

Introduction

1. The children of Israel were in Egypt ([Ex. 1:1-6](#))
 - a. They were fruitful, increased abundantly, multiplied, and grew mighty ([Ex. 1:7](#))
 - i. God keeps His promises ([Gen. 12:2](#))
 - b. There was a new Pharaoh in Egypt ([Ex. 1:8](#))
 - i. He was up to no good ([Ex. 1:9-11](#))
 - ii. God was with His people ([Ex. 1:12](#))
 - iii. Pharaoh increased the persecution ([Ex. 1:13-14](#))
2. Pharaoh hatched a new plan to control the Hebrew population ([Ex. 1:15-16](#))
 - a. The plan was infanticide particularly directed to the male children ([Ex. 1:16](#))
 - i. Why sons? They could go to war ([Num. 1:1-4](#); cf. [Ex. 1:10](#))
3. Two Hebrew midwives initially capture our attention in our study on reverence: Shiphrah and Puah ([Ex. 1:15](#))

I. The Hebrew Midwives

1. Shiphrah and Puah were Hebrew midwives ([Ex. 1:15](#))
 - a. A midwife assists women in childbirth ([Ex. 1:16](#))
 - b. Shiphrah means, “brightness” (Strong 120)
 - c. Puah means, “to glitter; brilliancy” (Strong 94)
2. They were instructed by the Egyptian government to kill the male children and save the female children ([Ex. 1:16](#))
 - a. Major problem: this violates God’s Law ([Gen. 4:8-12](#), [9:5-6](#); [Ex. 20:13](#); [Dt. 5:17](#); [Ps. 106:37-38](#))
 - i. Children are innocent; not born in sin ([Ezek. 18:20](#))
 - ii. When man’s law violates God’s Law we obey God, otherwise we obey both ([Rm. 13:1](#))
 - b. How many people have innocent blood on their hands?
 - i. Every murder of an innocent child [termed abortion] is 100% sinful
 - ii. Consider what was required under the Law of Moses to remove the guilt of innocent blood for one individual from the land ([Dt. 21:1-9](#))

3. The Hebrew midwives feared God ([Ex. 1:17](#))
 - a. They obeyed God rather than the government like some others that feared God ([Acts 5:17-32](#))
 - b. Pharaoh [government] challenged the midwives' decision ([Ex. 1:18](#))
 - i. They answered the challenge ([Ex. 1:19](#))
 - c. God blessed the midwives because they feared Him ([Ex. 1:20-21](#))
 - i. He will do the same to all who fear Him today

II. Moses' Parents

1. A male child is born and hidden ([Ex. 2:1-2](#))
 - a. We see the child's parents obeying God over the wicked government
2. When the child could no longer be hidden, plans were made for his preservation ([Ex. 2:3-10](#))
 - a. The child was named Moses ([Ex. 2:10](#)) and his parents were Amram and Jochebed ([Ex. 6:20](#))
3. Moses' parents were people of faith ([Heb. 11:23](#))
 - a. They were also people who feared the LORD
 - b. What if they had not feared God?

Conclusion

1. The Hebrew midwives, Shiphrah and Puah, and Moses' parents, Amram and Jochebed, exemplify the fear of the LORD
 - a. They refused to obey a wicked government in murdering innocent life
2. We need more people like them today that will stand up for those who cannot stand up for themselves