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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:
A1423 ~ Israel Oppressed

Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.

Animal experts say, "Elephants never forget". Elephants remember what they learn, and can recall both good and bad things in their lives, many years later.

Of course, human beings have quite good memories too. But we do forget things, especially as we get older. Sadly, some people are better at remembering bad things, rather than the many good things other people do for them. And they may easily forget or ignore promises they have made years earlier.

That was what happened in today's Bible story. The king of Egypt was worried about the way the Israelite people were increasing in his country. Perhaps he did not realize an earlier king had invited the ancestors of these people to come and live in Egypt. This earlier Pharaoh had welcomed them because He was thankful for the wise leadership of their brother, Joseph.

Joseph's jealous older brothers had sold him to traders, who sold him as a slave in Egypt. But the Lord God was with Joseph, and, after many trials, he ended up as Governor of Egypt. God had shown Joseph there would be a severe famine after seven plentiful years, so he helped Egypt prepare for the bad years. The Pharaoh was very grateful, and was glad to help all of Joseph's starving family.

But the new king on the Egyptian throne did not know Joseph, and how he had saved the country from ruin. The king just wanted to cut down the number of Israelites, by whatever means he could!

DRAMA - [The Bible In Living Sound](#).

Most things change over time. The king treated Joseph's relatives kindly when they first came to Egypt. But now, Joseph and that king had been dead a long time. The Egyptians no longer recalled the way Joseph had greatly helped their country. They thought the descendants of Joseph and his family were a threat to national security. The Egyptians had forced them into slavery; they treated them harshly, but that did not reduce their numbers. So the king ordered the murder of all newborn Israelite boys.

There was really no excuse for the king to order his people to kill the baby boys. But perhaps we should not blame him for knowing nothing about Joseph's great work for the country. Probably others too, had forgotten about Joseph, and not taught the king about this when he was younger.

We all forget things at times. But you can make a special effort not to forget what is important. The Bible book Deuteronomy, chapter 8, says this, "Make certain that you do not forget the Lord your God; do not fail to obey any of His laws". Originally, Moses gave that advice to all the Israelites, but it's still good for every follower of the true and Living God. Make sure that you do not forget the Creator God who made the world we live in. Try to obey what He says in His holy Word, the Bible.

While you should remember what is important, don't hold on to memories of bad things that have happened to you. The Bible book Leviticus, chapter 19, says, "Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone ..., but love your neighbour as yourself."

A friend once reminded an important lady of a very nasty thing someone did to her, many years before. But the lady did not seem to recall it. "Surely you remember it!" the friend exclaimed. "No", the lady replied, "I distinctly remember forgetting it!" She had purposely chosen not to think about the bad happening any more. Can you forgive and forget like that?

The greatest example of this is God Himself. We all do wrong things, and we deserve God's anger and punishment for our sins. The wrongdoing of human beings greatly displeases the great and holy God. Yet the Bible book Jeremiah, chapter 31, tells how the Lord God promised a new covenant with those who truly follow Him. He said, "I will forgive their sins, and I will no longer remember their wrongs".

The prophet wrote those words long before the Lord Jesus Christ came to this earth. And now that Jesus has died and risen again, this promise applies to all who trust Jesus as their Saviour. Chapter 10 of the Bible book Hebrews, repeats it – and this was after Jesus had died for our sins, and had risen again from the dead. God the Holy Spirit says, "I will put my laws in their hearts, and write them on their minds. ... I will not remember their sins and evil deeds any longer."

God does not have a bad memory. But because Jesus died to take the penalty for our sins, God can put away the sins of those who have asked Jesus to become their Saviour and Master. As Psalm 103 in the Bible says, "God does not punish us as we deserve, or repay us for our sins and wrongs. ... As far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove our sins from us".

God freely offers His forgiveness to all who are truly sorry for their sins, and accept the salvation He offers through the Lord Jesus Christ. Why not take Jesus as your Saviour today, so that God will no longer remembers your wrongdoing?

MUSIC - [Integrity Music](#).

Gene Miller was singing “Forget the Former Things.”

The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.

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