

MOSES

CHARACTERS: VOG (Voice of God), Moses

PROPS: staff, leprous glove hidden inside Moses' robes.

SETTING: Bare stage (or add burning bush)

RUN TIME: 3 minutes

SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: Exodus 3 & 4

VOG: Moses! Moses!

MOSES: Here I am. (*Moses looks around, finally up. When he realizes it is God speaking, he falls to his knees.*)

VOG: I have seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. (*Moses gets to his feet*) I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.

MOSES: (*Stunned*) Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?

VOG: I will be with you. But I know that the king of Egypt will not let you go unless a mighty hand compels him. (*MOSES nods in agreement*) So I will stretch out my hand and strike the Egyptians with all the wonders that I will perform among them. After that, he will let you go.

MOSES: (*worried*) What if they do not believe me or listen to me and say, 'The Lord did not appear to you'?

VOG: Throw your staff on the ground. (*MOSES does so and jumps back, frightened*)

MOSES: It turned into a snake!

VOG: Reach out your hand and take it by the tail. (*MOSES cautiously does so and after a couple of false starts, picks it back up*) This is so that they may believe that the Lord, the God of their fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has appeared to you. Put your hand inside your cloak. (*MOSES does so, slips on leper glove, pulls hand out and his face looks horrified at his hand*)

MOSES: My skin is leprous, as white as snow.

VOG: Now put it back into your cloak. (*MOSES does and pulls glove off. When his hand comes out MOSES looks relieved it is back to normal*)

VOG: If they do not believe you or pay attention to the first sign, they may believe the second. But if they do not believe these two signs or listen to you, take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground. (*Moses starts shaking his head 'yes'*) The water you take from the river will become blood on the ground. (*Moses starts shaking his head 'no' as he realizes just what this will entail and how dangerous it will be to go to Pharaoh*)

MOSES: Pardon your servant, Lord. I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue.

VOG: (*commanding*) Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the Lord? Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say.

MOSES: (*pleading*) Pardon your servant, Lord. Please send someone else.

VOG: (*angered*) Your brother, Aaron the Levite, will help you. You speak to him and put words in his mouth; I will help both of you speak and will teach you what to do.

NARRATOR: Moses, at 80 years of age, obeyed though the task was not easy. He spoke God's words to both Pharaoh and his people for the next 40 years.