

Exodus 2

The preparation of the person



Exodus 1 introduced us to the scenario: a new Pharaoh, and therefore a new Egypt, one which devoted itself not to supplying but to subjugating the descendants of of Joseph and his brothers. The pressure mounts over, possibly, decades, until the policy of male infanticide is announced – the backdrop, now, for the introduction of the main (human) character of the book. His beginnings do not look exactly promising!

➤ **A lucky coincidence?** (1-10)

The basket (3) ... is an *ark*! It's the same word that was used in Genesis 6-9. And notice that, just as the nation of Israel will eventually be saved through water, so will their leader-to-be. Is this a pattern – and a significant one?

But never mind big themes like this, notice the so very human touches here. What was needed for Moses to be there and noticed at this one key moment – and for him to receive education of his own background as one of the *Hebrew* people, and not simply as an Egyptian prince?

How can you not chuckle at the irony of v9? – Moses' mother is now *paid* to look after her own son! But also admire Miriam's opportunism! Lessons?

➤ **Jumping the gun?** (11-22)

So, fast forward four decades. What might have led Moses to take the (as it turns out) ill-chosen action of v12? Also check out Acts 7:17-29, Hebrews 11:24-27 for NT comment on the events.

But ... at least on a smaller scale, he is an effective “saviour” (17). How significant is this?

And do you think Moses now reckons he has blown his one chance of “saving” his people – and just settles for a life of obscurity, having promised much, but delivered, when it comes down to it, not a whole lot (21-22)?

➤ **Comforting or ominous ... depending on which side you are on!** (23-25)

A summary verse (23) – but don't you think that the word “many” would have seemed *far too* many to those suffering?

What do you make of the four verbs in vv 24-25?