

6. Carrying Burdens

Scriptures:	Exodus 1-14
Focal point:	Israel's Deliverance from Egyptian Bondage
Principal characters:	Moses, Aaron, Pharaoh
Primary events:	Enslavement of the Jews Birth of Moses The Call of Moses at the Burning Bush The Ten Plagues Crossing the Red Sea

The enslavement of the Jews.

- Abraham was certainly a man of faith, but there was a steady degeneration of his descendants until the nation of Israel ended up as mere **slaves** in Egypt.

The birth and call of Moses.

- Moses was born of godly parents who **hid** him for three months.
- Through a miraculous set of events, God delivered Moses and allowed him to grow up and be **educated** in Pharaoh's court.
- When Moses was forty, he was forced to **flee** from the land of Egypt because Pharaoh desired to kill him. Moses had identified himself with his people, Israel. *"By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward. By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible."* **Hebrews 11:24-27**
- Forty years later, Moses received a divine call to **return** to Egypt and deliver Israel from Egyptian bondage.

The ten plagues.

- Moses and Aaron marched right in to Pharaoh and told him God's demand, "*Let my people go.*"
- Pharaoh refused (Exodus 5:2), so this led to a showdown between the Lord God and the pagan **gods** of Egypt. Through God's power, Moses called down ten plagues on Egypt.
- What was the result of these plagues?
 - At midnight, April 14th, the death angel passed over Egypt and took every **firstborn** son from all unprotected homes, including Pharaoh himself.
 - During the early morning hours of the 15th, all Israel crossed the border of **Egypt**.