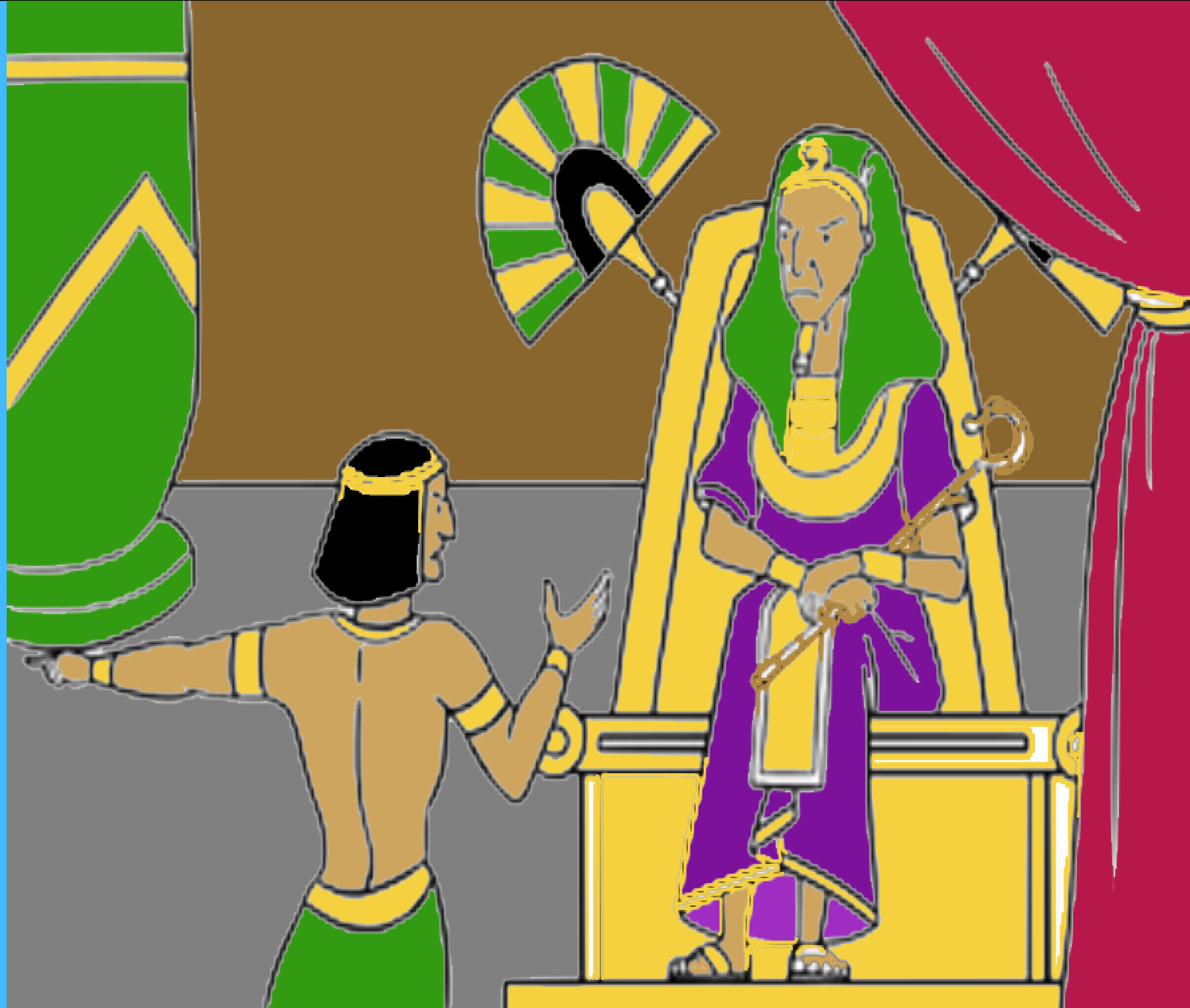


Moses and Aaron told the people that they all needed to get a lamb ready for the passover night. That if a household didn't have a lamb for supper, they should share with a neighbor. Then, on the fourteenth day of the month, everyone would kill their lamb and make it for a feast for supper. Then, they should mix the lambs blood with hyssop and sprinkle it on their doorpost, for the death angel to see, and everyone should be ready to leave that night.

On the fourteenth day of the month, all the Israelites did as they were asked. Then, that night, the death angel came down and killed the firstborn of every person and cattle that did not have the lamb's blood on their doorpost.

Then, Pharaoh woke up in the middle of the night and saw that his first-born was dead. All his servants and all the Egyptians saw that their first-born child was dead and the first-born of their cattle. There was a great cry over all the land, because there was not a house where one person wasn't dead. Then, Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron and told them to get all their people together and get out that night. The other Egyptians, also, hurried the people to leave, even loaning them valuable things for their journey.

The Israelites gathered together what they could, without taking time to make meals for their journey. They took their un-risen bread-dough, their families, and their cattle, and they left in a hurry... about six-thousand men, not counting children.





Then, as the Israelites were camped by the red sea, Pharaoh's army pursued after them again... after they began to see what life would be like without their six-thousand slaves.

As they came close to the Israelite's camp, the children of Israel became angry with Moses, saying that he had brought them out there to die in the wilderness, but Moses replied, "Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will show to you today." Then, as the LORD had told him, he stretched his rod over the sea, and there came a great wind, which parted the sea, causing a great wall of water on each side and drying the land in the middle.

And the angel of the Lord that led the Israelites in a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night, went between the Israelites and the camp of the Egyptians. It was a cloud of darkness to the Egyptians and light to the Israelites, so that neither went toward the other all night. Then, after Moses had stretched forth his hand to dry the sea, the children of Israel... more than, six-thousand, began to cross-over on dry ground, with a wall of water on either side.





Then, the Egyptians, with their six-hundred chariots, pursued after the Israelites onto the dry land of the sea.

The LORD looked down through the pillar of cloud and fire in the morning and troubled the host of the Egyptians, and took off the their chariot wheels, so they had to drive their horses hard to keep moving. Then, they began to say to each other, “Let us flee from the face of Israel; for the Lord fighteth for them.”

After the Israelites were all across, God told Moses to stretch his hand back over the sea to get the water to return and cover the Egyptians. Moses did as he was instructed, and the water roared down, swallowing up all the Egyptians that had followed the Israelites into the sea, so that there was none left.

And Israel saw that great work which the LORD did upon the Egyptians: and the people feared the LORD, and believed the LORD, and his servant Moses.





After that, Moses and the children of Israel sang a song of praise to the LORD, saying, “I will sing unto the LORD, for He hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea. The Lord is my strength and my song, and He is become my salvation: He is my God, and I will prepare Him a habitation; my father’s God, and I will exalt Him.... ..with the blast of Thy nostrils the waters were gathered together, the floods stood upright as a heap.... Thou didst blow with Thy wind. The sea covered them.... Who is like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like Thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?”