

# Exodus 2:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they said, An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds, and also drew water enough for us, and watered the flock.

## Analysis

**And they said, An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds, and also drew water enough for us, and watered the flock** (וַתֹּאמְרָנָה אִישׁ מִצְרִי וַתֹּאמְרָנָה אִישׁ מִצְרִי, vatomarnah ish Mitsri hitsilanu miyad haro'im)—The daughters call Moses **an Egyptian** (אִישׁ מִצְרִי) based on appearance, dress, or speech. Moses appears to be what he fled from—identity in transition. **Delivered us** (הִצִּילָנוּ, hitsilanu, from נָצַל, natsal, "rescue/snatch away") again uses salvation language. **Drew water enough** (וַיִּגְמֹד־לָהּ דָּלָה לָנוּ) shows Moses didn't just fight off shepherds but completed the work, serving practically. This act of service and deliverance foreshadows Moses' calling—misidentified rescuer who draws water (salvation imagery) for God's flock.

## Historical Context

Moses' Egyptian appearance resulted from 40 years of palace life—clothing, grooming, accent, bearing. This misidentification shows cultural assimilation's depth and perhaps Moses' own identity confusion. His Hebrew heritage remained, but outward markers were Egyptian. The 40-year Midian sojourn would further transform his identity before God's commission at age 80.

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. How does Moses' misidentification as Egyptian reflect the complexity of cultural identity and God's shaping of our character through multiple contexts?
2. What does Moses' servant-hearted drawing of water teach about leadership combining courage with practical service?

## Interlinear Text

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וַתֹּאמֶר הָאֵשׁ	מִצְרַיִם	הִצִּילָנוּ	מִיָּד	הָרָעָה יָמָם	
And they said	An Egyptian	delivered	us out of the hand	of the shepherds	
H559	H376 H4713	H5337	H3027	H7462	
וְגַם	וַיִּדְרֹךְ	וַיִּדְרֹךְ	לָנוּ	וַיַּשְׁקֵנוּ	אֶת הַצֹּאן:
H1571	and also drew	and also drew	H0	for us and watered	H853 the flock
	H1802	H1802		H8248	H6629

## Additional Cross-References

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**Genesis 29:10** (Parallel theme): And it came to pass, when Jacob saw Rachel the daughter of Laban his mother's brother, and the sheep of Laban his mother's brother, that Jacob went near, and rolled the stone from the well's mouth, and watered the flock of Laban his mother's brother.

**Genesis 50:11** (References Egypt): And when the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites, saw the mourning in the floor of Atad, they said, This is a grievous mourning to the Egyptians: wherefore the name of it was called Abel-mizraim, which is beyond Jordan.

