Now all those descended from Jacob were seventy souls, and Joseph, [who] was in Egypt.

A new king arose over Egypt, who did not know about Joseph.

The children of Israel were fruitful and swarmed and increased and became very very strong, and the land became filled with them.

But as much as they would afflict them, so did they multiply and so did they gain strength, and they were disgusted because of the children of Israel.

Pharaoh decreed upon them four decrees. At first, he made a decree commanding the taskmasters to insist upon their making the prescribed number of bricks. Then he commanded that they should not be allowed to sleep in their homes, intending by this to limit their natural increase, and reasoning to himself: ‘If they be not allowed to sleep in their homes, they will not be able to give birth to children.’ Thereupon the taskmasters said to them: ‘If you go home to sleep, you will lose a few hours each morning from your work, when we send for you, and you will never complete the allotted number,’ as it is said: And the taskmasters were urgent, saying: Fulfill your work (Ex. V, 13). So they used to sleep on the ground…
Exodus 1:22
And Pharaoh commanded all his people, saying, "Every son who is born you shall cast into the Nile, and every daughter you shall allow to live."

Rashi Exodus 1:22
all his people - He issued this decree upon them as well. On the day Moses was born, his astrologers told him [Pharaoh], Today the one who will save them has been born, but we do not know whether from the Egyptians or from the Israelites, but we see that he will ultimately be smitten through water. Therefore, on that day he issued a decree also upon the Egyptians, as it is said: Every son who is born, and it does not say: who is born to the Hebrews. They did not know, however, that he [Moses] would ultimately suffer because of the water of Meribah (Num. 20:7-13) [i.e., that he would not be permitted to enter the Holy Land]. [From Sotah 12a, Exod. Rabbah 1:18, Sanh. 101b]

Genesis 2:18-19
18. And the Lord God said, "It is not good that man is alone; I shall make him a helpmate opposite him."
19. And the Lord God formed from the earth every beast of the field and every fowl of the heavens, and He brought [it] to man to see what he would call it, and whatever the man called each living thing, that was its name.

Genesis 3:20
And the man named his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all life.
NOW THESE ARE THE NAMES OF THE SONS OF ISRAEL. These are mentioned here on account of the pending redemption of Israel. Reuben-as it is said: I have surely seen the affliction of my people (Ex. III, 7). Simeon-because it says: And God heard their groaning (ib.II, 24). Levi-because God associated himself with them in their trouble from the midst of the thornbush, to fulfil that which is said: I will be with thee in trouble (Ps. XCI, 15). Judah-because they praised God. Issachar -because God rewarded them with great substance (Gen.XV, 14). Zebulun-because God caused His Shechinah to dwell among them, as it is said: And afterward shall they come out with great substance (Gen.XV, 14). Naphtali-because of the Torah and commandments which the Lord had given them, of which it is written: Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb-nofeth (Ps. XIX, 11). Gad-because of the manna with which God fed them and which was Like coriander (gad) seed (Ex. XVI, 31). Asher-because all those who heard of their redemption and greatness praised them, as it is written: And all nations shall call you happy (ishru); for ye shall be a delightsone land, saith the Lord of Hosts (Mal. IIIIX, 12). Benjamin-because it is said: Thy right hand (yemineka), O Lord, glorious in power (Ex. XV, 6). Dan- because it says: And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge (dan); and afterward they shall come out with great substance (Gen.XV, 14). Naphtali because of the Torah and commandments which the Lord had given them of which it is written: Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb-nofeth (Ps. XIX, 11).

R. Huna stated in the name of Bar Kappara: Israel were redeemed from Egypt on account of four things, viz. because they did not change their names, they did not change their language, they did not go tale-bearing, and none of them was found to have been immoral. ‘They did not change their name, having gone down as Reuben...’
and Simeon, and having come up as Reuben and Simeon. They did not call Judah 'Leon', nor Reuben 'Rufus', nor Joseph 'Lestes', nor Benjamin 'Alexander'.

Exodus 3:13-15
13. And Moses said to God, "Behold I come to the children of Israel, and I say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?"
14. God said to Moses, "Ehyeh asher ehyeh (I will be what I will be)," and He said, "So shall you say to the children of Israel, 'Ehyeh (I will be) has sent me to you.'"
15. And God said further to Moses, "So shall you say to the children of Israel, 'The Lord God of your forefathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.' This is My name forever, and this is how I should be mentioned in every generation.

Exodus 6:2-3
2. G d spoke to Moses, and He said to him, "I am the Lord.
3. I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob with [the name] Almighty God, but [with] My name YHWH, I did not become known to them.

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