MOSES AND AARON MEET WITH PHARAOH

Moses went with his brother Aaron to Egypt to meet with the elders of Israel as God had asked. They and all the Israelites believed the message Moses delivered. They bowed down and worshiped God for choosing to deliver them at this time and to lead them to the Promised Land.

Afterward, Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh to ask him on behalf of God to free the Israelites so they could go to worship their God. Pharaoh would not let them go. When Moses and Aaron asked again, Pharaoh accused them of taking the people away from their work. As punishment, the Pharaoh made working conditions harder for the Israelites. The Israelites would not be given straw for making bricks. They would have to gather their own straw, but their daily quota of bricks would not be reduced.

Israel’s cruel bondage continued. Discouraged, Moses went to God. God said that by his mighty hand, he would gain freedom for the Israelites so that they would be permitted to leave Egypt. He poured on Egypt a series of 10 plagues.

First, Moses followed God’s command to stretch his staff over the water of the Nile. All the water turned to blood. The fish in the Nile died, and the river smelled so bad that the Egyptians could not drink the water. Through this act, Pharaoh and all Egypt would know that the LORD was God. Despite this, Pharaoh would not release the Israelites. Many more plagues were sent upon Pharaoh before he let his slaves go.

Moses and Aaron Meet With Pharaoh
I. Moses and his brother Aaron met with the elders of Israel.
   A. They told the Israelites about God’s message.
   B. The Israelites believed what Moses said and worshiped God.

II. Then Moses and Aaron went to the Pharaoh to ask him to release the Israelites.
   A. Pharaoh said no.
   B. He accused Moses of taking the people away from their work, and he ordered that they work harder.
   C. Pharaoh said the Israelites would not receive straw for bricks but would have to gather their own.

III. God began to pour a series of plagues on Egypt.
   A. In the first one, he told Moses to put his staff over the water of the Nile.
   B. The water turned to blood.
   C. The fish died, and the Egyptians lost a source of drinking water.
   D. Pharaoh still would not release the Israelites.

ANSWER KEY:
believed, message, bowed, down, worshiped, choosing, deliver, lead, Promised, Land, asked, release, slavery, No, punished, more

The water turned to blood, the fish died. The river smelled so bad the water was undrinkable.

POINTS TO CONSIDER:
• The other plagues included:
  frogs (Exodus 8:1-15), gnats (Exodus 8:16-19),
  flies (Exodus 8:20-24), death of livestock
  (Exodus 9:1-7), boils (Exodus 9:8-12),
  hail (Exodus 9:18-26), locusts (Exodus 10:1-20)
  and darkness (Exodus 10:21-29). The final
  plague was associated with the killing of the
  firstborn of Egypt and the Passover.
• Israel was included in the first three plagues
  (water into blood, frogs and gnats). Israel, too,
  had to learn of God’s great power. After the
  first three, God plagued only the Egyptians,
  showing God’s distinction between his people
  Israel and the Egyptians (Exodus 8:22).