**Exodus 1**

The Hebrews had many children, and their number grew until the country of Egypt was filled with them. Then a new king began to rule. He said: “there are too many of them, and they are stronger than we are!”The Egyptians decided to make life hard for the Hebrews, so they put slave masters over the people. Despite the King of Egypt demanding that the midwives kill the baby boys, the Hebrews continued to have more children, and they became very strong. So Pharaoh gave this command to his own people: “If the Hebrew women give birth to a baby girl, let it live. But if they have a baby boy, you must throw it into the Nile River.

**Exodus 2**

After Pharaoh had given the instruction for the baby boys to be killed, a Hebrew woman became pregnant and gave birth to a baby boy. She hid him for as long as she could but after three months she put the baby in the basket and put the basket in the river Nile. The baby’s sister stayed and watched to see what would happen to the baby.

As Pharaoh’s daughter went to the river to bathe, she saw the basket, got her servants to open it and saw a baby boy. The baby’s sister was still hiding. She stood and asked the king’s daughter, “Do you want me to go find a Hebrew woman who can nurse the baby and help you care for it?” The king’s daughter said, “Yes, please.” So the girl went and brought the baby’s own mother. The king’s daughter said to the mother, “Take this baby and feed him for me. I’ll pay you to take care of him.” So the woman took her baby and cared for him. The baby grew, and after some time, the woman gave the baby to the king’s daughter. The king’s daughter accepted the baby as her own son. She named him Mosesbecause she had pulled him from the water.

Moses grew and became a man. He saw that his own people, the Hebrews, were forced to work very hard. One day he saw an Egyptian man beating a Hebrew man. Moses looked around and saw that no one was watching, so he killed the Egyptian and buried him in the sand. Pharaoh heard about what Moses did, so he decided to kill him. But Moses ran away from Pharaoh and went to the land of Midian. Over time, Moses found shelter with a man called Reuel, who allowed Moses to marry his daughter Zipporah who became pregnant and had a son. Moses named him Gershom (stranger) because Moses was a stranger in a land that was not his own.

**Exodus 3**

Moses saw a bush that was burning without being destroyed, so he decided to go closer to the bush and see how a bush could continue burning without being burned up.The Lord saw Moses was coming to look at the bush; God said, “Don’t come any closer. Take off your sandals. You are standing on holy ground. I am the God of your ancestors. I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.”

Moses covered his face because he was afraid to look at God. Then the Lord said, “I have seen the troubles my people have suffered in Egypt, and I have heard their cries when the Egyptians hurt them. I know about their pain. Now I will go down and save my people from the Egyptians. I will take them from that land and lead them to a good land where they can be free from these troubles. It is a land filled with many good things. now I am sending you to Pharaoh. Go! Lead my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.”But Moses said to God, “I am not a great man! How can I be the one to go to Pharaoh and lead the Israelites out of Egypt?” God said, “You can do it because I will be with you.”

**Exodus 7**

The Lord said to Moses, “I will punish Egypt very much. And I will lead my army, my people, out of that land. I will punish the people of Egypt, and they will learn that I am the Lord. Then I will lead my people out of their country.”Moses and Aaron did what the Lord told them. Moses was 80 years old at the time, and Aaron (Moses brother) was 83.

Pharaoh still refused to let the people go, just as the Lord had said.

Moses said to the Pharaoh “I will hit the water of the Nile River with this walking stick in my hand, and the river will turn into blood. The fish in the river will die, and the river will begin to stink. Then the Egyptians will not be able to drink the water from the river.’”

So Moses did this because it is what the Lord commanded. The fish in the river died, and the river began to stink. So the Egyptians could not drink water from the river. The blood was everywhere in Egypt.

**Exodus 8**

Then the Lord told Moses, “Go to Pharaoh and tell him that the Lord says, ‘Let my people be free.If you refuse to let my people go, then I will fill Egypt with frogs. The Pharaoh said no, so Moses did as God commanded and filled Egypt with frogs. Pharaoh called for Moses and said, “Ask the Lord to remove the frogs from me and my people and I will let your people go.

The Lord did what Moses asked. The frogs died in the houses, in the yards, and in the fields. **T**hey began to rot, and the whole country began to stink. But when Pharaoh saw that they were free of the frogs, he again became stubborn. Pharaoh did not do what Moses and Aaron had asked him to do. This happened just as the Lord had said.

Then the Lord said to Moses, “raise your stick and hit the dust on the ground, and everywhere in Egypt dust will become lice.” After the lice, God sent flies to Egypt.

**Exodus 9**

Then the Lord told Moses to go to Pharaoh and tell him: “If you continue to hold these people as slaves then the Lord will use his power against your animals in the fields. He will cause all of your horses, donkeys, camels, cattle, and sheep to get sick with a terrible disease. **”**The next morning the Lord did what he said. All the farm animals of the Egyptians died but Pharaoh remained stubborn and did not let the people go.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, “Fill your hands with the ashes from a furnace. Moses, you throw the ashes into the air in front of Pharaoh. **9**This will become dust that will go throughout the land of Egypt. Whenever the dust touches a person or an animal in Egypt, sores will break out on the skin.”

Then the Lord said to Moses, “Get up in the morning and go to Pharaoh. Tell him that the Lord, the God of the Hebrews, says, ‘Let my people go or at this time tomorrow, I will cause a very bad hailstorm. There has never been a hailstorm like this in Egypt, not since Egypt became a nation. So Moses raised his walking stick into the air, and the Lord sent hail with thunder and lightning down on the earth. The Lord caused hail to fall all over Egypt. The storm destroyed everything in the fields in Egypt. The hail destroyed people, animals, and plants. The hail also broke all the trees in the fields.