

The Story of Moses



Exodus Chapter 1 to
Numbers Chapter 13





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A Baby in a Basket

Many, many years ago Pharaohs ruled over all Egypt.



There was one Pharaoh who hated the Israelites.



This Pharaoh made the Israelites work very hard.

Then, one day, the Pharaoh decided to get rid of all of the Israelite baby boys.

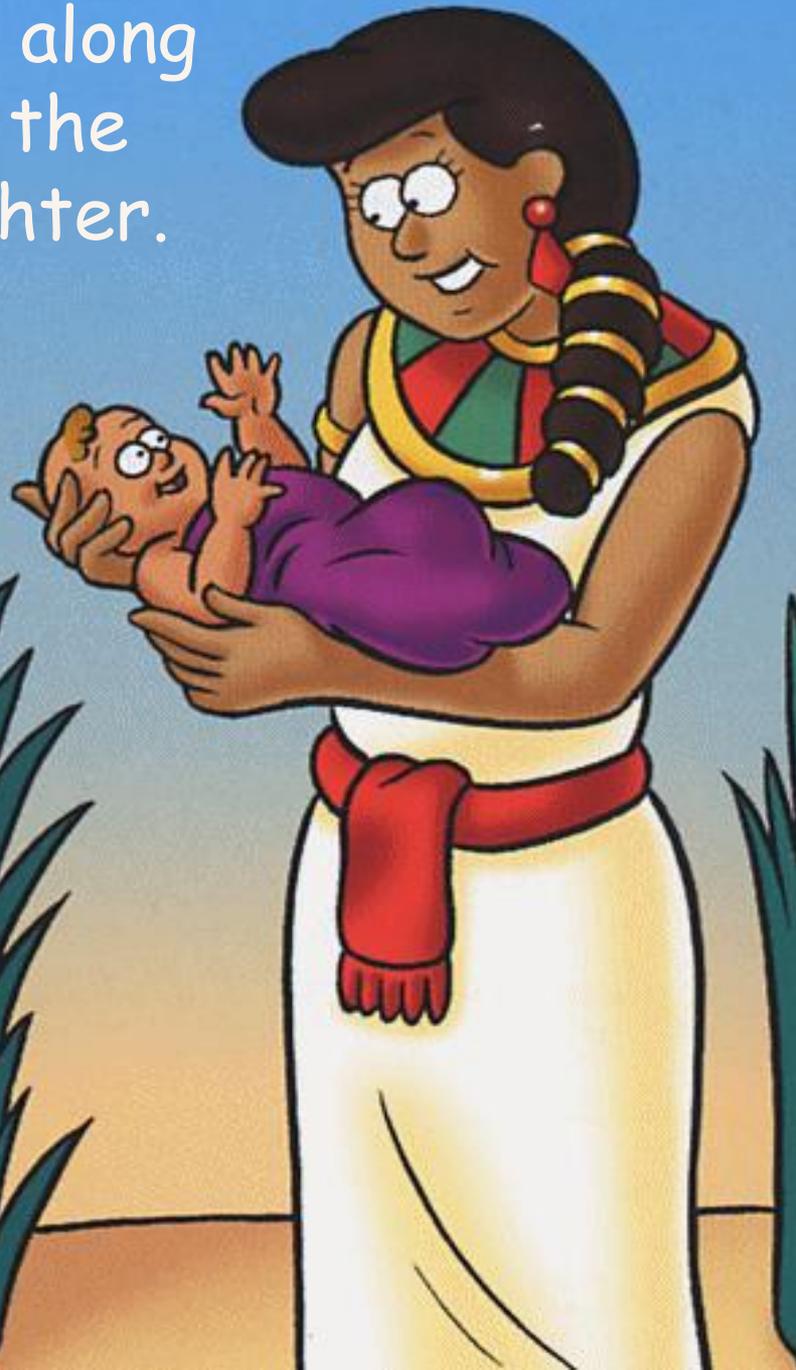
A woman named Jochebed had a baby boy. She did not want him to be killed so she tried to save him.



She gently placed him in a basket and then put the basket in the river. The basket began to float away.

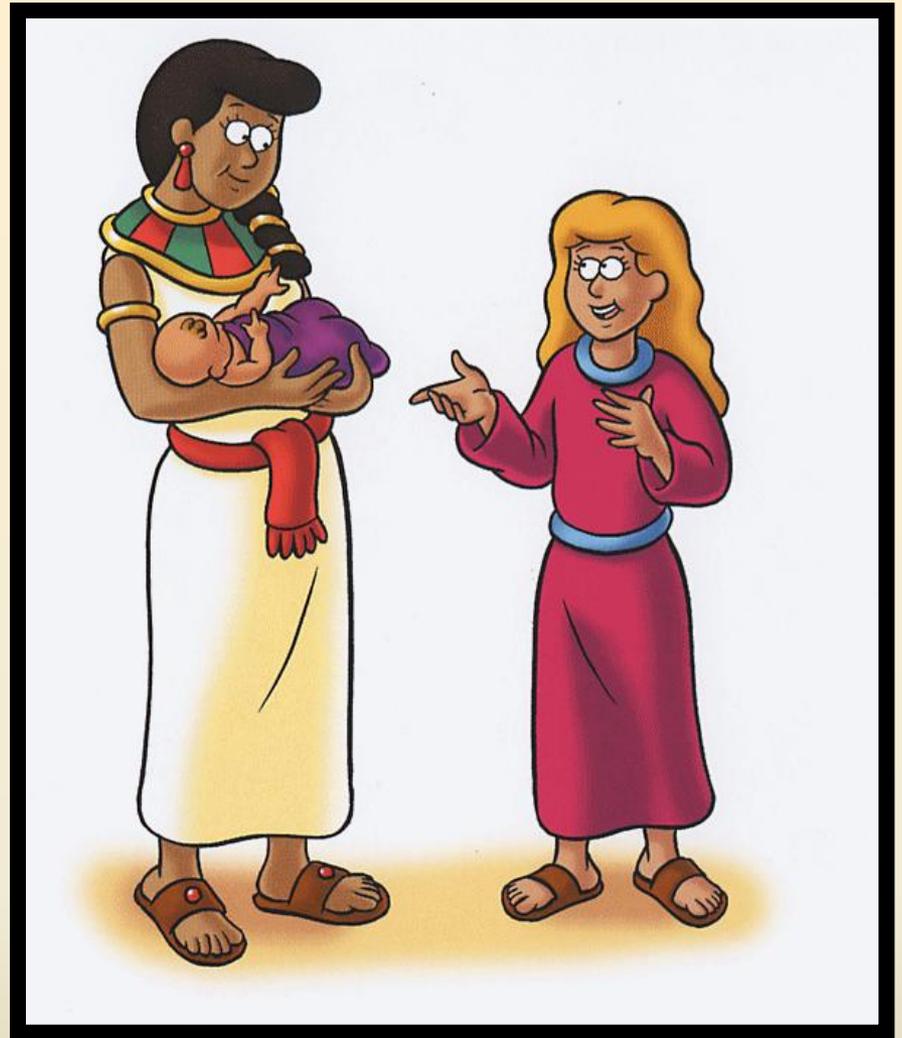
A little further along
the river was the
Pharaoh's daughter.

She saw the
floating basket
and picked out
the baby. She
immediately
wanted to keep
him.



She named
the baby
Moses.

Miriam, the baby's older sister, had been watching. She told the Pharaoh's daughter she knew of a woman who could care for the baby.



Miriam ran to get her mother. Jochebed was very happy. Now she would be able to care for her baby son.

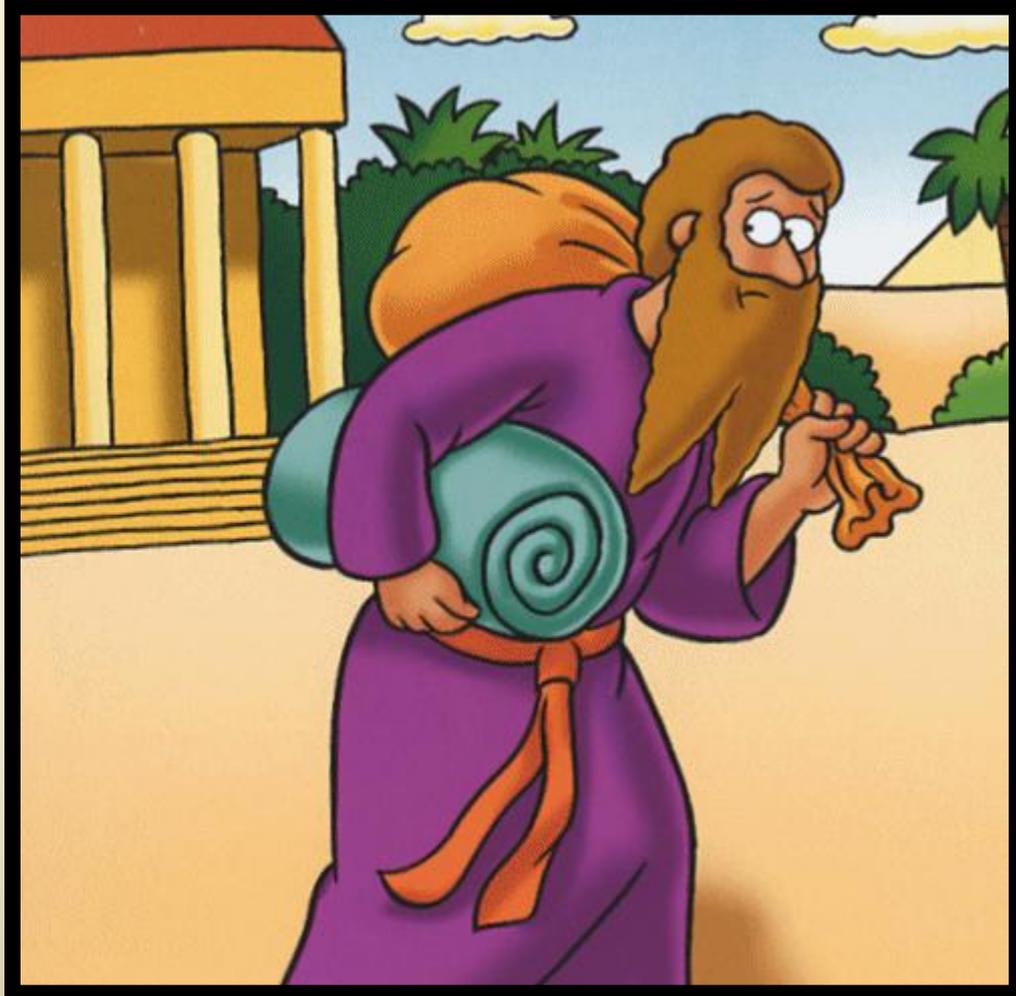


When Moses was a young boy Jochebed returned him to the Pharaoh's daughter.

Moses was cared for by the Pharaoh's family and grew up in the palace.



The Burning Bush



When Moses became a man he left the palace.

The Pharaoh was still being cruel to the Israelites and Moses tried protect them.

The Pharaoh wanted to kill Moses.



Moses escaped from Egypt. He went to a place called Midian and became a shepherd.

One Day, while Moses was watching sheep, he saw a bush on fire. But the bush was not burning.



It was God, telling Moses to lead the Israelites to a new land called Canaan.

Moses was worried about how the Pharaoh would react so God told Moses to throw his staff to the ground.

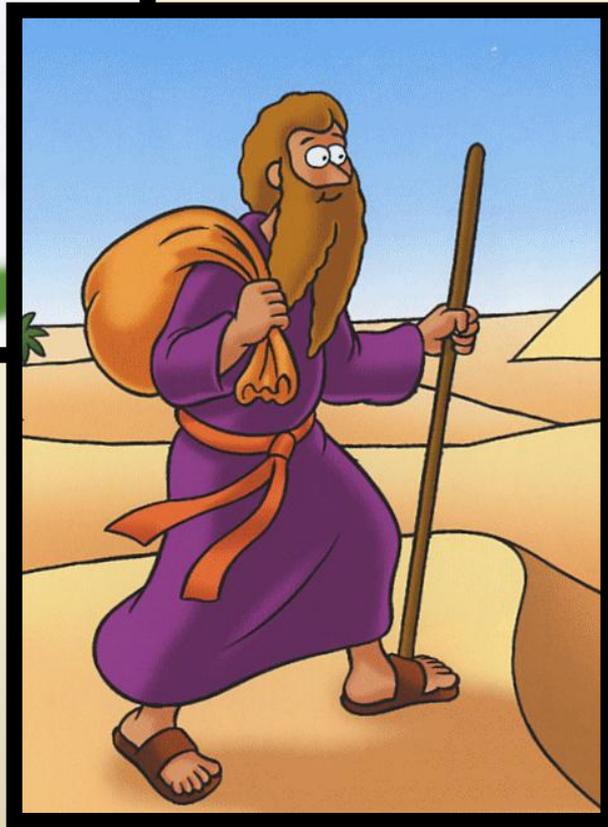


The staff turned into a snake.

God told Moses he would use signs like this to show the Pharaoh that Moses had been sent by God.



Moses was still worried. He was not very good at talking to people and did not want to face the Pharaoh.

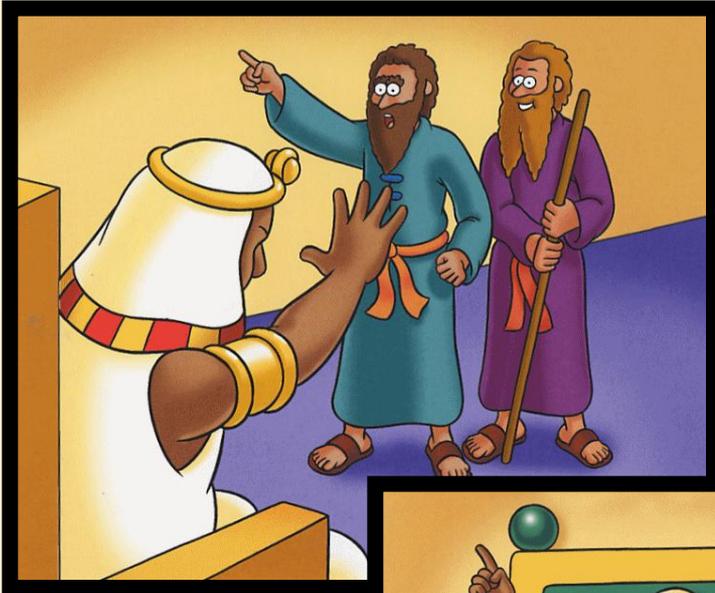


God told Moses to ask his brother Aaron to help him, as Aaron was a good talker.

So Moses went to find Aaron so he could return to Egypt to face the Pharaoh.



The Ten Plagues



Moses and Aaron went to the Pharaoh's palace. They asked him to set the Israelites free or God would punish him.



The Pharaoh refused. He did not believe in God. He made the Israelites work even harder than before.



God was not pleased.
He punished the
Pharaoh by turning
the river's water into
blood.

But the Pharaoh
would not change his
mind and he did not
set the Israelites
free.



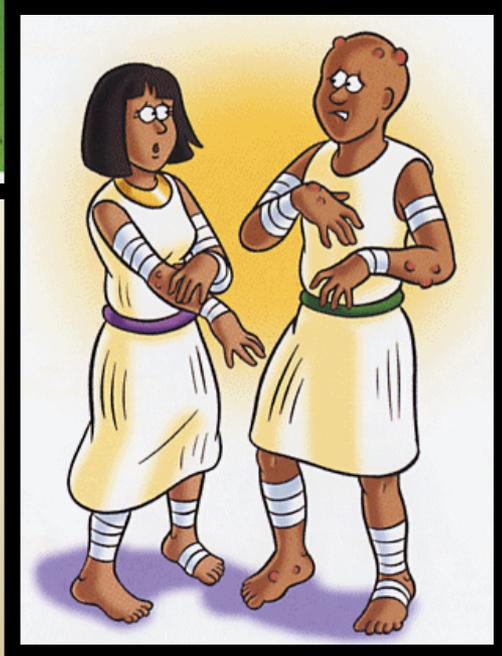
Next God sent a plague of frogs. The Pharaoh promised to set the Israelites free so God took the frogs away.

But the Pharaoh did not set the Israelites free so
God sent more plagues.



He sent a plague of gnats
and then flies.

Then he sent an illness
that made all the animals
sick.



Next God sent an illness
that made all the
Egyptians come out in
sores.

Still the Pharaoh did not set the Israelites free so God sent damaging hailstorms and a swarm of locusts that ate all the crops.



Next God sent a darkness that covered everything as if it was night.

The Pharaoh kept promising to set the Israelites free but would then change his mind.

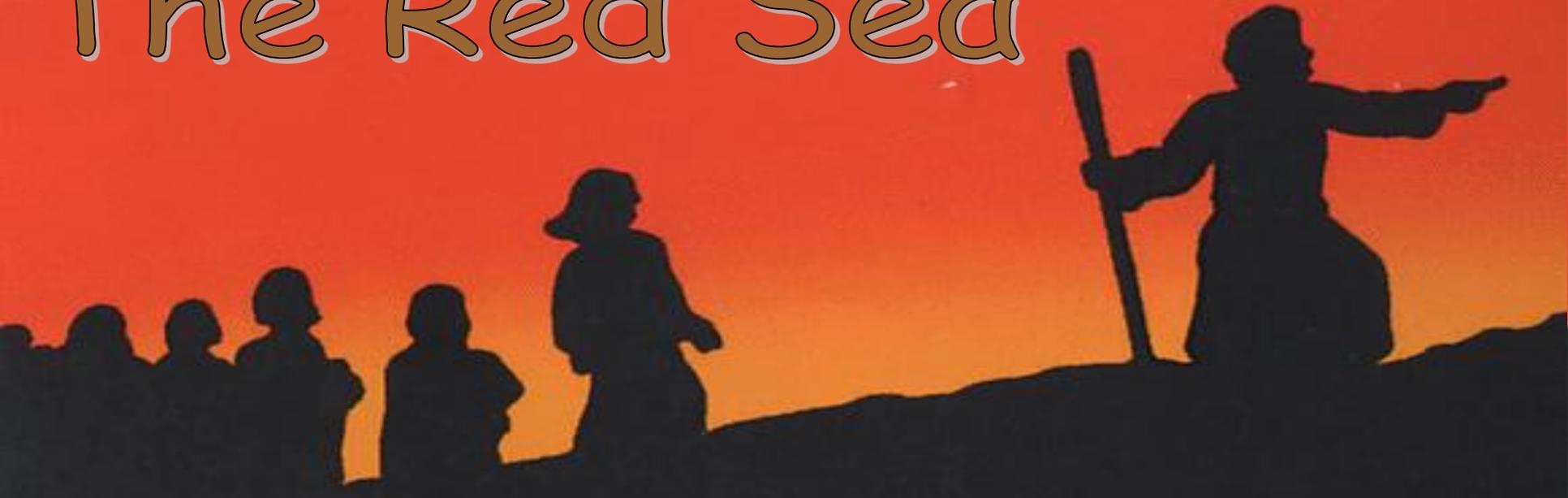
So God sent a plague that would make the Pharaoh change his mind.

God told Pharaoh that he would kill the firstborn son in each Egyptian family. The Pharaoh did not believe that God would do it. But he did.

Finally, the Pharaoh agreed to set the Israelites free.



The Red Sea

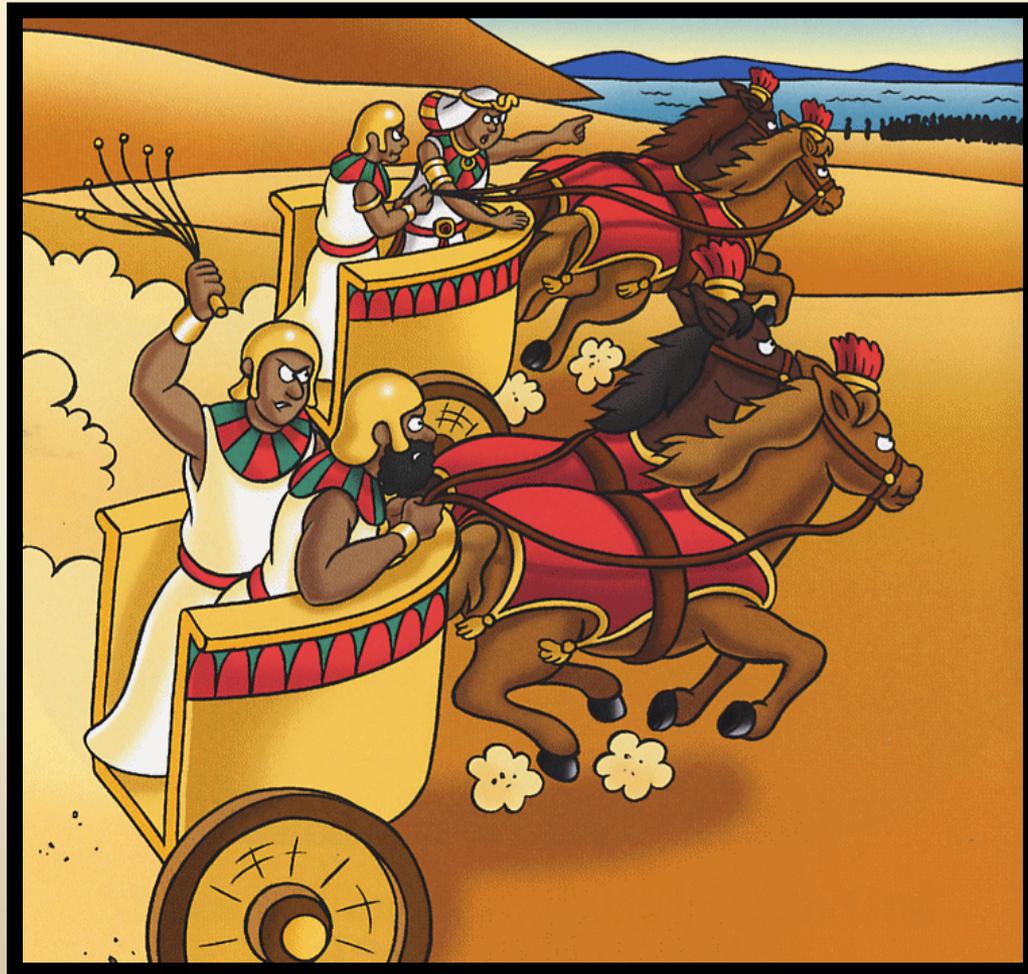


Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt.

During the daytime, God led the way as a pillar of cloud.

During the night time, God led the way as a pillar of fire.

God led the Israelites to the Red Sea but the Pharaoh, and his army, were chasing them and they did not know what to do.



God's cloud came down to protect the Israelites.
Pharaoh's army could not see where they were!



Then God told Moses to raise his staff. As Moses did so, God made a path through the Red Sea.



Moses and the Israelites followed the path to the other side but the army were close behind.

Moses raised his staff a second time. As Moses did so, the path through the Red Sea closed and swept away the Pharaoh and his army.



At last, the Israelites were free and safe.



Food From Heaven



The Israelites travelled for many days and were getting tired and hungry. There was nothing to eat in the desert and they were very angry.



God heard them. That evening he sent them some birds, called quail, to eat.

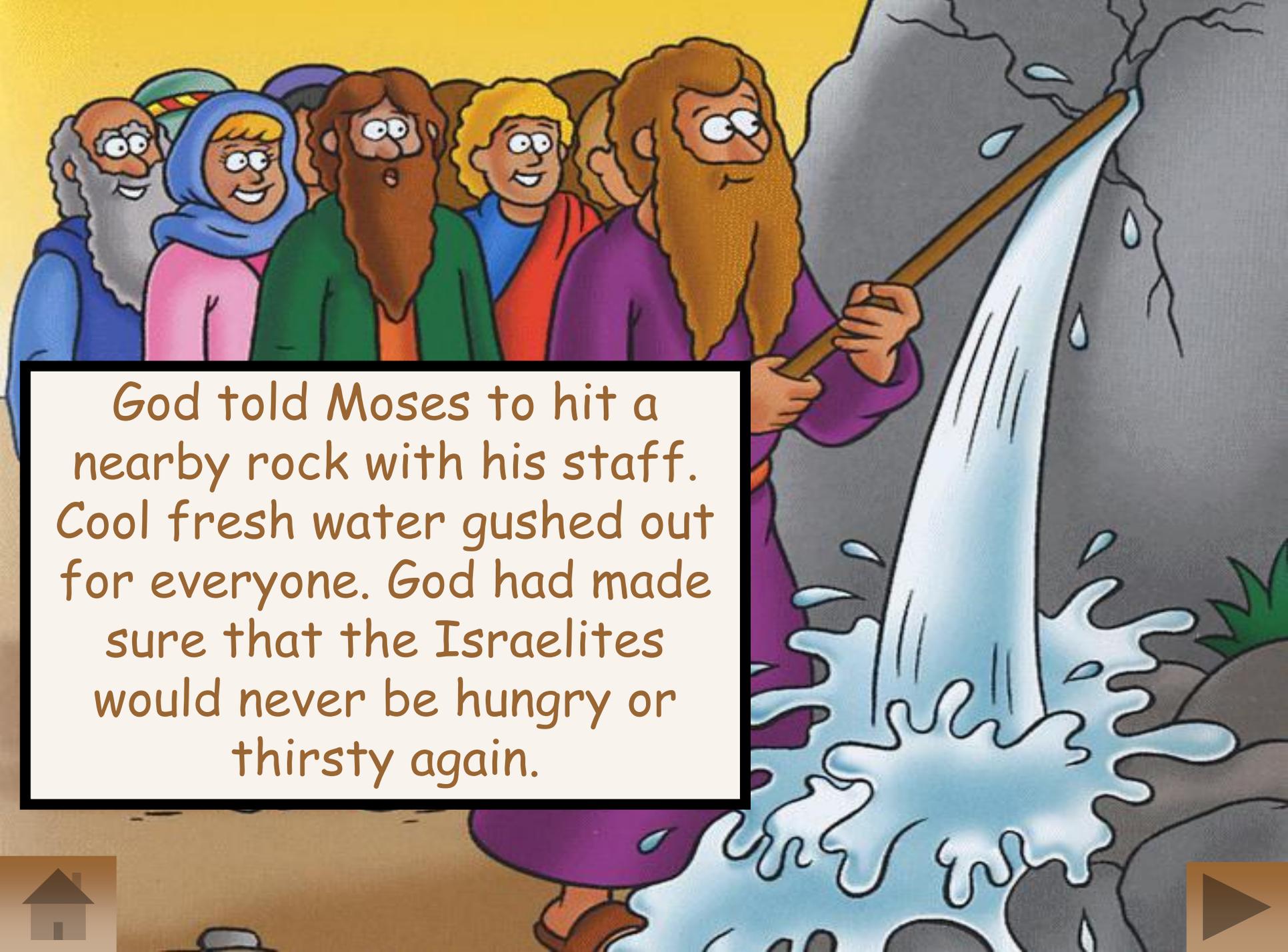
The Israelites were happy that God had taken notice and were very thankful.

The next day God sent a special kind of bread from heaven. It was called manna and tasted sweet.

The Israelites collected the manna from the ground.

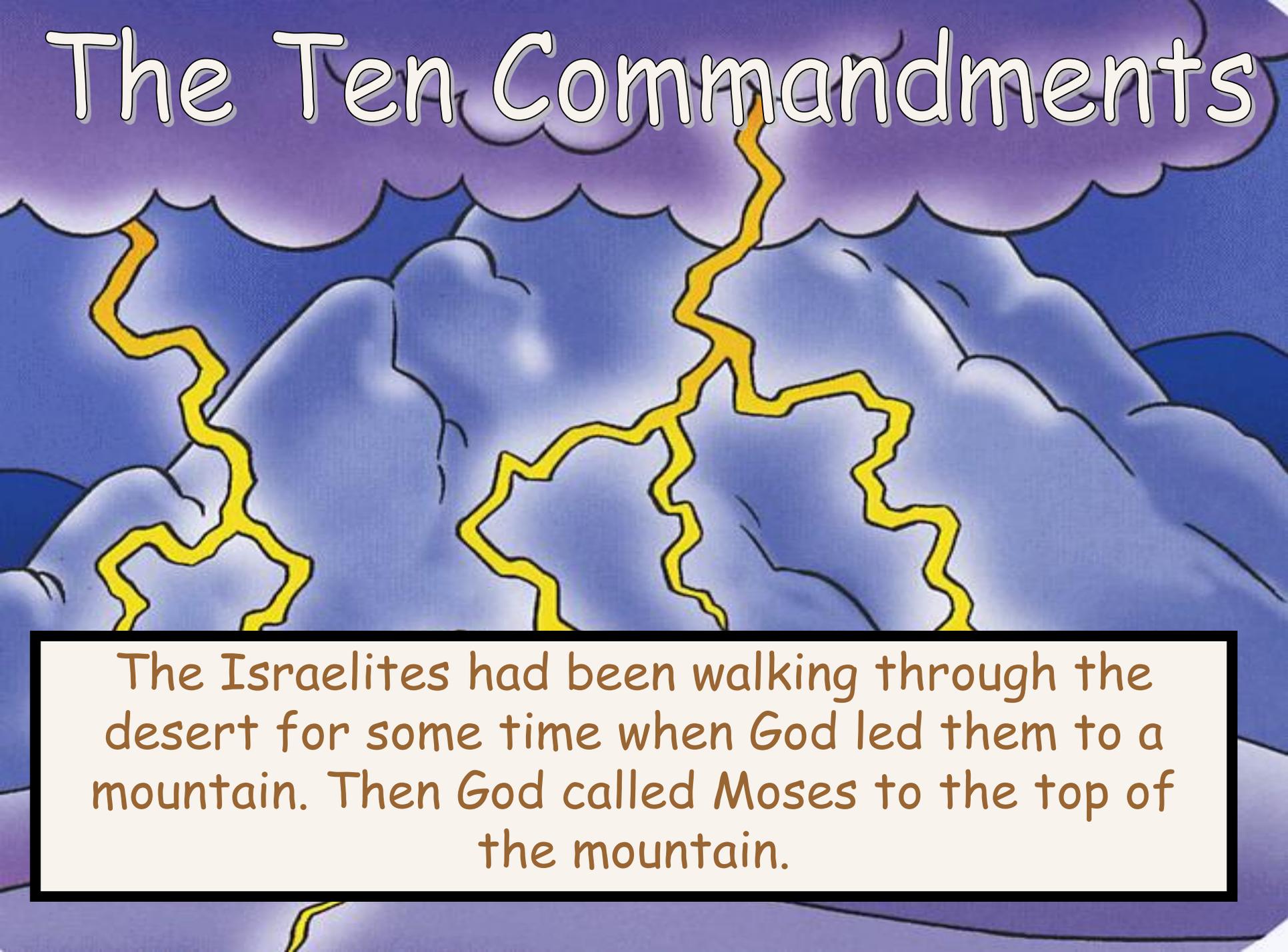


Although they were pleased that God had sent food, the Israelites were also feeling thirsty. Moses asked God for help.



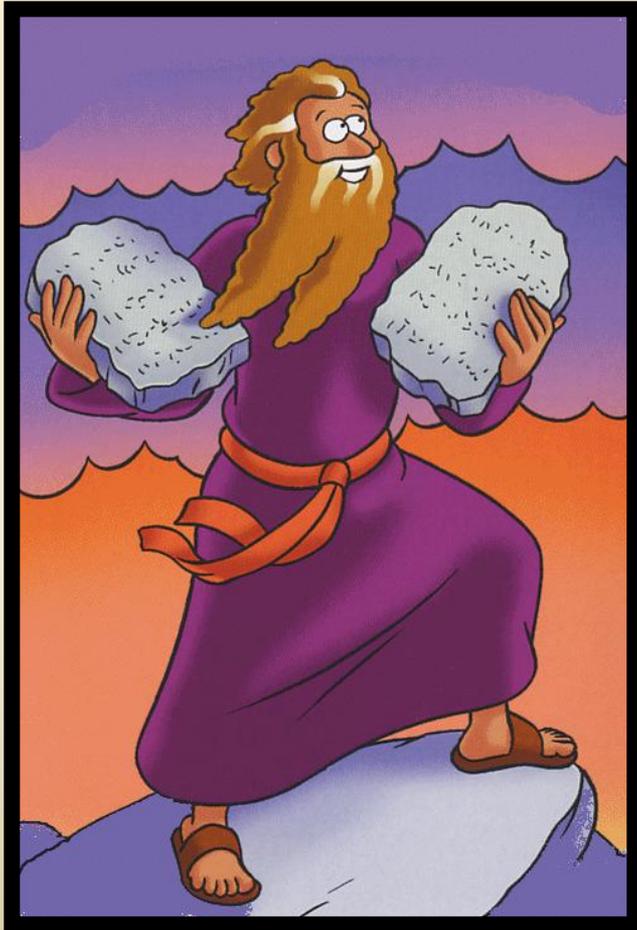
God told Moses to hit a nearby rock with his staff. Cool fresh water gushed out for everyone. God had made sure that the Israelites would never be hungry or thirsty again.

The Ten Commandments



The Israelites had been walking through the desert for some time when God led them to a mountain. Then God called Moses to the top of the mountain.

God had helped the Israelites to leave their life of slavery in Egypt. Now he wanted them to do something for him.



God gave Moses two stone tablets. God had carved some rules into the stones for the Israelites to obey.

These rules were called the Ten Commandments.

The Ten Commandments

1. GOD IS THE ONLY TRUE GOD.
2. NEVER MAKE IDOLS.
3. NEVER MISUSE THE LORD'S NAME.
4. REST ON THE SABBATH DAY KEEP IT HOLY.
5. HONOUR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER.

6. DO NOT MURDER.
7. HUSBANDS AND WIVES MUST NOT COMMIT ADULTERY.
8. DO NOT STEAL.
9. DO NOT TELL LIES.
10. NEVER WANT WHAT BELONGS TO OTHERS.

These were the rules the Israelites had to follow.

The Israelites needed a place to worship God. God showed them how to make a special tent called a tabernacle. Then God placed a cloud over it.

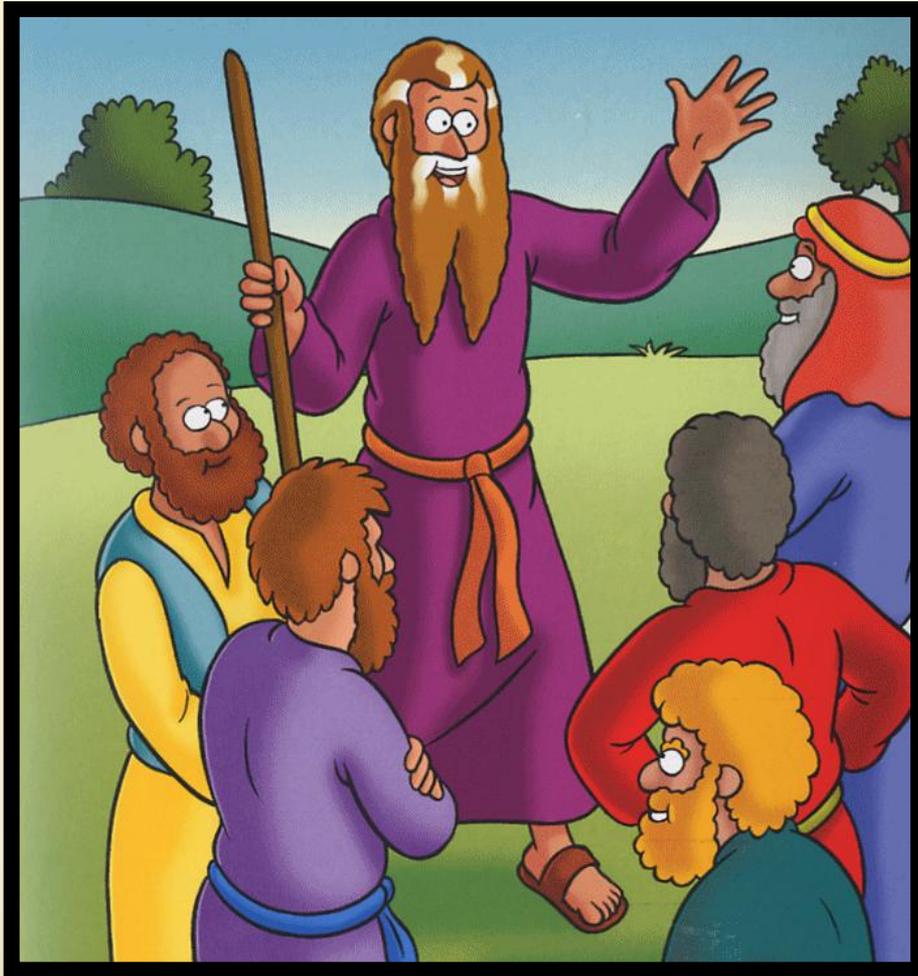
Whenever the cloud moved the Israelites followed it. God was leading them to the Promised Land.



The Twelve Spies



Finally, the Israelites arrived near the promised land. God told Moses to send twelve spies there to see if the land was good.



The spies
returned and told
the Israelites
about the
wonderful land.

They said the land was beautiful and full of food . But there were already people living there, and they looked very strong.

Two Israelites,
called Joshua and
Caleb, told the
others not to worry.

They told the others
that God had promised
them this land and
that they should all go
there.





But the other Israelites did not agree with Caleb and Joshua. The people had lost faith in God. Because of this, God told Moses that the Israelites could not enter the promised land.

The Israelites had to wander in the desert for forty years. When they eventually entered the promised land Moses had died and Joshua was their new leader.





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