



Rescue

Genesis 13–50 · Exodus 1–18

The promise passes from Abraham to Isaac to Jacob, who is renamed Israel. They move to Egypt where they end up as slaves. God's people, the Israelites, cry out to God for freedom. God rescues his people through Moses.

Video Summary

God repeats the promise he made to Abraham about his family first to his son Isaac and then to his grandson Jacob. Jacob is renamed Israel and has twelve sons whose descendants later become the twelve tribes of the nation Israel.

Israel's family move to Egypt. There they grow into a large nation, the Israelites. A new Pharaoh takes over and feels threatened by them. He enslaves them. They remain trapped there for 400 years.

Although Abraham's family have grown into a great nation, the other parts of God's promise remain unfulfilled. They're not in their own land, they're in Egypt. They're not blessed under God's rule, they're suffering under Pharaoh's rule. They're not being a blessing — instead they're enslaved and building a kingdom for Pharaoh.

The Israelites cry out to God. God raises up a leader to rescue them — Moses. There is a face-off between Moses representing God and Pharaoh who thinks he is God. God proves he's a more powerful king and liberates the Israelites out of Egypt. They travel through the desert and arrive at Mount Sinai.

Discussion Questions

- 1** What would it have been like for the Israelites during their 400 years of slavery? How would they feel about the promises? What would their prayer life be like?
- 2** Everybody lives for something. What sort of things do people today invest their lives to build, even non-religious people?
- 3** In what ways might we find ourselves investing our lives in building things that don't align with God's kingdom?
- 4** God proves he's a more powerful king. How can this encourage us when we face seemingly unbeatable challenges or oppressive systems today?
- 5** How is the way we pray changed by the fact that God acts on the basis of his promises?

Bible Passages for Further Study

Genesis 46:1-4 — Abraham's descendants (the Israelites) go to Egypt

Exodus 1 — Israel's family grows despite Pharaoh's attempt to stop them



Exodus 2:23-24 — God hears his people's cry for help

Exodus 3 — God initiates a rescue

Exodus 14 — God defeats Pharaoh and liberates the Israelites from Egypt