

Exodus 7:14-8:32

The Plagues

November 8, 2020 – Rev. Rick Lyon

The word "plague" comes from the Latin *plaga*, which means to strike a blow.

1. The Purpose of the Plagues

Reason #1 - Freedom

God sent Moses and Aaron to Pharaoh with a demand: "*Let My people go that they might serve Me.*"

Reason #2 - Revelation

v. 5 - The Egyptians shall know that I'm the LORD when I stretch out My hand on Egypt.

Numbers 33:4 - The LORD executed judgment on the gods of Egypt.

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2. The Pattern of the Plagues

The pattern is three sets of three.

In the first plague, Moses and Aaron met Pharaoh by the Nile river and warned him.
The second plague, Moses and Aaron met Pharaoh in the Palace and warned him.
The third plague happened with no warning.

In the first three plagues, Aaron's staff was used.
In the second three plagues, no staff was used.
In the last three plagues, Moses' staff was used.

Plague #1 - Water turned to blood.

v. 7:14-18 - Then the Lord said to Moses, “Pharaoh’s heart is hard; he refuses to let the people go. Go to Pharaoh in the morning as he goes out to the river. Confront him on the bank of the Nile, and take in your hand the staff that was changed into a snake. Then say to him, ‘The Lord, the God of the Hebrews, has sent me to say to you: Let my people go, so that they may worship me in the wilderness. But until now you haven't listened. This is what the Lord says: *By this you will know that I am the Lord*: With the staff that is in my hand I'll strike the water of the Nile, and it will be changed into blood. The fish in the Nile will die, and the river will stink; the Egyptians won't be able to drink its water.’”

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The Nile River was the basis for their entire civilization:

- **Provided the transportation**
- **Provided irrigation**
- **Was their water supply.**
- **Their food supply.**
- **Floods gave them fertile topsoil**

v. 19-21 - The Lord said to Moses, “Tell Aaron, ‘Take your staff and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt—over the streams and canals, over the ponds and all the reservoirs—and they'll turn to blood.’ Blood will be everywhere in Egypt, even in vessels of wood and stone.” So, Moses and Aaron did just as the Lord had commanded. He raised his staff in the presence of Pharaoh and his officials and struck the water of the Nile, and all the water was changed into blood. The fish in the Nile died, and the river smelled so bad that the Egyptians couldn't drink its water. Blood was everywhere in Egypt.

v. 22 - **The Egyptian magicians *did the same things by their secret arts***

1 Cor. 2:7-8 - We speak of the mysterious and hidden wisdom of God, which He destined for our glory before time began. Which none of the princes of this world knew: for *had they known it, they wouldn't have crucified the Lord of glory.*

Bible - Don't be deceived, God isn't mocked; whatever a man sows, he'll reap. *Those who sow to satisfy their own sinful nature will reap destruction.*

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Plague #2 - Frogs

- Egyptian's main god: Hekt.
- Hekt: body of a woman and the head of a frog.
- Believed Hekt breathed life into people.
- Frogs were sacred. You couldn't kill a frog.

v. 8:1-4 - Then the Lord said to Moses, “Go to Pharaoh and say to him, ‘This is what the Lord says: Let my people go, so that they may worship Me. If you refuse to let them go, I'll send a plague of frogs on your whole country. The Nile will teem with frogs. They'll come up into your palace and your bedroom and onto your bed, into the houses of your officials and on your people, and into your ovens and kneading troughs. The frogs will come up on you and your people and all your officials.’”

v. 5-8 - Then the Lord said to Moses, “Tell Aaron, ‘Stretch out your hand with your staff over the streams and canals and ponds, and make frogs come up on the land of Egypt.’” So Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt, and the frogs came up and covered the land. But the magicians *did the same things by their secret arts; they also made frogs come up on the land of Egypt*. Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and said, “Pray to the Lord to take the frogs away from me and my people, and I'll let your people go to offer sacrifices to the Lord.”

v. 9 - Moses said to Pharaoh, “*I leave to you the honor of setting the time for me to pray for you and your officials and your people that you and your houses may be rid of the frogs, except for those that remain in the Nile.*”

v. 12-15 - After Moses and Aaron left Pharaoh, Moses cried out to the Lord about the frogs he had brought on Pharaoh. And the Lord did what Moses asked. The frogs died in the houses, in the courtyards and in the fields. They were piled into heaps, and the land reeked of them. But when Pharaoh saw that there was relief, he hard-ened his heart and wouldn't listen to Moses and Aaron, just as the Lord had said.

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Plague #3 - Gnats

v. 16-19 - Then the Lord said to Moses, *“Tell Aaron, ‘Stretch out your staff and strike the dust of the ground,’ and throughout the land of Egypt the dust will become gnats.”* They did this, and when Aaron stretched out his hand with the staff and struck the dust of the ground, gnats came on people and animals. All the dust throughout the land of Egypt became gnats. But when the magicians tried to produce gnats by their secret arts, *they couldn't*. Since the gnats were on people and animals everywhere, the magicians said to Pharaoh, *“This is the finger of God.”* But Pharaoh’s heart was hard and he wouldn't listen, just as the Lord had said.

2 Timothy 3:1-2, 7-9 - Understand this: In the last days terrible times will come. For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy... always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth. Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so also these teachers opposed the truth. They have depraved minds and a counterfeit faith. But they will progress no further, For just like Jannes and Jambres, *their folly will be plain to everyone*.

Satan is powerful, but his powers are limited.

- **He can't create, he can only destroy**
- **He can't love, he can only hate.**
- **He can't redeem, and he won't forgive**
- **He can't be humble, he can only be proud**
- **He was unable to keep Jesus in the grave.**

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- **God broke the devil's power by raising Jesus from the dead**

#1 - Is there anyone or anything that you've placed above God?

#2 - Are you sowing anything in your life today that you'll regret tomorrow?

#3 - Are you putting off till tomorrow something you should do today?

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Reason #2 - _____

7:5 The Egyptians shall know that I'm the LORD when I stretch out My hand on Egypt.

2. The Pattern of the Plagues

Plague #1 - Water turned to blood.

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19 The Lord said to Moses, “Tell Aaron, ‘Take your staff and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt—over the streams and canals, over the ponds and all the reservoirs—and they’ll turn to blood.’ Blood will be everywhere in Egypt, even in vessels of wood and stone.”

So, Moses and Aaron did just as the Lord had commanded. He raised his staff in the presence of Pharaoh and his officials and struck the water of the Nile, and all the water was changed into blood. The fish in the Nile died, and the river smelled so bad that the Egyptians couldn’t drink its water. Blood was everywhere in Egypt.

22 The Egyptian magicians did the same things by their secret arts

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7 But the magicians did the same things by their secret arts; they also made frogs come up on the land of Egypt. Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and said, “Pray to the Lord to take the frogs away from me and my people, and I’ll let your people go to offer sacrifices to the Lord.”

9 Moses said to Pharaoh, “I leave to you the honor of setting the time for me to pray for you and your officials and your people that you and your houses may be rid of the frogs, except for those that remain in the Nile.”

“Tomorrow,” Pharaoh said.

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