

Women in the Word
October 29, 2024
Exodus 5:8 – 10:29

Who is Your God?

1. Left-over business
Tribes of Israel handout
Zebulun - _____, ship
Joseph – “He will increase”, _____
Benjamin – “Son of my right hand,” _____

2. Why insert the genealogy of Moses and Aaron at this point in the Exodus story?
 - a. Chosen by God
 - b. The priesthood from the family _____, from the _____ of Levi.
 - c. God – given _____ of Moses and Aaron.

The Plagues

Background

Exodus 6:7
Exodus 7:5
Deuteronomy 4: 34 – 35

The Snakes

The court magicians
Spiritual warfare of our age

Significance of the number 10

_____ Commandments
_____ Plagues
_____ Opportunities

Definition of plague: a _____ or _____

See the chart for further explanation of the plagues

Plague / Strike One

The Nile turns to blood

Plague / Strike Two

Frogs

Plague / Strike Three

Swarms of Insects

The Impotence of the magicians / priests

Pharaoh hardens his heart

Definition

Plague / Strike Four

Swarms of flies

Pharaoh's compromise

Why ineffective

Plague / Strike Five

Death of animals

Plague / Strike Six

Boils

What is God's purpose for the plagues? What did God want to accomplish through the plagues?

1. To bring Pharaoh and the Egyptians to their knees so that they will release the Israelites.
2. To reveal himself to both the Israelites and the Egyptians. As we will learn in future chapters, many Egyptians came out with the Israelites when they finally left Egypt.
3. To prove that He alone is God. The deities of Egypt were powerless, useless, man-made constructions with absolutely no power or even function.
4. And God's ultimate purpose: the glory of His name.

Psalm 115: 1 - 8

Who is Your God?

10/29/24

IMH

Some questions to consider

Exodus 5:8 – 10:29

1. Moses frequently questioned God. Compare (1) questioning God; (2) doubt; (3) unbelief. What has been your attitude in approaching God?
2. How does God's purpose in the plagues – that people would know that He is Yahweh – represent the opportunity for Egypt to experience mercy? Why did most of Egypt experience judgment instead?
3. Why do you think God didn't send His judgment in one terrible blow when freeing the Israelites from Egypt?
4. Read the following passages. How do they warn us about counterfeiters and false teachers?
II Timothy 3: 8

Matthew 24:24

Revelation 13: 11 – 15

II Thessalonians 2: 1 - 12

The Plagues / Strikes of Egypt

The Plague/Strike	Egyptian god(s) Targeted	The Significance	Creation versus DeCreation	Pharaoh's Response	Yahweh's Purpose
(1) The Nile turns to blood	Khnum – guardian of the Nile Hapi – spirit of the Nile Osiris – whose blood was the Nile Isis – major goddess in Egyptian lore; wife of Osiris	All fish die; water in any vessel turns to blood Egyptian magicians duplicate/counterfeit, but cannot reverse 7 days	80 years before a pharaoh had ordered Hebrew boys thrown in the river; the blood of the innocents is crying out The river, the lifeblood of Egyptian culture, is now blood	Exodus 7: 22 – 23 “Pharaoh’s heart remained hardened.”	10 acts of de-creation – He is showing the abuse of the world He had created. They display His character, name and power; Exodus 7:17
(2) Frogs	Heqet – head and sometimes the body of a frog Symbolic of fertility and childbirth	The Nile and frogs were sacred to the Egyptians; they were not to be killed. Duplicated by the magicians but could not reverse. Only Moses and Aaron could make the frogs go away	Genesis 1:20 – “Let the water teem with living creatures”; 22 – “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water.” Exodus 7:6 – swarms (perhaps millions) of frogs to irritate and mock	Exodus 8:8 “Plead with the Lord.” Exodus 8:15 “He hardened his heart.”	Exodus 8: 1 – 2 Let my people serve
(3) Gnats or lice	Geb – god of the dust of the earth Set – god of the desert, chaos	God was challenging their trust in the soil. Humiliated the magicians who did not touch insects & bathed religiously; identified with Baal	Man created from the dust of the ground – God’s pinnacle of creation - in His image (Gen 1:26 – 27); now covered with insects from the dust of earth	Exodus 8:19 “Pharaoh’s heart was hardened.”	Release His people to serve Him. Magicians realize God’s power - “This is the finger of God.”

The Plague/Strike	Egyptian god(s) Targeted	The Significance	Creation versus Decreation	Pharaoh's Response	Yahweh's Purpose
(4) Flies	Khepri – a scarab or dung beetle – the most famous of the insect gods; scarabs found on monuments in Egypt A god of rebirth Uatchit – god of flies	Land of Goshen protected – picture of salvation. God himself produces the strike. Thick swarms of disease-bearing insects. Egyptian gods could not be worshipped b/c of uncleanness of priests.	Creation - be fruitful and multiply. Flies and beetles like to decompose; hangout in manure piles and carcasses – filling the land with death.	Exodus 8: 28 – 32 Tries to bargain with God. Sacrifice “in the land,” a compromise which would have endangered the Israelites.	Exodus 8: 22 – 23 God exposes the futility of the Egyptian religion
(5) Sick livestock	Apis – the bull god representing fertility Hathor – goddess with a cow head Isis – fertility goddess	The Egyptians worshipped cattle and other livestock. God strikes all cattle, horses, donkeys, camels, oxen, and sheep, and they die in one day. Israel's livestock is protected.	Instead of life of creation being seen in Egypt, the land is filled with death – death of their animals.	Exodus 9:7 Pharaoh investigates the animals of Goshen	Exodus 9: 1 - 4
(6) Boils	Imhotep – god of medicine. Amon – Re (Ra), Thoth, Sekhmet – the gods of healing and/or epidemics	This strike directly mocks the magician/priests who threw ashes into the air as a sign of blessing in their ceremonies. The priests were also affected. Israelites not affected. No warning	Disease instead of health	Exodus 9: 11 – 12 The LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart	God's plan is being fulfilled. Moses and Aaron are the only ones standing in front of Pharaoh with the true and living God as their support.