

24 - The Ten Plagues of Egypt



www.crcnh.org

There was a 64 year gap between the death of Joseph (1635 BC) and the birth of Moses (1571 BC). **Exodus (1:8)** tells us that a new King (possibly Amosis I) arose that did not know Joseph. He was afraid the Israelites were becoming too strong and they might take over Egypt so he enslaved them. In **Exodus (3:10)** God promised Moses that He would free the Israelites from this bondage. Moses was 80 years old and his brother Aaron was 83 when they were called by God to afflict Pharaoh with these 10 plagues. The Exodus occurred in 1491 BC.

1 - BLOOD



Exodus (7:14-24)

- The Nile River and other water sources were turned to blood.
- Plague initiated by using Aaron's staff.
- Mocked "Hapi" the spirit of the Nile.
- Egyptian magicians were able to duplicate.

2 - FROGS



Exodus (8:1-15)

- Frogs infested the houses, courts, and fields.
- Plague initiated by using Aaron's staff.
- Mocked "Heqt" the god of the frogs.
- Egyptian magicians were able to duplicate.

3 - GNATS



Exodus (8:16-19)

- The dust of the earth turned to gnats (lice) and they infested all of the people and animals.
- Plague initiated by using Aaron's staff.
- Mocked "Seb" the earth god.
- Magicians powerless.

4 - FLIES



Exodus (8:20-32)

- All houses were filled with flies. This did not affect the Israelites.
- God initiated plague.
- Mocked "Uatchit" the god of the flies.
- Plague only affected the land of Egypt.
- Magicians powerless.

5 - PESTILENCE



Exodus (9:1-7)

- All Egyptian livestock that was in the field died.
- God initiated plague.
- Mocked "Ptah" (Apis) the god of the bulls.
- This did not affect Israelite livestock.
- Magicians powerless.

6 - BOILS



Exodus (9:8-12)

- Boils broke out on the people and animals.
- Moses scattered ashes to initiate plague.
- Mocked "Sekhmet" the goddess of healing.
- Israelites unaffected.
- Magicians powerless and severely affected.

7 - HAIL



Exodus (9:13-35)

- All the flax and barley crops were ruined.
- Moses' staff used.
- Mocked "Nut" the sky goddess and "Seth" the protector of the crops.
- Israelites unaffected
- Pharaoh's servants were very concerned.

8 - LOCUSTS



Exodus (10:1-20)

- All plants and fruit of the trees was eaten.
- Moses' staff used.
- Mocked "Serapis" the goddess of crop protection or "Isis" the goddess of life.
- Israelites unaffected.
- Servants concerned.

9 - DARKNESS



Exodus (10:21-29)

- An unnatural darkness fell over the land for 3 days. No one could see anything or go out.
- Moses used his hand.
- Mocked "Re" the sun god or "Atum" the god of the setting sun.
- Israelites had light.

10 - FIRSTBORN DEATH - PASSOVER

Exodus (11, 12)

(The firstborn of every Egyptian family and every beast was killed by the Lord "the destroyer")

- On the 10th of Nisan every household was to get an unblemished one year old male "lamb" for a blood sacrifice.
- On the 14th of Nisan, they were to kill the "lamb" and use a bunch of hyssop to put blood on the doorposts and lintel of their house. This was a sign to God to "Passover" that house (protected by the "blood of the lamb").
- They were to fire roast and eat the lamb with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. It was not to be boiled and none was to be left until morning or it was to be burnt.
- They were also to only eat unleavened bread for seven days after that. A holy Sabbath assembly was to be held on the first and seventh days. This instituted the "Passover" Feast on the 14th of Nisan and the "Feast of Unleavened Bread" from the 14th to the 21st of Nisan. This was a "shadow" of the Passover meal that would have Jesus Christ as the sacrificial lamb.
- Pharaoh allowed the Israelites to leave Egypt. It had been 430 years to the day since Abraham had begun his sojourn in the land of Egypt. Egypt represents "the world" and the Israelites were heading for "the promised land" (symbolic heaven).
- Moses took the bones of Joseph when they left. The Egyptians gave the Israelites gold and silver to take.

