

**‘ACTING THE BIBLE’
at
Beckley School**

**Moses and the Passover
(Exodus 11-12)**

27 March 2025

Joint Benefice of

**The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Beckley St. Nicolas, Forest Hill with Shotover
St. Barnabas, Horton-cum-Studley St. John the Baptist, Stanton St. John**

The Four Parishes 'Acting the Bible' team (previously known as 'Open the Book') leads assembly once a fortnight in Beckley School. The team take stories fresh from the pages of the Bible, and make them into mini dramas, to be acted out by themselves, together with Beckley schoolchildren. Through this, it is hoped that the Bible stories are brought alive, and remembered by the children, especially as they too are involved in the acting.

The team is led by Betty Dye, a Licensed Lay Reader, and includes members from Forest Hill, Stanton St John and Beckley. They meet once a fortnight to write the scripts, with the aim of adhering as closely as possible to the original Bible texts. This often involves comparing different Bible translations and even reading the New Testament in the original Greek!

ACTING THE BIBLE MARCH 2025

MOSES, PHARAOH AND THE PASSOVER Exodus 11 – 12

Cast: Narrator; Moses; Aaron; Pharaoh; Pharaoh's Son;; God; Hebrews (6); Chorus

NARRATOR: Moses and his brother Aaron had been sent by God to rescue his special people, the Hebrews, who were being forced to work as slaves for their Egyptian masters. Moses told Pharaoh that God wanted the Hebrews to go out into the desert to worship him, but Pharaoh said 'no'. God sent nine signs to show Pharaoh that he had great powers, but still Pharaoh refused to let the Hebrews leave Egypt.

CHORUS: OOOOOOOH! The Hebrews are groaning! The Lord God says 'Let my people go!'

(MOSES and AARON walk on from curtain side and stand facing the Chorus. Hebrews speak from their places behind the chorus)

AARON: I can't believe it! Pharaoh is still refusing to let us go into the wilderness to worship the Lord.

MOSES: God warned us that Pharaoh would be stubborn! We just have to keep asking him.

HEBREW 1: God told Moses to turn the River Nile into blood!

HEBREW 2: God created a plague of frogs!

HEBREW 3: God sent clouds of mosquitos!

CHORUS: But Pharaoh still said: 'NO'!

HEBREW 4: God sent swarms of flies!

HEBREW 5: God sent diseases that made all the animals die!

HEBREW 6: God covered the people with sores!

CHORUS: But Pharaoh still said: 'NO'!

HEBREW 1: God sent hailstones to flatten the crops!

HEBREW 2: God sent locusts to eat anything that was left!

HEBREW 3: God made darkness, which lasted three whole days!

CHORUS: But Pharaoh still said: 'NO'!

NARRATOR: At that point God spoke to Moses.

(MOSES turn towards the back of the hall (kitchen side). GOD speaks from behind the children)

GOD: Moses, listen! I am going to teach Pharaoh one last lesson and after that he will beg you to leave. Now go and tell my people, your brother and sister Hebrews, to ask their Egyptian neighbours to give them gold and silver jewellery and clothing for their journey. Then you must go to Pharaoh one last time and I will tell you what to say.

CHORUS: Oh Moses, listen to God! Pharaoh is stubborn, but soon the Hebrews will be free!

NARRATOR: So Moses and Aaron went to see Pharaoh again.

(PHARAOH enters with his son and sits on the throne)

MOSES: Pharaoh, we have one last message from God to you and all your people. The Lord God says "At midnight I will go through Egypt and every firstborn son in Egypt will die. The firstborn son in the palace, the heir to your throne, and the son of the slave woman who grinds the corn, even the firstborn animal in the stable or the field. All will die."

PHARAOH'S SON: Father, I am your firstborn son. Does he mean me? Will I die?

AARON: Yes! But not a single Hebrew child will die, nor one of their sheep or goats.

MOSES: When this happens, you, Pharaoh, and all of Egypt, will beg us to leave. And we certainly will! Come now, Aaron, we must prepare our people.

PHARAOH: *(stand up and shout)* I am king over this country. You can do what you like. I will not listen.

(PHARAOH sit down. SON march off towards Chorus)

CHORUS: The Lord God says 'Let my people go!'

NARRATOR: Now God spoke to Moses again.

GOD: *(from behind the children)* Moses, listen! This is what you must say to my people the Hebrews. They must get a year old lamb, kill it, and collect the blood in a bowl. They must paint the blood on the beam above the door and the two beams on either side. When I see the blood, I will pass over them and will not harm them.

CHORUS: God is sending his Passover!

MOSES: Aaron, go quickly and fetch all the leaders of our people. We have little time left. We must tell them what to do to keep safe when the Lord sends the Angel of Death to kill all the firstborn sons in Egypt.

AARON: Fellow Hebrews, this is what you must do. First you must choose a lamb or a young goat and kill it.

HEBREW 1: Choose a lamb or a young goat and kill it!

MOSES: Collect some of the blood in a bowl and paint it on the beam above the door of your house and the two beams on either side.

HEBREW 2: Paint the blood above the door of the house!

AARON: Then you must build a fire and roast the meat on the fire.

HEBREW 3: Build a fire and roast the meat!

MOSES: Eat the lamb with bitter herbs and with bread made without yeast.

HEBREW 4: Eat the lamb with bitter herbs and bread made without yeast!

AARON: Put on your walking shoes and your coat and eat quickly, for we must all be ready to leave.

HEBREW 5: Eat quickly and be ready to leave!

MOSES: The Lord will see the blood over the door, and he will not let the Angel of Death enter your house and kill you.

CHORUS: God is sending his Passover! But we will be safe.

NARRATOR: At midnight the Lord killed all the firstborn sons in Egypt, from the king's son, to the son of the prisoner in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of the animals. Suddenly there was crying and wailing from every Egyptian home as the firstborn child dropped down dead.

MOSES: Oh, hear the cries of the Egyptians! Some of them were my friends. God has sent his angel to pass over the Egyptians, but he has kept us safe.

NARRATOR: In every Hebrew home they ate a big meal of roast lamb, flat bread and bitter herbs with their coats and shoes on and their bags packed and ready. That same night Pharaoh sent for Moses and Aaron.

PHARAOH: (*stand up and shout*) Moses, Aaron, get out, you and all your people! Leave my country! Go and worship the Lord as you asked. Take your wives and children, your sheep, goats and cattle and leave now. But ask God's blessing on me also.

CHORUS: God has sent his Passover! Now Moses will lead the Hebrews out of Egypt, and they will be free!