

## The Exodus

Moses was leading more than a million Israelites out of Egypt, where they had been slaves. The desert was hot, but the people were happy because after four hundred years, they were finally free. They were headed for their promised land. They sang and danced as they traveled.

Suddenly they heard the trample of horses' hooves and the rattling of chariots. The earth shook beneath their feet. They turned around to see Pharaoh's army coming after them. The Red Sea was in front of them. They thought they were trapped. They shouted at Moses, "Did you take us here to die?"

But Moses said, "Fear not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he shall show you today." Then Moses lifted his rod, and amazing things began to happen. The angel of the Lord made it dark behind the Israelites. Then a strong wind blew all night and divided the waters of the sea. The people walked right through the sea on a dry path. Huge walls of water surrounded them but did not fall. They reached the other side safely.

Then Pharaoh's army approached the sea. They tried to cross too. However, the Lord made the wheels of their chariots fall off. They were stuck. Then Moses lifted his rod again, and the sea came down on the army and swallowed them all. The Israelites thanked their God for saving them.