

## Discussion

Remember that these monologues are essentially historical fiction, based on the Scripture but filling in plausible subjective details, both emotional responses and motivations. Your first task is to decide if they are reasonable.

*Is it likely that the intermarriage of the line of Pharaohs produced genetic problems, including infertility?*

*There is astronomical opinion, by Johannes Kepler, that the same conjunctions that occurred before the birth of Jesus also occurred before the birth of Moses. See <https://www.try-god.com/the-biblical-astronomy-of-the-birth-of-moses.php>. Might this have been related to the order to kill baby Israelite boys?*

*Moses would have been 40 years old when he left Egypt to flee a murder charge. Amenhotep, while still a child, might have met him. What could have been his reaction as a very young prince?*

*Is it likely that Amenhotep's grandmother would have told him the story of the baby in a basket floating in the Nile?*

*If you were Pharaoh and were confronted by two old men (one apparently a slave) with an outrageous demand, how would you respond?*

*Would putting extra burdens on the slaves as retaliation for the demands of their leaders result in slaves losing confidence in those leaders?*

*What did Pharaoh expect from his wise men and magicians when Aaron turned the water into blood?*

*What would have been going through his mind when they merely duplicated the miracle?*

*What are the factors that made it difficult for Pharaoh to change his mind as the plagues got worse and worse?*

*Is it hard to say, "I was wrong"?*

*Is it hard for a ruler to admit that he has been defeated?*

*Picture the Egyptian "national security council" discussing the options at each stage of the escalating crisis.*

*Does a ruler consider the morale of his people and their confidence in him as ruler? ("Checking the polls.")*

*How might that affect his decisions?*

*After the death of the firstborn was predicted, is it natural that the Egyptians would try to gather intelligence on how the Israelites would protect their own sons?*

*Exodus 11:1-3 says that the Egyptians gave silver and gold to the Israelites and were favorably disposed to them. Is there a psychological explanation to that?*

*Exodus 10:27 says, "The LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart." Does that mean Pharaoh had no choice?*

*Hebrews 3:15 "As has just been said: 'Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion.'" How does hardening relate to human decisions and Divine decisions?*

*There is a "Screaming Mummy," known to Egyptologists, that Dr. Clyde Billington thinks is the first son of Pharaoh who died in the plague of death. See [https://tccsa.tc/articles/mistreated\\_mummy.pdf](https://tccsa.tc/articles/mistreated_mummy.pdf) and [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGBzWd7y\\_q0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGBzWd7y_q0).*

*Is it reasonable that Pharaoh and his advisors might think there was a last-minute opportunity to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat by pursuing and capturing the Israelites as they found themselves trapped against the sea?*

*Why might the LORD have allowed this to happen?*

*Have you ever been in a situation where everything seems to be going wrong and you have come to the very end?*

*What could possibly prepare you to face such a situation with hope?*

*What are the ways in which the future of Egypt was impacted by this series of events?*

*Might it take a long time for Egypt come back to its previous "Superpower" status?*

*Might there have been a tendency for Egypt to at least add the God of the Israelites to their pantheon of gods?*