

Exodus 2:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then said his sister to Pharaoh's daughter, Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee?

Analysis

Then said his sister to Pharaoh's daughter, Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee? פָּאַלְגָּה (ha'elekh vekarati lakh ishah meineqet)—Miriam's boldness and presence of mind are remarkable. She seizes the moment, offering a practical solution that will reunite Moses with his mother. **A nurse of the Hebrew women** is brilliant strategy: Hebrew women are available and willing (unlike Egyptian women who might refuse), and it allows the child to be nursed by his own mother while in royal protection. God uses Miriam's quick thinking to perfect His plan. This is faith in action—seeing God's providential opening and stepping through it.

Historical Context

Wet nurses were common in the ancient world, especially in royal households. Egyptian art depicts nurses caring for noble children. That Pharaoh's daughter accepts a Hebrew nurse suggests pragmatic need outweighed prejudice—or perhaps God inclined her heart. Nursing typically lasted 2-3 years (cf. 2 Samuel 4:4), giving Jochebed time to instill Hebrew identity.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does Miriam's readiness to act when opportunity appears challenge you to be alert for God's providential moments?
2. What does this scene teach about God's ability to use our natural skills and quick thinking within His sovereign plans?

Interlinear Text

לֹךְ יָקֹב אֶתְיוֹ פָּאֵל רַנְצָה אֶמְרָה
Then said his sister H413 daughter to Pharaoh's H1980 and call H0
H559 H269 H1323 H6547 H3243 H7121

אֶת לְךָ יִתְנַצֵּל אֲשֶׁר הַעֲבָרִי תִּמְלִיכְתָּן
women that she may nurse H4480 of the Hebrew H5680 that she may nurse H0 H853
H802 H3243 H3243 H0

בָּנֶן:

the child

H3206

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 2:4 (Parallel theme): And his sister stood afar off, to wit what would be done to him.

Numbers 26:59 (Parallel theme): And the name of Amram's wife was Jochebed, the daughter of Levi, whom her mother bare to Levi in Egypt: and she bare unto Amram Aaron and Moses, and Miriam their sister.

Numbers 12:1 (Parallel theme): And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman.

