

## GOD'S PEOPLE IN BONDAGE

### Exodus 1, 2:23 - 25

Between Genesis 50 and Exodus 2, a period of some 280 years elapsed. Read the following to learn what took place during that period of time:

**A. God's People Under Joseph's Rule:** Read Exodus 1:1-6

1. How many of God's chosen people were there when they came to Egypt? Genesis 46:27; Exodus 1:5  
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2. How were they treated under Joseph's rule? Genesis 47:6  
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3. What happened during their first few years in Egypt? Genesis 47:27b  
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4. By what name did they come to be known there? Exodus 1:7, 9 (See Genesis 32:27, 28 for the origin of this name)  
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5. Why did they not return to Canaan as soon as the famine was over? Genesis 15:13-16, 46:3, 50:24  
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**B. God's People After Joseph's Death:** Read Exodus 1:7-22

1. What happened to the people after the death of Joseph? Exodus 1:7  
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2. How many of them were there at this time? Exodus 1:9  
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3. What happened to change the way they were treated? Exodus 1:8  
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4. Of what was the new king afraid? Exodus 1:10  
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5. What plan did he suggest to prevent this from happening? Exodus 1:11a  
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6. What was the result of this action? Exodus 1:12  
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7. What did the king then tell the Hebrew midwives? Exodus 1:15, 16  
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8. Why would they not obey his command? Exodus 1:17, 21  
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9. What happened because of their stand on this matter? Exodus 1:20  
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10. What was the king's next command? Exodus 1:22  
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2 Bible Discoveries: OT Historical Survey Series by Sarah Overstreet Midyett  
*Book 2 Leaving Egypt Through Conquest of Canaan*

**C. The People's Reaction to Their Treatment:** Read Exodus 2:23-25

1. What particular type of work did the people do for Pharaoh? Exodus 1:11b  
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2. Notice that their taskmasters made them serve with "rigour". Look up this word in a dictionary, and write its meaning briefly:  
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3. How is their bondage described? Exodus 1:14a  
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4. What happened to their lives because of this? Exodus 1:14a  
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5. What three things did they do because of their bondage? Exodus 2:23, 24a  
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6. Who heard and saw all that was going on? Exodus 2:23b, 24a, 25a  
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7. What did God remember at this time? Exodus 2:24b (See Genesis 15:13-16)  
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**QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:**

1. Was there any way God's people could get themselves out of their own bondage?  
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2. Could I be held in bondage by anyone today? (See Romans 6:16; 2 Timothy 2:26; John 8:33-36)  
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