

Ram in the Thicket
Story of Miriam (Moses' Sister)
Exodus 2:1-10

...And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind *him* a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son. Genesis 22:13

God's ram in the thicket (bush) has come to symbolize God's help in strange but wonderful timing. He is a deliverer in our time of need from hurt, pain, or even death. **Miriam**, a competent and self-possessed girl who followed and watched over Moses, shaping his future served as that ram for the Hebrew people. By her courage and awareness a whole nation was given its deliverer. God is still in the operating business of delivering Rams in your time of need. Read [Psalms 23](#)

1 Chronicles 6:1

The sons of Levi; Gershon, Kohath, and Merari. [2](#)And the sons of Kohath; Amram, Izhar, and Hebron, and Uzziel. [3](#)And the children of Amram; Aaron, and Moses, and Miriam.

Miriam means 'prophetess' or 'lady'; Miriam was the revered sister of the tribal leader Moses, but she was also the acknowledged leader of all the women who fled from Egypt with their families. **Moses'** name appears to be Egyptian, as in Thutmoses (child of Thut); or it may simply mean 'child of the water'. The Hebrew word mosheh also means 'pulled out of', as in pulled out of the water. **Aaron** means 'honored or exalted one' - Aaron was the older brother of Moses, and a revered leader of the wandering tribes.

The song of Miriam, [Exodus 15:20-21](#). Miriam became the leader of the Hebrew women when they and their families escaped from Egypt. On one occasion she and the women sang the Song of Miriam; it is one of the few poems that survive from the ancient world.

Miriam's ordeal, [Numbers 12](#). Miriam and Aaron were both popular leaders, but they were bound by the Law, represented by Moses. Miriam questioned Moses' authority, and was punished with a disease that turned her skin white and leprous. Nevertheless she continued searching with Moses for the Promised Land. Miriam and Aaron argue over Moses' Cushite wife.

Miriam's death, [Numbers 20:1-2](#). Miriam died in a waterless place in the wilderness, but afterwards God caused water to appear there.

Note: Cushite: Cush, also spelled *Kush* was according to the [Bible](#) the eldest son of [Ham](#), who was a son of [Noah](#). He was the brother of [Mizraim \(Egypt\)](#), [Canaan](#) (land of [Canaan](#)), and [Phut](#), and the father of the Biblical character [Nimrod](#). The rhetorical question "Can the Cushite change his skin?" in [Jeremiah 13:23](#) implies people of a markedly different skin color from the [Israelites](#), most likely a [Nubian](#) people; also, the [Septuagint](#) uniformly translates Cush as [Αἰθιοπία](#) "[Aithiopia](#)." or Ethiopia.

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