

Exodus 2

Verses 1 - 2

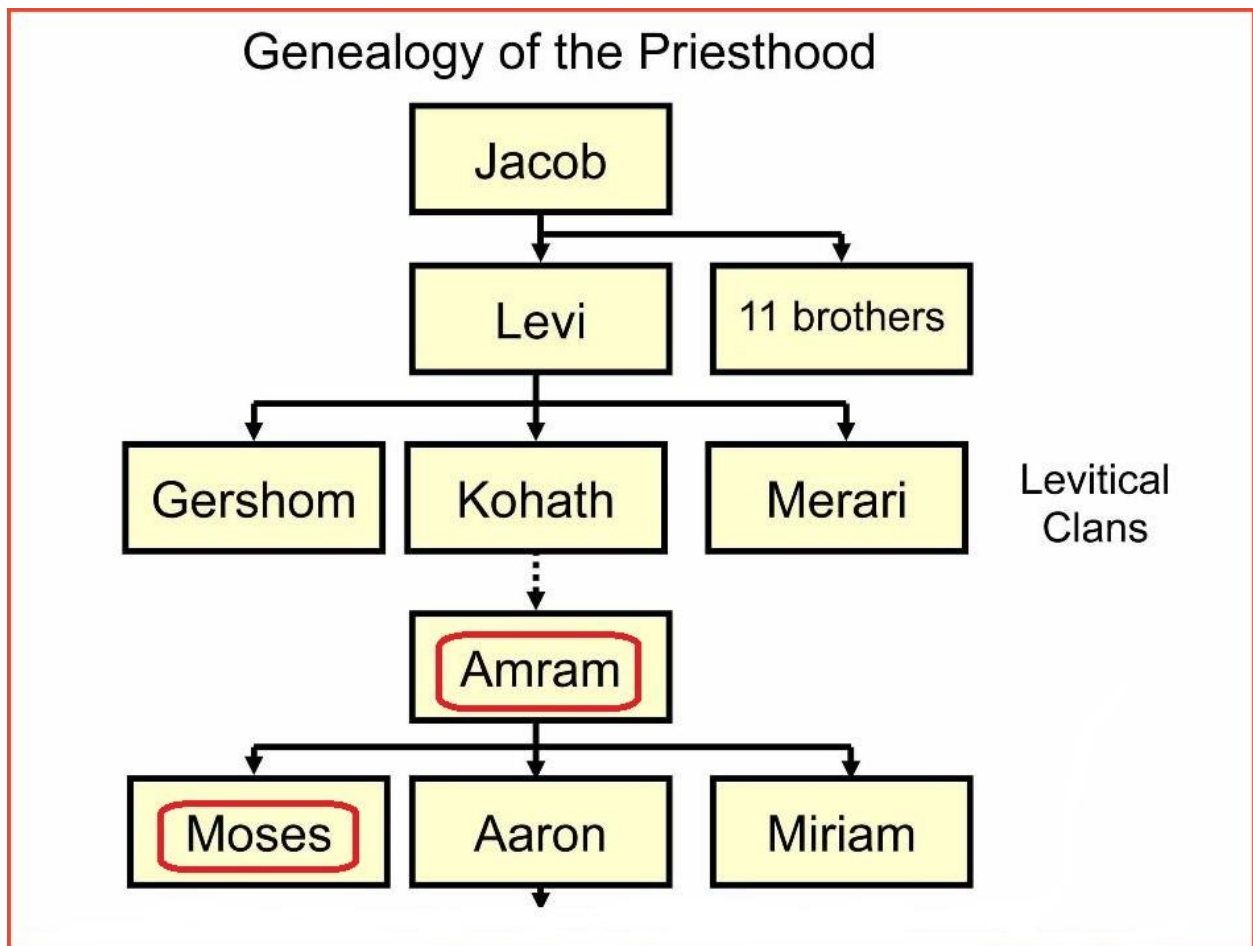
Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a daughter of Levi. ² The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was beautiful, she hid him for three months.

The parents of Aaron & Moses were Amram and Jochebed.

See Exodus 6:20

²⁰ Now Amram married his father's sister Jochebed, and she bore him Aaron and Moses; and the length of Amram's life was 137 years.

See Chart 205



Moses was born in 1526 BC.

See chart 210

Exodus time line			
Exodus	Event	Year	Place
Genesis 50	Joseph dies	1635	Egypt
1	Hebrews become slaves	1606	Egypt
2	Birth of Moses	1526	Egypt
2	Moses flees Egypt	1486	Midian
3	The Burning Bush	1447	Horeb/Mt Sinai
4	Moses returns to Egypt	1447	Egypt
5	Bricks without straw	1447	Egypt
7-11	The 10 Plagues	1447	Egypt

80 years had passed since the Hebrews were enslaved by the Egyptians. The 80 years that passed between chapters one and two would go unnoticed unless one keeps track of the biblical dates.

The defiance of Amram and Jochebed to Pharaoh's order was an act of faith.

See Hebrews 11:23

²³ **By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's edict.**

Good thing for Israel that he was a beautiful child. ☺

Verses 3 - 4

But when she could hide him no longer, she got him a wicker basket and covered it over with tar and pitch. Then she put the child into it and set *it* among the reeds by the bank of the Nile. ⁴ His sister stood at a distance to find out what would happen to him.

Wicker baskets were readily available since the papyrus reed grows abundantly along the banks of the Nile. Papyrus was used for baskets, boats, mats, ropes, sails, and even paper.

The tar she used was not native to Egypt but it was imported from the vicinity of the Dead Sea.

See pic 215



During the time of Abraham the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fell into the tar pits just north of the Dead Sea.

See Genesis 14:10

¹⁰ Now the Valley of Siddim was full of tar pits; and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, and they fell into them. But those who survived fled to the hill country.

His mother put him near the bank of the Nile because the King's daughter bathed nearby.

We find out here that Moses had an older sister named Miriam who was about 15 years old at this time and her job was to watch over the child at a distance to see what would happen to her brother.

Verses 5 - 6

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the Nile, with her maidens walking alongside the Nile; and she saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid, and she brought it *to her*. ⁶ When she opened *it*, she saw the child, and behold, *the* boy was crying. And she had pity on him and said, “This is one of the Hebrews’ children.”

The Daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the Nile, with her maidens walking alongside the Nile; and she saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid, and she brought it *to her*.

Jochebed knew not only where the princess would bathe, but when. This was an act of faith on her part but it was done after she had made a plan and done all the necessary research to give her plan the best possible results.

Verses 7- 9

Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, “Shall I go and call a nurse for you from the Hebrew women that she may nurse the child for you?” ⁸ Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Go *ahead*.” So the girl went and called the child’s mother. ⁹ Then Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Take this child away and nurse him for me and I will give *you* your wages.” So the woman took the child and nursed him.

Three women played an important role in saving Moses, his mother Jochebed, his sister Miriam, and the daughter of Pharaoh. It’s interesting that even the king’s daughter disobeyed the king’s command.

There are a number of miracles here

1. Moses life was saved.
2. He was nursed by his own mother and she received an income for her service.
3. He received a first class education which made him a great candidate to write the first 5 books of the bible. The Apostle Paul was also highly educated.

See Acts 7:22

²² **Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and he was proficient in speaking and action.**

Verse 10

¹⁰ The child grew, and she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. And she named him Moses, and said, "Because I drew him out of the water.

It seems the king's daughter was given a lot of latitude. She was allowed to adopt a Hebrew boy, who should have been put to death, as her own son.

Moses was an Egyptian name which meant, rescued from the water. In Hebrew it meant brought forth, the one who brought forth the children of Israel from slavery.

Verses 11-14

¹¹ Now it came about in those days, when Moses had grown up, that he went out to his brethren and looked on their hard labors; and he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his brethren. ¹² So he looked this way and that, and when he saw there was no one *around*, he struck down the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. ¹³ He went out the next day, and behold, two Hebrews were fighting with each other; and he said to the offender, "Why are you striking your companion?" ¹⁴ But he said, "Who made you a prince or a judge over us? Are you intending to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?" Then Moses was afraid and said, "Surely the matter has become known."

¹¹ Now it came about in those days, when Moses had grown up, that he went out to his brethren and looked on their hard labors; and he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his brethren.

Moses was almost 40 years old at this time.

See Acts 7:23

²³ But when he was approaching the age of forty, it entered his mind to visit his countrymen, the sons of Israel.

One might wonder why it took Moses so long to think about the suffering of his fellow countryman. That is a fair question but if we are honest with ourselves, we have to admit that we have also been blind, for way too long, to the sufferings of others.

At the beginning of this chapter the Hebrews had been enslaved for 80 years and now it has been 120 years. Moses will spend another 40 years as a shepherd in the land of Midian before he is called by God making their time as slaves 160 years.

¹² So he looked this way and that, and when he saw there was no one around, he struck down the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.

His action in killing the Egyptian was wrong. He had no right to kill someone for beating another person and this is why he hid the man in the sand. Moses was a hothead and it would take another 40 years before Moses would be ready to save his people from the Egyptians.

¹³ He went out the next day, and behold, two Hebrews were fighting with each other; and he said to the offender, “Why are you striking your companion?” ¹⁴ But he said, “Who made you a prince or a judge over us? Are you intending to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?” Then Moses was afraid and said, “Surely the matter has become known.”

The Hebrew man was asking a fair question of Moses. Moses had ignored his people for 40 years and now all of a sudden he was acting like he was a judge of his people. Moses may have thought he was ready to deliver God's people but he needed to learn that this should be done by the hand of God!

Verses 15 - 20

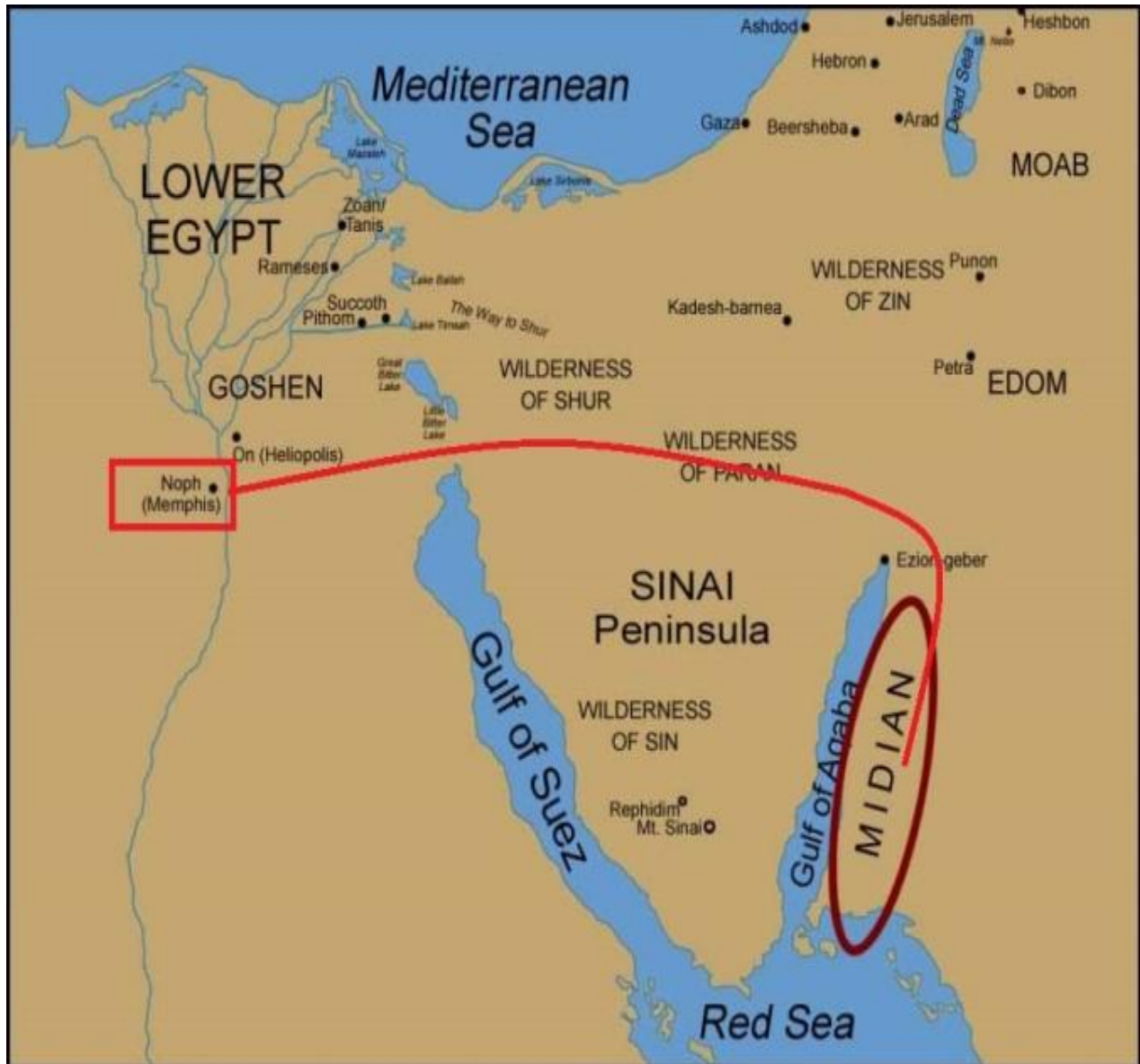
¹⁵ When Pharaoh heard of this matter, he tried to kill Moses. But Moses fled from the presence of Pharaoh and settled in the land of Midian, and he sat down by a well. ¹⁶ Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters; and they came to draw water and filled the troughs to water their father's flock. ¹⁷ Then the shepherds came and drove them away, but Moses stood up and helped them and watered their flock. ¹⁸ When they came to Reuel their father, he said, “Why have you come *back* so soon today?” ¹⁹ So they said, “An Egyptian delivered us from the hand of the shepherds, and what is more, he even drew the water for us and watered the flock.” ²⁰ He said to his daughters, “Where is he then? Why is it that you have left the man behind? Invite him to have something to eat.”

When Pharaoh heard of this matter, he tried to kill Moses

Moses act in slaying the Egyptian placed him in open rebellion against Pharaoh. No king would leave an offence like this to go unpunished but it would have been difficult for Pharaoh to do this immediately. After all, Moses was the adopted son of a princess so the king had to take unusual precautions.

But Moses fled from the presence of Pharaoh and settled in the land of Midian, and he sat down by a well.

See Map 220



The Egyptian capital was in Noph (Memphis). Moses went east thru the wilderness of the Sinai Peninsula and after he reached the northern end of the Gulf of Aquabah he headed south to Midian.

See Video 230 8.11 Midian

<http://www.levickfamily.com/8.11.html>

The apostle Paul tells us that Mount Sinai is in Arabia.

See Gal 4:25

²⁵ Now this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is enslaved with her children.

Midian is located in the Northwest portion of the Arabian Peninsula about 20 miles west of Mount Sinai

See map 225 Midian



¹⁶ Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters; and they came to draw water and filled the troughs to water their father's flock. ¹⁷ Then the shepherds came and drove them away, but Moses stood up and helped them and watered their flock.

Jacob rolled the stone away for Rachel and watered the flock of Laban and now Moses is doing something similar for the 7 daughters of the priest of Midian. In both cases the men were on the run from an enemy and willing to help a woman in need.

²⁰ He said to his daughters, "Where is he then? Why is it that you have left the man behind? Invite him to have something to eat."

A man with 7 daughters is interested in meeting a man that might be looking for a job especially if he is a single man.

Verses 21 - 22

²¹ Moses was willing to dwell with the man, and he gave his daughter Zipporah to Moses. ²² Then she gave birth to a son, and he named him Gershom, for he said, "I have been a sojourner in a foreign land."

It is possible that Reuel and Moses came to an arrangement like the one between Laban and Jacob. However, this priest of Midian was a much better father-in-law than Laban was to Jacob.

Gershom means Banishment. It seems that Moses was thinking about his own predicament rather than his son's future.

Moses will have a second son named Eliezer and his name means "Help of my God". It is still about him but it seems that Moses has a more positive outlook.

Verses 23 - 25

²³ Now it came about in *the course of* those many days that the king of Egypt died. And the sons of Israel sighed because of the bondage, and they cried out; and their cry for help because of *their* bondage rose up to God. ²⁴ So God heard their groaning; and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. ²⁵ God saw the sons of Israel, and God took notice *of them*.

²³ Now it came about in the course of those many days that the king of Egypt died.

Moses is referring to the period of time that he had been in Midian.

See Acts 7:29 – 30

²⁹ At this remark, Moses fled and became a stranger in the land of Midian, where he fathered two sons. ³⁰ “After forty years had passed, an angel appeared to him in the wilderness of Mount Sinai, in the flame of a burning thorn bush.

And the sons of Israel sighed because of the bondage, and they cried out; and their cry for help because of *their* bondage rose up to God

The slaves probably hoped that a more tolerant Pharaoh might succeed the king that had just died but that did not happen. In despair, they cried out to God, and God heard their prayer.

The Hebrews had been in slavery for 159 years (chapters 1&2). The last year of slavery is covered in Chapters 3 thru 11.

See chart 235

Exodus time line			
Exodus	Event	Year	Place
Genesis 50	Joseph dies	1635	Egypt
1	Hebrews become slaves	1606	Egypt
2	Birth of Moses	1526	Egypt
2	Moses flees Egypt	1486	Midian
3	The Burning Bush	1447	Horeb/Mt Sinai
4	Moses returns to Egypt	1447	Egypt
5	Bricks without straw	1447	Egypt
7-11	The 10 Plagues	1447	Egypt

1606 – 1447 = 159. When they leave Egypt in about a year they had been slaves for 160 years.

²⁴ **So God heard their groaning; and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.**

We know God had not forgotten his chosen people but rather the time was right because Israel had become a nation of 2.5 million people. A smaller population of people would have left too much land unoccupied.

See Exodus 23:29 – 30

²⁹ **I will not drive them out from you in a single year, so that the land will not become desolate and the animals of the field become too numerous for you.** ³⁰ **I will drive them out from you little by little, until you become fruitful and take possession of the land.**