

# For Discussion

Theme	First Cycle, 1:1-4:17	Second Cycle, 4:18-40:38
Entering Egypt	1:1-7, Eleven tribes go to Egypt & multiply	4:18-31, Moses returns to Egypt with his family
Oppression	1:8-22, Pharaoh oppresses Israel	5:1-23, Oppression increases
Leaders raised up	2:1-4, Moses born	6:1-27, Moses & Aaron appointed
Moses & Pharaoh	2:5-10, Moses as a son	6:28-13:16, Moses as a deliverer
Travel to Horeb	2:11-15, Moses flees to Midian	13:17-17:7, Israel from Egypt to Sinai
Conflict	2:16-17, Moses overcomes shepherds	17:8-16, Moses overcomes Amalek
Moses and Jethro	2:18-22, Moses' Midianite family	18:1-27, Moses' Midianite family
Encounter with God at Horeb	2:23-4:17, Moses to serve God "upon this mountain," 3:12	19:1-40:38, At Horeb, Israel enters covenant with God

- Why did Moses name his son "Gershom"?
- What change in the attitude of the people can we see in 2:23?
- Why does their bondage motivate God to listen to them?
- What grammatical change occurs in 2:24-25, compared with the text up to this point?
- What is the significance of this change?
- What pattern of divine care and discipline do Exod 1-2 illustrate?
- How does Moses' 40 years as a shepherd prepare him to return to Egypt to deliver Israel?

# Moses names his First-Born

## The Family History

1Ch 6:16 The sons of Levi; **Gershom**, Kohath, and Merari.

### A Meaning for the Name:

גַּר *gēr* H1616 = “stranger”; *shom* ~ שָׁם *sham* H8033 “there”

Gen. 23:4 I am a **stranger** and a sojourner with you: give me a possession of a buryingplace with you, that I may bury my dead out of my sight.

Gen. 15:13 And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a **stranger** in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years; 14 And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and **afterward shall they come out** with great substance. 15 And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age. 16 But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full.

# References for 2:23

## Israel's Condition in ch. 1

Exo 1:7 And the children of Israel were **fruitful**, and increased abundantly, and **multiplied**, and waxed exceeding **mighty**; and the land was filled with them.

Exo 1:12 But the more they afflicted them, the more they **multiplied** and **grew**.

Exo 1:20 and the people **multiplied**, and waxed very **mighty**.

## God in the Shadows in 1:1-2:22

Ex. 1:20 Therefore **God dealt well with the midwives**: and the people multiplied, and waxed very mighty.

## The People's Focus

Jos 24:14 Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which **your fathers served** on the other side of the flood, and **in Egypt**;

## 2:23 How Much Time?

Exo 7:7 And **Moses was fourscore years old**, and Aaron fourscore and three years old, when they spake unto Pharaoh.

## Bondage/Service (*abad* H5647, *abodah* H5656) again

Ex. 1:13 And the Egyptians made the children of Israel to **serve** with rigour: 14 And they made their lives bitter with hard **bondage**, in mortar, and in brick, and in all manner of **service** in the field: all their **service**, wherein they made them **serve**, was with rigour.

## Two Effects of Bondage

Deut 26:7 And when **we cried** unto the LORD God of our fathers, the LORD heard our voice, and looked on our affliction, and our labour, and our oppression ...

Exo 20:5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor **serve** them: for **I the LORD thy God am a jealous God**, ...

# References for 2:24-25

	God Perceives	God Responds
24	God heard	God remembered
25	God saw	God cared

## Anthropopathism

Psa 78:65 Then **the Lord awaked as one out of sleep**, and like a mighty man that shouteth by reason of wine. 66 And he smote his enemies in the hinder parts: he put them to a perpetual reproach.

## Remember a Covenant: Application, not Recollection

Gen 9:14 And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud: 15 And **I will remember my covenant**, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and **the waters shall no more become a flood** to destroy all flesh.

## Remember = Application (cont.)

Exo 6:5 And I have also heard the groaning of the children of Israel, whom the Egyptians keep in bondage; and **I have remembered my covenant**. 6 Wherefore say unto the children of Israel, I am the LORD, and **I will bring you out** from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and **I will rid you** out of their bondage, and **I will redeem you** with a stretched out arm, and with great judgments: 7 And **I will take you** to me for a people, and I will be to you a God: and ye shall know that I am the LORD your God, which bringeth you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. 8 And **I will bring you in** unto the land, concerning the which I did swear to give it to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob; and **I will give it you** for an heritage: I am the LORD.

## Why Suffering?

Psa 94:12 **Blessed** is the man whom thou **chastenest**, O LORD, and **teachest him out of thy law**;

Psa 119:71 It is good for me that I have been **afflicted**; that I might **learn** thy statutes.

## Moses the Shepherd

Gen 46:33 And it shall come to pass, when Pharaoh shall call you, and shall say, What is your occupation? 34 That ye shall say, Thy servants' trade hath been about cattle from our youth even until now, both we, and also our fathers: that ye may dwell in the land of Goshen; for **every shepherd is an abomination unto the Egyptians.**

### The Mountain

Mountain of God: 4x Exodus; 1 Ki 19:8 (NOT Ezek 28:16; Ps 68:15)

Horeb ("desolate"): 3x Exodus, then in narrative in Deut ff

Sinai: Mostly Exodus-Leviticus. From Deut on, only poetry and Nehemiah's prayer.

Map from biblemapper.com, via

<https://answersingenesis.org/archaeology/searching-for-sinai/>

02/14/26

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