

## **The story of Moses - reported by Moses!? (Exodus 1-3)**

What a story! (including several amazing-but-true stories):

### **1. Israel's refuge from famine in Egypt turns into slavery**

Forced to build cities for "a Pharaoh who didn't know Joseph." (Exodus 1 – 2d book of Bible)

### **2. Moses a Jewish boy raised in Pharaoh's court!**

How did that happen? To quell Israeli growth rate, Pharaoh commands all newborn boys to be killed. Moses is born anyway and hidden in a little boat in the rushes. Who else would find him but Pharaoh's daughter! So... (Exodus 2:1-10)

**3. 70 years later Moses is in the desert** far from Egypt married to a Midianitess and watching sheep. How much does Moses know of his own Jewish heritage, or of the God of his fathers for that matter? (Exodus 2:11-25)

### **4. What a (re)introduction!**

The burning bush that wasn't consumed—like God himself—who called Moses from that bush. (Exodus 3:1-6)

**5. The assignment: go back to Egypt** from where he had escaped Pharaoh's soldiers on a murder charge. He was to be God's agent to rescue the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob-Israel from slavery in Egypt. (Exodus 3:7-10)

God laid out the whole plan in a short synopsis, precursor to Paul's Damascus 'vision' from the Lord (Acts 9).

**6. Unwilling recruit:** Moses was afraid. He remembered his previous murder 'rap'. He hadn't done much talking for 40 years watching sheep, etc. etc. (Exodus 3:11-22)

**7. Impossible Obstacles:** How was he to even find Israel's elders? Would they know him? Listen to him? Be willing to follow him in such a risky and reckless venture?

Hint of two realities: God went to great lengths to help Moses carry out his assignment.