

¹وَهَذِهِ أَسْمَاءُ بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ الَّذِينَ جَاءُوا إِلَى مِصْرَ. مَعَ يَعْقُوبَ جَاءَ كُلُّ إِنْسَانٍ وَبَيْتِهِ.² رَأُوْبَيْنُ، وَسَمْعُؤُنْ، وَلاَوِي، وَيَهُودَا،³ وَشَاكُرُ، وَرَبُّوْلُونُ، وَيَسَّامِينُ،⁴ وَدَانُ، وَنَفْتَالِي، وَجَادُ،⁵ وَأَشِيرُ. وَكَانَتْ جَمِيعُ نَفُوسِ الْخَارِجِينَ مِنْ صُلْبِ يَعْقُوبَ سَبْعِينَ نَفْسًا. وَلَكِنْ يُوسُفُ كَانَ فِي مِصْرَ.⁶ وَمَاتَ يُوسُفُ وَكُلُّ إِخْوَتِهِ وَجَمِيعُ ذَلِكَ الْجِيلِ.⁷ وَأَمَّا بَنُو إِسْرَائِيلَ فَأَتَمَرُوا وَتَوَالَدُوا وَتَمَمُوا وَكَثُرُوا كَثِيرًا جَدًّا،⁸ وَامْتَلَأَتِ الْأَرْضُ مِنْهُمْ.⁹ ثُمَّ قَامَ مَلِكٌ جَدِيدٌ عَلَى مِصْرَ لَمْ يَكُنْ يَعْرِفُ يُوسُفَ.¹⁰ فَقَالَ لِسَعْبِيهِ، هُوَذَا بَنُو إِسْرَائِيلَ سَعْبٌ أَكْثَرُ وَأَعْظَمُ مِنَّا.¹¹ هَلُمَّ نَحْتَالِ لَهُمْ لِيلاً يَتَمَمُوا، فَيَكُونُوا إِذَا حَدَثَتْ حَرْبٌ أَنَّهُمْ يَنْصَمُونَ إِلَى أَعْدَائِنَا وَيُخَارِبُونَنَا وَيَضَعُونَنَا مِنَ الْأَرْضِ.¹² فَجَعَلُوا عَلَيْهِمْ رُؤُسَاءَ تَسْخِيرٍ لِكَيْ يُذَلُّوا بِأَنْقَالِهِمْ، قَبْتُوا لِفِرْعَوْنَ مَدِينَتَيْ مَحَارِنَ، وَفِيثُومَ، وَرَعْمِيسِينَ.¹³ وَلَكِنْ بِحَسْبِ مَا أَدَلُّوهُمْ هَكَذَا تَمَرُّوا وَامْتَدَّوا. فَاحْتَسَبُوا مِنْ بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ¹⁴ عِشْرِينَ، وَصَرَّرُوا خَبَاتَهُمْ بِعُبُودِيَّةٍ قَاسِيَةٍ فِي الطِّينِ وَاللَّبْنِ وَفِي كُلِّ عَمَلٍ فِي الْحَقْلِ. كُلُّ عَمَلِهِمُ الَّذِي عَمِلُوهُ بِوِاسِطَتِهِمْ غُنْفًا.¹⁵ وَكَلَّمَ مَلِكُ مِصْرَ قَائِلَتِي الْعِبْرَانِيَّاتِ اللَّتَيْنِ اسْمُهُمَا شِفْرَةُ وَاسْمُ الْأُخْرَى فُوعَةُ،¹⁶ وَقَالَ، حَيْثَمَا تُوَلَدَانِ الْعِبْرَانِيَّاتِ وَتَنْطُرَانِي عَلَى الْكَرَاسِيِّ إِنْ كَانَ ابْنًا فَأَقْتُلَاهُ، وَإِنْ كَانَ بِنْتًا فَتَحْبِئِي.¹⁷ وَلَكِنَّ الْقَائِلَتَيْنِ خَافَتَا اللَّهَ وَلَمْ تَفْعَلَا كَمَا كَلَّمَهُمَا مَلِكُ مِصْرَ، بَلْ اسْتَحْيَتَا الْأَوْلَادَ.¹⁸ فَدَعَا مَلِكُ مِصْرَ الْقَائِلَتَيْنِ وَقَالَ لَهُمَا، لِمَاذَا فَعَلْتُمَا هَذَا الْأَمْرَ وَاسْتَحْيَيْتُمَا الْأَوْلَادَ؟¹⁹ فَقَالَتِ الْقَائِلَتَانِ لِفِرْعَوْنَ، إِنَّ النِّسَاءَ الْعِبْرَانِيَّاتِ لَسُنَّ كَالْمِصْرِيَّاتِ، فَإِنَّهُنَّ قَوَّاتٌ يَلِدْنَ قَبْلَ أَنْ تَأْتِيَهُنَّ الْقَائِلَةُ.²⁰ فَأَحْسَنَ اللَّهُ إِلَى الْقَائِلَتَيْنِ، وَتَمَّ السَّعْبُ وَكَثُرَ جَدًّا.²¹ وَكَانَ إِذْ حَاقَتِ الْقَائِلَتَانِ اللَّهُ أَنَّهُ صَنَعَ لَهُمَا بِنُوتًا.²² ثُمَّ أَمَرَ فِرْعَوْنُ جَمِيعَ سَعْبِيهِ قَائِلًا، كُلُّ ابْنٍ يُولَدُ تَطْرَحُوهُ فِي النَّهْرِ، لِكَيْ كُلُّ بِنْتٍ تَسْتَحْيِيُوهُنَّ.

¹Now these are the names of the children of Israel, which came into Egypt; every man and his household came with Jacob.² Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah,³ Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin,⁴ Dan, and Naphtali, Gad, and Asher.⁵ And all the souls that came out of the loins of Jacob were seventy souls: for Joseph was in Egypt already.⁶ And Joseph died, and all his brethren, and all that generation.⁷ And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceeding mighty; and the land was filled with them.⁸ Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph. And he said unto his people, Behold, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we:¹⁰ Come on, let us deal wisely with them; lest they multiply, and it come to pass, that, when there falleth out any war, they join also unto our enemies, and fight against us, and so get them up out of the land.¹¹ Therefore they did set over them taskmasters to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh treasure cities, Pithom and Raamses.¹² But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were grieved because of the children of Israel.¹³ And the Egyptians made the children of Israel to serve with rigour:¹⁴ And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage, in mortar, and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field: all their service, wherein they made them serve, was with rigour.¹⁵ And the king of Egypt spake to the Hebrew midwives, of which the name of the one was Shiprah,

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and the name of the other Puah:¹⁶ And he said, When ye do the office of a midwife to the Hebrew women, and see them upon the stools; if it be a son, then ye shall kill him: but if it be a daughter, then she shall live.¹⁷ But the midwives feared God, and did not as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the men children alive.¹⁸ And the king of Egypt called for the midwives, and said unto them, Why have ye done this thing, and have saved the men children alive?¹⁹ And the midwives said unto Pharaoh, Because the Hebrew women are not as the Egyptian women; for they are lively, and are delivered ere the midwives come in unto them.²⁰ Therefore God dealt well with the midwives: and the people multiplied, and waxed very mighty.²¹ And it came to pass, because the midwives feared God, that he made them houses.²² And Pharaoh charged all his people, saying, Every son that is born ye shall cast into the river, and every daughter ye shall save alive.