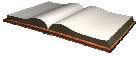


BritLit

Moses Little Brother

Pre-Reading Activities

1.



Moses

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

According to the book of Exodus, Moses was born to a Hebrew mother who hid him when a Pharaoh ordered all newborn Hebrew boys to be killed, and ended up being adopted into the Egyptian royal family. After killing an Egyptian slave master, he fled and became a shepherd, and was later commanded by God to deliver the Hebrews from slavery. After the Ten Plagues were unleashed on Egypt, he led the Hebrew slaves out of Egypt, through the Red Sea, and they wandered in the desert for 40 years. Despite living to 120, he did not enter the Land of Israel, as he disobeyed God when God instructed him on how to bring forth water from a rock in the desert - instead of once, he struck the rock twice, due to doubt.

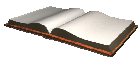
Doubt has been cast upon the historicity of Moses, because no physical evidence for his existence has been discovered, and some modern Egyptologists consider him only a legendary figure. Bible scholars tend to dispute this conclusion.



There is no mention in biblical texts of 'Moses little brother'. What do you think the purpose of the author introducing this figure into the story might be?

2. Images in the Original Story of Moses

Biblical texts refer to a number of miraculous events that occurred during the exodus of the tribes of Israel to the Promised Land, some of which are referred to in Ron Butlin's story. Here is an extract from the English Revised edition of the bible which tells about Moses' first encounter with God



Now Moses was keeping the flock of Jethro, his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the back of the wilderness, and came to the mountain of God, unto Horeb.

And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.

.....

Go, and gather the elders of Israel together, and say unto them, The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, hath appeared unto me, saying, I have surely visited you, and seen that which is done to you in Egypt:

and I have said, I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt unto the land of the Canaanite, and the Hittite, and the Amorite, and the Perizzite, and the Hivite, and the Jebusite, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.

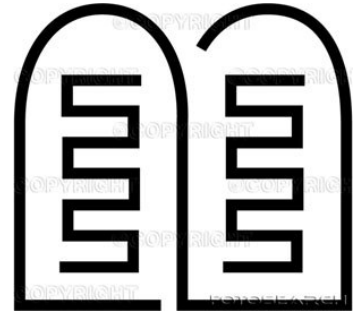
English Revised Version
Exodus 3

Questions



1. How did God decide to appear to Moses?
2. How was the Promised Land described?

3. Here are some questions about the story. Think up some answers to the questions even though you haven't read the story yet. Draw on your knowledge of how stories usually work. Read all the questions first as they might contain some clues.



1. What did Moses little brother say to his big brother as they set off into the desert or wilderness?
2. What did Moses little brother have in his hand to show to Moses?
3. How did Moses say they would find their way through the wilderness?
4. Why didn't Moses little brother stay with the Tribes?
5. What did God say to Moses little brother?
6. What did Moses little brother do when he got to the Promised Land?
7. What happened when the tribes of Israel reached the Promised Land?



4. Vocabulary

The following words and phrases are used in the story of 'Moses Little Brother'. Match the words or phrases on the left with the correct descriptions on the right.

Wilderness	column
Plague	That's fine
Locust	infestation
Frog	continuing (to argue?)
Boils (noun)	skin diseases
Pillar	insect that eats crops
Suits me	desert like, hostile land
Work permit	amphibian
For the likes of him	place were construction is taking place
Building-site	for people in a similar situation
Still at it	official licence to work

