

Lesson VII.

THE CHILDHOOD OF MOSES

November 17, 1901

Exodus 2: 1-10. Commit to memory vs. 7-10. Read Ps. 91.

1 And there went a man of the house of Levi, and took to wife a daughter of Levi.

2 And the woman conceived, and bare a son: and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months.

3 And when she could not longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein; and she laid it in the flags by the river's brink.

4 And his sister stood afar off, to wit what would be done to him.

5 And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to wash herself at the river; and her maidens walked along by the river's side; and when she saw the ark among the flags, she sent her maid to fetch it.

Revised Version—1 River side; 2 Know; 3 Bathe; 4 And sent her handmaid; 5 She opened it and saw:

6 Omit she.

GOLDEN TEXT

Prov. 22: 6. Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.

DAILY READINGS

M. — Exodus 2: 1-10.	The childhood of Moses.
T. — Exodus 2: 11-25.	Moses in Midian.
W. — Acts 7: 15-21.	Stephen's narrative.
Th. — Acts 7: 22-29.	
F. — Isaiah 49: 7-12.	A chosen deliverer.
S. — Psalm 33: 10-22.	God overruling.
S. — 2 Tim. 3: 10-17.	A happy childhood.

CATECHISM

Q. 102. What do we pray for in the second petition?

A. In the second petition (which is, *Thy kingdom come*) we pray, That Satan's kingdom may be destroyed; and that the kingdom of grace may be advanced.

6 And when she had opened it, she saw the child: and, behold, the babe wept. And she had compassion on him, and said, This is one of the Hebrew children.

7 Then said his sister to Pharaoh's daughter, Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee?

8 And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, Go. And the maid went and called the child's mother.

9 And Pharaoh's daughter said unto her, Take this child away, and nurse it for me, and I will give thee thy wages. And the woman took the child, and nursed it.

10 And the child grew, and she brought him unto Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. And she called his name Moses: and she said, Because I drew him out of the water.

ourselves and others brought into it, and kept in it; and that the kingdom of glory may be hastened.

TIME AND PLACE

As commonly believed, Moses was born, B.C., 1571. The lesson covers 40 years. Place, Egypt, the one centre, at that time, of learning and refinement.

LESSON PLAN

I. The Babe in Peril, 1-4.

By reason of the king's cruel decree.

II. Rescued, 5, 6.

Through the compassion of the king's daughter.

III. Reared, 7-9.

By the child's own mother.

IV. Adopted, 10.

Into Pharaoh's court.

LESSON HYMNS

Book of Praise, 573; 191; 19 (Ps. Sel.); 561; 580; 584.

EXPOSITION

Connecting Links—Pharaoh, finding that the Israelites increased in number, notwithstanding the hard bondage, determined to destroy their male children, in the hope that after a while the people might, through intermarriage, become Egyptian. God defeated this plan by overruling the dread decree to cast the boys into the Nile, for the preservation of one to be reared in the royal palace as the son of the king's daughter, and educated at court, to become, in due time, the deliverer of Israel from bondage. While Pharaoh was planning for the destruction of the Israelites, God was working for their release and larger growth and prosperity.

I. The Babe in Peril, 1-4.

V. 1. *A man of the house of Levi*. His name was Amram, ch. 6: 20. The tribe of Levi was that from which, later on, the priests were taken. *A daughter of Levi*. Her name was Jochebed, (Ex. 6: 20). The words son and daughter are used frequently in Scripture to mean descendant. They seem to have been humble people of a tribe at that time inconspicuous. The fact is noted, however, that they were religious people (Heb. 11: 23).

V. 2. *A son*. There were at least two other children, Aaron, three years older, and Miriam, older still (ch. 7: 7; 2: 4, with 15: 20). Moses alone is mentioned here because the narrative is concerned with his birth and rescue. *A goodly child*; in form and features attractive. Stephen said (Acts 7: 20) that he was "exceeding fair" or, more literally, "fair unto God," which would seem to indicate that he had the appearance of a special object of Divine favor; for which reason, as well as because of true maternal affection, his mother would not give him up. *She hid him*; at a great risk, with the co-operation of her husband (Heb. 11: 23).

V. 3. *An ark of bulrushes*. The word translated "ark" is used only of this covered box or basket and the ark built by Noah (Gen. 6: 14). The rush or reed from which the ark was made was the papyrus, which grew to a height of ten or twelve feet. It was formerly abundant on the banks of the Nile, but has now almost entirely disappeared. Its inner rind was made into paper. *And daubed it with slime and with pitch*. Bitumen from the Dead Sea was melted with tar or