

## HOW SATAN OPPRESSES GOD'S PEOPLE THROUGH CORRUPT AUTHORITIES, TESTING THEIR FAITH IN GOD'S PROMISES

### Step 1 | Remove their history

**8** Now there arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph.

### Step 2 | Reframe their relationship

**9** And he said to his people, "Look, the people of the children of Israel *are* more and mightier than we; **10** come, let us deal shrewdly with them, lest they multiply, and it happen, in the event of war, that they also join our enemies and fight against us, and *so* go up out of the land."

### Step 3 | Reduce them to slaves

**11** Therefore they set taskmasters over them to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh supply cities, Pithom and Raamses.

### Step 4 | Reinforce their hatred

**12** But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were in dread of the children of Israel.

### Step 5 | Regard them as disposable

**13** So the Egyptians made the children of Israel serve with rigor. **14** And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage—in mortar, in brick, and in all manner of service in the field. All their service in which they made them serve *was* with rigor.

### Step 6 | Reveal a secret program of genocide at birth

**15** Then the king of Egypt spoke to the Hebrew midwives, of whom the name of one *was* Shiphrah and the name of the other Puah; **16** and he said, "When you do the duties of a midwife for the Hebrew women, and see *them* on the birthstools, if it *is* a son, then you shall kill him; but if it *is* a daughter, then she shall live."

### Response of God-fearing people

**17** But the midwives feared God, and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the male children alive. **18** So the king of Egypt called for the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this thing, and saved the male children alive?" **19** And the midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women *are* not like the Egyptian women; for they *are* lively and give birth before the midwives come to them." **20** Therefore God dealt well with the midwives, and the people multiplied and grew very mighty. **21** And so it was, because the midwives feared God, that He provided households for them.