

The Book of
Exodus
Chapter 1

These are the names of the sons of Israel that came into Egypt together with Jacob their father; they came in each with their whole family. 2 Ruben, Simeon, Levi, Judas, 3 Issahar, Zabulon, Benjamin, 4 Dan and Nephthalim, Gad and Aser. 5 Joseph was in Egypt. All the souls born of Jacob were seventy-five. 6 And Joseph died, and all his brothers, and all that generation. 7 The sons of Israel increased and multiplied, and became numerous and grew very strong, and the land multiplied with them. 8 And there arose another king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. 9 And he said to his nation, Behold, the race of the sons of Israel is a great multitude, and is stronger than we; 10 come then, let us deal craftily with them, lest at any time they be increased, and whenever war shall happen to us, these also shall be added to our enemies, and having prevailed against us in war, they will depart out of the land. 11 And he set over them taskmasters, who did afflict them in their works; and they built fortified cities, Pitho, and Ramesse, and On, which is Heliopolis, for Pharaoh. 12 But as they humbled them, by so much they multiplied, and grew very strong; and the Egyptians greatly abhorred the sons of Israel. 13 And the Egyptians tyrannized over the sons of Israel by force. 14 And they embittered their life by hard labors, in the mortar and in brick making, and all the works in the plains, according to all the works, wherein they reduced them to slavery with force.

15 And the king of the Egyptians spoke to the midwives of the Hebrews; the name of the one was Sepphora; and the name of the second, Phua. 16 And he said, When ye act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and they are about to be delivered, if it be a male, kill it; but if a female, save it. 17 But the midwives feared God, and did not as the King of Egypt commanded them; and they saved the males alive. 18 The King of Egypt *then* called the midwives, and said to them, Why is it that ye have done this thing, and saved the males alive? 19 And the midwives said to Pharaoh, The Hebrew women are not as the women of Egypt, for they deliver before the midwives go in to them. So they bore children. 20 And

Exodus 2

Chapter 2

There was a certain man from the tribe of Levi, who took to wife one of the daughters of Levi. 2 And she conceived, and bore a male child; and having seen that he was fair, they hid him three months. 3 And when they could no longer hide him, his mother took for him a basket, and besmeared it with tar, and cast the child into it, and put it in the marsh by the river. 4 And his sister was watching from a distance, to learn what would happen to him.

5 And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to the river to bathe; and her maids walked by the river's side, and having seen the basket in the marsh, she sent her maid, and took it up. 6 And having opened it, she sees the babe weeping in the basket: and the daughter of Pharaoh had compassion on him, and said, From the male children of the Hebrews this *one* is. 7 And his sister said to the daughter of Pharaoh, Will thou that I call to thee a nurse of the Hebrews, and shall she suckle the child for thee? 8 And the daughter of Pharaoh said, Go, and the young woman went, and called the mother of the child. 9 And the daughter of Pharaoh said to her, Take care of this child, and suckled it for me, and I will give thee your wages; and the woman took the child, and suckled it. 10 And when the boy was grown, she brought him to the daughter of Pharaoh, and he became her son; and she named his name, Moses, saying, I drew him out of the water.

11 And it came to pass in that length of days, that Moses having grown up, went out to his brothers the sons of Israel; and having pondered their pain, he saw an Egyptian striking a certain Hebrew of his brothers of the sons of Israel. 12 And having looked around this way and that way, he saw no one; and he struck the Egyptian, and hid him in the sand. 13 And having gone out the second day he saw two Hebrew men fighting; and he said to the one was in the wrong, Wherefore strikes thou thy neighbor? 14 And he said, Who made thee a ruler and a judge over us? Do you want to kill me in the same manner you yesterday killed the Egyptian? Then Moses was afraid, and said, If *it is* thus, this matter has become known. 15 When Pharaoh heard this matter he sought to kill Moses; and Moses departed from the face of Pharaoh, and lived in the land of Madiam; and having come into the land of Madiam, he sat by a well.

16 And the priest of Madiam had seven daughters, tending the sheep of their father Jethro; and they came and drew water until they filled their pitchers,

Exodus 3

21 And Moses stayed with the man, and he gave Sepphora his daughter to Moses for a wife. 22 And the woman conceived and bore a son, and Moses called his name Gersam, saying, I am a traveler in a foreign land. * 23 And in those days after a length of time, the king of Egypt died; and the sons of Israel groaned because of their tasks, and cried, and their cry because of their tasks went up to God. 24 And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant made with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob. 25 And God looked upon the sons of Israel, and was made known to them.

* *Codex Alexandrius* reads: "Jethro".

* The vesper reading for Holy and Great Wednesday for the Holy Week of *Pascha* reads Chapter Two, verse twenty-three much differently than what is present in the Apostoliki Diakonia and Zoe Brotherhood texts. This variant or additional reading may also be a continuation of verse twenty-two. The reading is translated as follows:

"And she conceived again, and bore a second son, and called his name Eliezer, saying, For the God of my father is my helper, and has rescued me from the hand of Pharaoh."

Chapter 3

And Moses was feeding the sheep of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Madiam; and he brought the sheep near to the wilderness, and came to the mountain of Horeb. 2 And an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a fire of flame out of the bush, and he saw that the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed. 3 And Moses said, When I go by, I will see this great sight, why the bush is not consumed. 4 And when the Lord saw that he drew near to see, the Lord called to him out of the bush, saying, Moses, Moses, and he said, What is it? 5 And He said, Draw not near here; loose thy sandals from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou stand is holy ground. 6 And He said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob; and Moses turned away his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

7 And the Lord said to Moses, I have surely seen the affliction of My people that are in Egypt, and I have heard their cry caused by their taskmasters for I know their affliction. 8 And I have come down to deliver them out of the

Exodus 4

10 And now come, I will send thee to Pharaoh King of Egypt, and thou shall bring out my people the sons of Israel from the land of Egypt. 11 And Moses said to God, Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh King of Egypt, and that I should bring out the sons of Israel from the land of Egypt? 12 And God spoke to Moses, saying, I will be with thee, and this shall be the sign to thee that I shall send thee forth, when thou bring out my people out of Egypt, then ye shall serve God in this mountain. 13 And Moses said to God, Behold, I shall go forth to the sons of Israel, and shall say to them, The God of our fathers has sent me to you; and they will ask me, What is his name? What shall I say to them? 14 And God spoke to Moses, saying, I am THE ONE WHO IS; and he said, Thus shall ye say to the sons of Israel, THE ONE WHO IS has sent me to you.

15 And God said again to Moses, Thus shall thou say to the sons of Israel, The Lord God of our fathers, the God of Abraham, and God of Isaac, and God of Jacob, has sent me to you; this is my name forever, and my memorial to generations of generations. 16 Go then and gather the elders of the sons of Israel, and thou shall say to them, The Lord God of our fathers has appeared to me, the God of Abraham, and God of Isaac, and God of Jacob, saying, I have surely looked upon you, and upon all the things which have happened to you in Egypt. 17 And he said, I would bring you up out of the affliction of the Egyptians to the land of the Canaanites and the Hittites, and Amorites and Pherezites, and Gergesites, and Evites, and Jebusites, to a land flowing with milk and honey. 18 And they shall hearken to thy voice, and thou and the rulers of Israel shall go in to Pharaoh King of Egypt, and thou shall say to him, The God of the Hebrews has called us; we will go then a journey of three days into the wilderness that we may sacrifice to our God.

19 I know that Pharaoh King of Egypt will not let you go, save with a mighty hand; 20 and I will stretch out my hand, and strike the Egyptians with all my wonders, which I shall work among them, and after that he will send you forth. 21 And I will give this people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, and whenever ye shall escape, ye shall not depart empty. 22 But every woman shall ask of her neighbor and fellow lodger, articles of gold and silver, and apparel; and ye shall put them upon your sons and upon your daughters, and spoil ye the Egyptians.

Exodus 4

4 And the Lord said to Moses, Stretch forth thine hand, and take hold of its tail. So he stretched forth his hand and took hold of the tail, 5 and it became a rod in his hand that they may believe thee that the God of thy fathers has appeared to thee, the God of Abraham, and God of Isaac, and God of Jacob. 6 And the Lord said again to him, Put thine hand into thy bosom; and he put his hand into his bosom, and brought his hand out of his bosom, and his hand became as snow.

7 And he said again, Put thy hand into thy bosom; and he put his hand into his bosom, and brought his hand out of his bosom, and it was again restored to the complexion of his other flesh. 8 And if they will not believe thee, nor hearken to the voice of the first sign, they will believe thee because of the voice of the second sign.

9 And it shall come to pass if they will not believe thee for these two signs, and will not hearken to thy voice, that thou shall take of the water of the river and pour it upon the dry land, and the water, which thou shall take from the river, shall be blood upon the dry land. 10 And Moses said to the Lord, I pray, Lord, I have not been sufficient before yesterday, neither before the third day or since thou has begun to speak to thy servant: I am weak in speech, and slow-tongued. 11 And the Lord said to Moses, Who has given a mouth to man, and who has made the very hard of hearing, and the deaf, the seeing and the blind? Have not I, God? 12 And now go and I will open thy mouth, and will instruct thee in what thou shall say. 13 And Moses said, I pray thee, Lord, appoint another able person whom thou shall send.

14 And the Lord was greatly angered against Moses, and said, Behold! Is not Aaron the Levite thy brother? I know that he will surely speak to thee; and, behold, he will come forth to meet thee, and beholding thee he will rejoice within himself. 15 And thou shall speak to him; and thou shall put my words into his mouth, and I will open thy mouth and his mouth, and I will instruct you in what ye shall do. 16 And he shall speak for thee to the people, and he shall be thy mouth, and thou shall be for him in things pertaining to God. 17 And this rod that was turned into a serpent thou shall take in thine hand, wherewith thou shall work miracles. 18 And Moses went and returned to Jethro his father-in-law, and says, I will go and return to my brethren in Egypt, and will see if they are yet living. And Jethro said to Moses, Go in health. And in those days after some

Exodus 5

22 And thou shall say to Pharaoh, These things saith the Lord, Israel is my firstborn. 23 And I said to thee, Send away my people that they may serve me: now if thou wilt not send them away, see, I will kill thy firstborn son. 24 And it came to pass that the angel of the Lord met him by the way in the inn, and sought to kill him. 25 and Sepphora having taken a stone cut off the foreskin of her son, and fell at his feet and said, The blood of the circumcision of my son is staunch: 26 and he departed from him, because she said, The blood of the circumcision of my son is staunch. 27 And the Lord said to Aaron, Go into the wilderness to meet Moses; and he went and met him in the mount of God, and they kissed each other. 28 And Moses reported to Aaron all the words of the Lord, which he sent, and all the things, which he charged him. 29 And Moses and Aaron went and gathered the elders of the sons of Israel.

30 And Aaron spoke all these words, which God spoke to Moses, and wrought the miracles before the people. 31 and the people believed and rejoiced, because God visited the sons of Israel, and because He saw their affliction; and the people bowed and worshipped.

Chapter 5

And after this went in Moses and Aaron to Pharaoh, and they said to him, These things says the Lord God of Israel, Send my people away, that they may keep a feast to me in the wilderness. 2 And Pharaoh said, Who is he that I should hearken to his voice, so that I should send away the sons of Israel? I do not know the Lord, and I will not send out Israel. 3 And they say to him, The God of the Hebrews has called us to him; we will go therefore a three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the Lord our God, lest at any time death or slaughter happen to us. 4 And the King of Egypt said to them, Why do ye, Moses and Aaron, turn the people from their works? Depart each of you to your works. 5 And Pharaoh said, Behold now, the people is very numerous; let us not then give them rest from their work.

6 And Pharaoh gave orders to the task-masters of the people and the accountants, saying, 7 Ye shall no longer give straw to the people for brick making as yesterday and the third day; but let them go themselves, and collect straw for themselves. 8 And thou shall impose on them daily the rate of brick-

Exodus 6

12 So the people were dispersed in all the land of Egypt, to gather stubble for straw. 13 and the taskmasters hastened them, saying, Fulfill your regular daily tasks, even as when straw was given you. 14 And the accountants of the race of the sons of Israel, who were set over them by the masters of Pharaoh, were scourged, and questioned, men saying, Why have ye not fulfilled your rates of brickwork as yesterday and the third day, today also? 15 And the accountants of the sons of Israel went in and cried to Pharaoh, saying, Why does thou act thus to thy servants? 16 Straw is not given to thy servants, and they tell us to make brick; and behold thy servants have been scourged; thou will therefore injure thy people. 17 And he said to them, Ye are idle, ye are idlers; therefore ye say, Let us go and do sacrifice to our God. 18 Now then go and work, for straw shall not be given to you, yet ye shall return the rate of bricks. 19 And the accountants of the sons of Israel saw themselves in an evil plight, men saying, Ye shall not fail from the brick making that belongs to each day.

20 And they met Moses and Aaron coming forth to meet them, as they came forth from Pharaoh. 21 And they said to them, The Lord look upon you and judge you, for ye have made our savor abominable before Pharaoh, and before his servants, to put a sword into his hands to kill us. 22 And Moses turned to the Lord, and said, I pray, Lord, why hast thou afflicted this people? And wherefore hast thou sent me? 23 For from the time that I went to Pharaoh to speak in thy name, he has afflicted this people, and thou hast not delivered thy people.