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A STUDY ON THE TEN PLAGUES OF EGYPT

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ON THE TEN PLAGUES OF EGYPT: AN INTRODUCTION

TOPIC	EXPLANATION	NOTES
ON THE PURPOSES OF THE TEN PLAGUES IN EGYPT	In the process of displaying his wonders in Egypt, God had a number purposes in mind, of which judging the gods of Egypt served as one (Exo 12:12). The gods of Egypt weren't real, making the worship of them an abomination. In that era, when a Gentile nation was defeated in war, they assumed their gods had themselves been overcome or simply left the scene. ¹ The LORD will not be overcome. Dumb idols were not to be feared (2 Kings 17:35-38), and them being judged in such fantastic orderliness in the ten plagues did also indicate a bigger plan was being executed.	On the surface, the original purpose of the plagues was to convince Pharaoh to let go the Israelites go. However, the original purpose quickly gets shrouded in deeper doctrine.
	When God ushers in a new era, he couples the event with visible confirmation (John 20:31) of his plan. Delivering the Israelites out of Egypt and establishing his covenant with Israel was no exception (Deut 4:34-35). The Israelites, who saw the numerous miracles and judgments, still were stiff-necked; the religious leaders in Jesus' day wanted to see a sign, and that was after Jesus had performed numerous miracles. Obviously, there are limitations with miracles and wonders. God knows when to move, how much to move and how to utilize this methodology to demonstrate that he is the true God. It's our responsibility to discern the situation and believe.	Anyone born into this world will have to have faith. Were God to come down to earth in person, we'd still have to prove it was him. ² The requirement of faith by anyone living on earth is by design. On judgment day, the faith factor will be removed.
	Exodus and Romans are both clear that God raised up Pharaoh in order to display his power (Exo 9:16; Rom 9:17). Was that just for God to do that? We have to figure out the details. In plagues 1-5 and 7, Pharaoh hardened his own heart, but in plagues 6 and 8-10, God hardened Pharaoh's heart. Notice how Pharaoh had plenty of time. God knew the outcome from the start.	A vessel bent on opposing God can be used for God's purposes, such as judgment of another (Rom 9:22).
For another biblical perspective on the ten plagues, read about the account in Psalm 78:42-51 and Psalm 105:27-36.		

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¹ Esword (Version 7.5, 2021) Clarke, notes from Exodus 12:12.

² Actually, he did. His name is Jesus. Even those closest to Jesus, for example, Peter, still had to believe he was who he was.

ON THE TEN PLAGUES OF EGYPT: AN INTRODUCTION

TOPIC	EXPLANATION	NOTES
ON THE BACKGROUND AND DATE	It's not clear how much time the ten plagues took up, but the time of their exodus is clear (Exo 12:2). Further, according to I Kings 6:1, the children of Israel left Egypt exactly 480 years before King Solomon's 4th year in power, making the date of the exodus right at 1445 B.C. ³ In addition, ten, the total number of plagues, would embody the importance of the justice of God.	Moses was 40 years of age (Acts 7:23) when fleeing Egypt and age 80 when returning (Acts 7:30).
ON CONSTANT REMINDERS	God enjoys displaying his power and then reminding his people of that power, with the exodus of the children of Israel being a prime example. God bringing Israel out of Egypt by his power and outstretched arm was a recurrent theme in the OT. It came up every passover.	Since it is so easy to forget (Psalm 78:11-12; 106:21), it should be no surprise to run into reminders.
ON FAITH	With all that happened, the children of Israel had ample opportunity to increase their faith.	Opportunities abounded!
THE LORD IS SALVATION	This is the first event in history that revealed this much detail on the salvation's background. The first generation had blood sacrifices, but not much was explicitly stated. The Israelites had to reach out in faith and follow through with the commandment involved in the passover before there would be protection for those in a particular house. God had to see the blood (Exo 12:22-23), and that shed blood was a necessary component (Heb 9:22).	Even though the Old Testament sacrifices could never actually save anyone, they served as a type for the Christ who was coming.
ON THE PROGRESSION FACTOR ⁴	The first plague concerned water, a simple inconvenience. Even the magicians had fun with it. It's not even clear whether any people died. The last plague not only was the most serious, but also struck the heart of every Egyptian. Pharaoh was completely unconcerned with the first plague, but with the last one, he lost his first born. The Egyptian gods proved helpless.	In terms of the progression of the intensity and the orderly warnings, it's clear there was a bigger plan being carried out ⁵ by a living deity. ⁶
Reasons for calamity include testing, chastisement and punishment, proving, and unanticipated good. ⁷		

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³ Ryrie, Charles, *Ryrie Study Bible* (Chicago: Moody Publishers, 1986), 87.

⁴ M.G. Kyle. Plagues of Egypt. *ISBE*. https://biblehub.com/topical/p/plagues_of_egypt.htm

⁵ God was establishing his covenant with Israel.

⁶ Orr, James, M.A., D.D. General Editor. "Entry for 'PLAGUES OF EGYPT'". *ISBE*. 1915.

⁷ Paul Tautges, "5 Reasons God Brings Calamity," May, 16, 2012,

<https://counselingoneanother.com/2012/05/16/5-reasons-god-brings-calamity/> (accessed August 2, 2022).

Questions Regarding the Overall Theology of the Plagues of Egypt

1. Should the plagues of Egypt be construed as a chastisement, punishment or judgment?

2. Why do you think that Israel had to live through the first three plagues?

3. Can you remember the first time you were chastised by God? Do you routinely attempt to discern chastisement from God?

4. Would a calamity in your own country make you think of judgment from God?

5. Are calamities in the 21st century world related to God's chastisements or judgments?

6. Is there significance of blood in the plagues in light of New Testament theology? Which ones?

7. Was God righteous in judging all of Egypt even though it was Pharaoh who refused to let the people go (1 Sam 6:6)?

8. Discuss similarities between these plagues and the global ministry of the two witnesses?

9. What are some differences or similarities between the plagues and the worldwide flood?

10. What aspect of this passage is related to New Israel? Is God judging the Muslim god in the Arab-Israeli conflict the same way he judged the gods of Egypt?

11. What is the theological significance of the progression and orderliness of the plagues?

12. What is the significance of the number ten in this account?

13. Apart from judging the gods of Egypt, what else is God doing in these plagues?

14. What does this passage say about 21st century values?

15. Was COVID a judgment from God?

16. Are there any aspects in this passage that seem to contradict other truths in the Bible?

17. In light of this story, what changes should you make in your life?

18. Are all judgments from God this orderly and structured? What about God's judging of ancient (Old) Israel in the Old Testament?

19. Is the orderliness of the ten plagues of Egypt related to the orderliness in the Apocalypse?

THE ACCOUNT OF THE PLAGUES IN ONE CHART

QUESTIONS	ONE	TWO	THREE	FOUR	FIVE	SIX	SEVEN	EIGHT	NINE	TEN
WAS THERE A WARNING	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
WHAT ABOUT GOSHEN	✓	✓	✓							~
COULD THE PLAGUE BE REPLICATED	✓	✓								
PHARAOH HARDENED HIS HEART	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			
GOD HARDENED PHARAOH'S HEART						✓		✓	✓	✓
DID PHARAOH EXHIBIT GENUINE REPENTANCE										
THIS PLAGUE INITIATED BY GOD				✓	✓					✓
THIS PLAGUE INITIATED BY MOSES						✓	✓	✓	✓	
THIS PLAGUE INITIATED BY AARON	✓	✓	✓							
WAS THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD MENTIONED		✓		✓			✓	✓		✓

After being in Egypt for generations now, the Hebrews had probably been heavily immersed in Egyptian culture and religion. They needed to see God's power.

ONE: WATER INTO BLOOD (EXODUS 7:14-25)

TOPIC	EXPLANATION	NOTES
AN OVERALL SYNOPSIS OF THE ACCOUNT	For the first plague, Moses did the speaking and Aaron did the striking. After striking the Nile River with his staff, all the water in Egypt turned into blood. The dead fish proved the blood was real, and not an annual discoloration ^{1a} of the Nile.	As a result, the stench from the dead fish ruined the blessing of the Nile.
COULD THE MAGICIANS REPLICATE THE PLAGUE	The magicians got a kick out of replicating the first plague. Not being used to wide-scale miracles, they were probably hesitant at trying to undo the plague.	Undoing the entire plague would have had gotten far more attention.
WHAT WAS PHARAOH'S RESPONSE TO THIS PLAGUE	Pharaoh shrugged off the first plague as nothing. Being viewed as the son of Ra, Pharaoh would have seen himself as one who was above the God of Israel.	It's in God's character to be merciful, allowing for plenty of opportunities.
WHO HARDENED PHARAOH'S HEART	With God's judgments being righteous and just (Rev 16:7), he was not going to harden Pharaoh's heart in the first plague. Pharaoh having come from such a secular history can allow us to see why he was so quick to harden his own heart during round one. Of course, he enjoyed the service of the children of Israel.	While God came into this situation with the intention of hardening Pharaoh's heart, he did it through the lens of righteousness.
WHAT ABOUT GOSHEN AND THIS PLAGUE	Since the land of Goshen belonged to Egypt, and the plagues hit all of Egypt, we can surmise Goshen also got hit with the first plague (see Exo 8:22-23).	Israel's suffering during the first plague is not recorded.
WHICH GOD IN EGYPT GOT JUDGED	The Egyptian gods, Apis, the god of Nile, Isis, the goddess of the Nile, Khnum, the guardian of the Nile, and Osiris, the bloodstream of the Nile, were all judged. ^{1b} Other gods included Hatmehit, goddess of fish and fishmen, and Sodpet and Satet, gods of floodwaters. ^{1c} Being powerless to undo the plague, it was clear that their gods and goddesses were worthless.	
WAS THERE A WARNING	God was righteous in giving Pharaoh a warning. Seeing this was round one, the intensity of the judgment wasn't all that fierce.	Pharaoh took glee in viewing the first plague almost as a joke.
Even though not necessary ^{1d} , an ancient work, Ipower Papyrus, from around the 13th century B.C. may serve as an extra-canonical source for the ten plagues of Egypt. ^{1e}		

^{1a} Esword (Version 7.5, 2021) Barnes, notes from Exodus 7:17.

^{1b} "What was the meaning and purpose of the ten plagues of Egypt?" (n.d.). Accessed December 7, 2022, from <https://www.gotquestions.org/What-was-the-meaning-and-purpose-of-the-ten-plagues-of-Egypt.html>.

^{1c} "The Exodus Plagues: Judgment on Egypt's Gods" (n.d.). Accessed December 30, 2022, from <https://www.ucg.org/beyond-today/beyond-today-magazine/the-exodus-plagues-judgment-on-egypts-gods>

^{1d} "What was the meaning and purpose of the ten plagues of Egypt?" (n.d.). Accessed December 7, 2022, from <https://www.gotquestions.org/What-was-the-meaning-and-purpose-of-the-ten-plagues-of-Egypt.html>.

^{1e} "Archeological Evidence For The Plagues In Egypt" (n.d.). Accessed December 7, 2022, from <https://evidence-for-the-bible.com/archeological-evidence-for-the-bible/archeological-evidence-for-the-plagues-in-egypt/>

Questions on the First Plague

QUESTIONS REGARDING DOCTRINE AND THEOLOGY	QUESTIONS LEANING TOWARDS APPLICATION
1. Why did God allow Israel to experience the first plague?	17. Can you remember the first time you were chastised by God?
2. Do you think the intensity of the first plague for Goshen was the same as Egypt?	18. Do you routinely attempt to discern God's chastisement?
3. Is it possible that Goshen getting hit was because of a form of chastisement?	19. Would a calamity on your own country make you think of God's judgment?
4. Could God have been getting the Israelites to be more thankful?	20. Was COVID a judgment from God?
5. Do you think Goshen got hit to display the distinction more clearly later on?	21. How would this passage apply to your personal life?
6. How do you think Israel responded to the first plague?	22. What point in this passage spoke to you the most?
7. Pharaoh did not take the first plague seriously. What about the Egyptians?	23. Which of these truths would apply for today?
8. Pharaoh wouldn't listen. Was it just to judge all of Egypt? (See I Sam 6:6)	24. Do these truths contradict today's widely accepted values?
9. Do you think the blood was real? or was it a simple discoloration of the Nile?	25. Were there any surprises in this passage?
10. Did the Nile only get hit? or did other bodies of water also get hit?	26. Is there anything here that seems to contradict other truths in the Bible?
11. Discuss similarities between these plagues and the ministry of the two witnesses?	27. In light of this passage, what changes should you make in your life?
12. What is the significance of blood in the first and tenth plagues?	28. What does this passage say about man in general?
13. Does the Ipuwer Papyrus prove the ten plagues of Egypt actually happened?	29. What does this passage say about 21st century values?
14. What is the Ipuwer Papyrus? Is it necessary?	30. Can you discuss this passage in light of human rights in the modern era?
15. How much time did the first plague take up?	31. Are extra-canonical works necessary to prove the Word of God?
16. Do you think Moses initially doubted whether the water would turn into blood?	32. Discuss the role of extra-canonical works as it relates to apologetics.
While water is an essential in life, they could do without a normal portion for seven days (Exo 7:25). From the first plague, there was death; the fish died.	

TWO:FROGS (EXODUS 8:1-15)

TOPIC	EXPLANATION	NOTES
AN OVERALL SYNOPSIS OF THE ACCOUNT	Aaron stretched out his staff over water, causing frogs to appear and get involved in all aspects of daily life in Egypt. One of their most revered animals had become a nuisance. Even though all of Egypt got slammed with frogs, this plague was another mere inconvenience.	The Egyptians revered the frogs as sacred ^{2a} , making a land full of dead frogs a repugnant sight to behold. The plagues pointed towards God's power.
COULD THE MAGICIANS REPLICATE THE PLAGUE	Even though the magicians were able to replicate the plague via their demonic channels, it makes you wonder why they didn't attempt to remove the plague.	No doubt, the magicians began to fear their power would soon wane.
WHAT WAS PHARAOH'S RESPONSE TO THIS PLAGUE	By the second plague, Pharaoh's tendencies began to emerge. Although Pharaoh is now acknowledging the God of the Hebrews, by allowing them to go and sacrifice, he is still seeing himself and their gods as supreme because he is bargaining with God and establishing the guidelines. Moses was clear with Moses from the start that the children of Israel needed to leave Egypt altogether.	What exactly was Pharaoh thinking? Was he concerned about his public reputation? Loss of free labor? Was he afraid of being shamed in front of all Egypt?
WHO HARDENED PHARAOH'S HEART	Here, Pharaoh hardened his own heart. In terms of God hardening a man's heart, Pharaoh is the only account we have where the story is laid out very clearly from the start to finish, making Pharaoh's account paramount when studying God's justice, righteousness and election. (See another story–Josh11:20.)	Once a public figure takes a stand, he is going to feel obligated to stick to that stand, thus adding to the temptation not to listen to God.
WHAT ABOUT GOSHEN	By allowing Goshen to experience the first three plagues, once they were protected, the distinction was all the more clear.	
WHICH GOD IN EGYPT GOT JUDGED	This plague judged Heqt ^{2b} , the frog-like goddess of birth and fertility and Hapi ^{2c} .	Facing the truth can really hurt.
WAS THERE A WARNING	Issuing warnings, which their gods couldn't do, displayed God's power. Everything the LORD said would transpire just as declared, proving how genuine he is.	Yes, there was a warning for plague number two.
A society's source of life being important, and having that source threatened should make you examine what you believe.		

^{2a} "What was the meaning and purpose of the ten plagues of Egypt?" (n.d.). Accessed December 8, 2022, from <https://www.gotquestions.org/What-was-the-meaning-and-purpose-of-the-ten-plagues-of-Egypt.html>.

^{2b} "The plagues of Egypt" (n.d.). Accessed December 8, 2022, from <https://www.biblestudytools.com/encyclopedias/isbe/plagues-of-egypt.html>

^{2c} "The 10 Plagues - Jehovah Versus the Gods of Egypt" (n.d.). Accessed December 30, 2022, from <http://biblecharts.org/oldtestament/thetenplagues.pdf>

Questions on the Second Plague

QUESTIONS REGARDING DOCTRINE AND THEOLOGY	QUESTIONS LEANING TOWARDS APPLICATION
1. How would Moses' faith have been getting strengthened?	16. Have you ever hardened your heart?
2. What do you think was the real reason Pharaoh hardened his heart this round?	17. What is the first step to take to unhardened your heart?
3. Why do you think Pharaoh refused to listen after the second plague?	18. Have you ever reneged on a commitment you made to God?
4. What do you think the Egyptian citizens are thinking now?	19. What should you do after realizing you reneged on a commitment to God?
5. Do you think the Egyptians were curious how Moses had access to such power?	20. How would this passage apply to your personal life?
6. How do you think Israel responded to the second plague?	21. What point in this passage spoke to you the most?
7. Do you think God diminished the intensity of the second plague in Goshen?	22. Which of these truths would apply for today?
8. Discuss how God was just in judging all of Egypt for Pharaoh's refusal to bend.	23. Do these truths contradict today's widely accepted values?
9. Discuss how pressure from society would make the Egyptians side with Pharaoh.	24. Were there any surprises in this passage?
10. Was pride the main obstacle to Pharaoh's repentance?	25. Is there anything here that seems to contradict other truths in the Bible?
11. Do you think the magicians feigned their magic as some commentators think?	26. In light of this passage, what changes should you make in your life?
12. How did the Egyptians feel about having their source of life attacked?	27. What does this passage say about man in general?
13. Do you think any of these Egyptians were getting saved as Rahab did?	28. Have you ever questioned God? In what respect?
14. How would Rahab's salvation and any of the Egyptian's getting saved be related?	29. Do you see a partial obedience as you playing God in your life?
15. What does Moses mean by saying there is none like the LORD?	30. How do you think an atheist would live through these plagues?
Making a distinction, not yet started, between Goshen, the land where the Israelites resided, and Egypt demonstrated a calculated execution of the power of God.	

THREE: GNATS (EXODUS 8:16-19)

TOPIC	EXPLANATION	NOTES
AN OVERALL SYNOPSIS OF THE ACCOUNT	Without any kind of warning to Egypt, Aaron stretched out his staff and hit the ground, causing the dust of the earth to become gnats ^{3a} . The gnats were on man and the animals both. Would I to have to live through one, it would be this one, granted that it would be gnats, and not lice or some other small critter. ^{3b}	From the written account in Exodus, this plague doesn't appear as messy as the other ones, particularly the ones coming up.
COULD THE MAGICIANS REPLICATE THE PLAGUE	The magicians most certainly started to fear how much power they themselves actually had; their own powers went to the wayside this round. By acknowledging that the finger of God was at work, they were in effect acknowledging doubt in their own gods before the plagues ever began. Since being the knowledge of the one true God is in each heart (Ecc 3:11), when he does move, one must acknowledge that, even if originally there was belief in another god (Rev 16:11).	Even with their multitude of gods, the Egyptians were not acquainted with miracles on a large-scale level. Moreover, here the devil's power simply couldn't go anymore. God is never limited to time, matter or space.
ON PHARAOH'S RESPONSE	Pharaoh would still not listen.	Pride would have been a main reason.
WHO HARDENED PHARAOH'S HEART	Again, Pharaoh hardened his heart. It's getting dangerous for Pharaoh because not listening is becoming a habitual practice for him.	Again, he wouldn't listen, knowing more plagues were coming.
WHAT ABOUT GOSHEN	This would be the last time Goshen would endure a plague. Maybe, this was a reason why the initial three were lighter.	
WHICH GOD IN EGYPT GOT JUDGED	Geb, the god of the earth, got smacked, thereby not being able to bring out the "so-called" bounty of the earth. ^{3c}	At this point, the Egyptians have to have questions regarding their gods.
WAS THERE A WARNING	Plagues three, six and nine came without an official warning. However, due to the plagues appearing in succession, the earlier plagues themselves served as warnings. Logic said that more plagues were coming.	Miracles from heaven can have a great impact on people believing in God.

^{3a} It may have been "body-lice or mosquitoes or sandflies or ticks or fleas." It's not clear. Orr, James, M.A., D.D. General Editor. "Entry for 'PLAGUES OF EGYPT'". "International Standard Bible Encyclopedia". 1915. (n.d.). Accessed December 8, 2022, from <https://www.biblestudytools.com/encyclopedias/isbe/plagues-of-egypt.html>

^{3b} The third plague is not the only plague questioned by translators and commentators. Sometimes, the original isn't all that clear as to what specifically the plague was.

^{3c} Ashley, Scott; Seigle, Mario "The Exodus Plagues: Judgment on Egypt's Gods" (March 5, 2019). Accessed December 8, 2022, from <https://www.ucg.org/beyond-today/beyond-today-magazine/the-exodus-plagues-judgment-on-egypts-gods>

Questions on the Third Plague

QUESTIONS REGARDING DOCTRINE AND THEOLOGY	QUESTIONS LEANING TOWARDS APPLICATION
1. Do you think any Egyptians died in this plague?	16. If you had to live through on plague and had a choice, which would it be?
2. What do you think was the real reason Pharaoh hardened his heart this round?	17. Had you been one of Pharaoh's advisors, how would you have handled your role?
3. In what respects do you think an official warning is necessary?	18. How many times has a sermon point served as a warning to an imminent event?
4. What do you think the Egyptian citizens are thinking now?	19. Since being God's power has no limitations, how should we respond?
5. Where do people who have never heard the gospel go when they die?	20. How should you apply this lesson to your own life?
6. Discuss Luke 12:48 in the context of the third plague of Egypt.	21. What aspect in this passage speaks to you the most?
7. Apply Luke 12:48 in the context of someone who has never heard the gospel.	22. Which of these truths would apply for today?
8. Why do you think God wasn't clear with them on how many plagues were coming?	23. Do these truths contradict today's widely accepted values?
9. Is God obligated to issue warnings? When? In what context? Please explain.	24. Were there any surprises in this passage?
10. By the third plague, was Pharaoh's pride a personal or national issue?	25. Is there anything here that seems to contradict other truths in the Bible?
11. What are some ways God issues a warning of impending judgment?	26. In light of this passage, what changes should you make in your life?
12. When does God issue a warning of impending judgment?	27. What does this passage say about man in general?
13. What do you think the magicians were thinking secretly?	28. Has God's leading ever been a surprise to you?
14. Do you think Moses and Pharaoh had any idea there were yet seven plagues left?	29. Do you have an interesting story on gnats, mosquitos, lice, ticks or fleas?
15. What do you think God was thinking to issue this plague without a warning?	30. Name several aspects in life that come without warning?
One source says this one is lice, another says gnats, yet some say it had stingers. Since their health is yet to be directly attacked, this one probably did not sting.	

FOUR: FLIES (EXODUS 8:20-32)

TOPIC	EXPLANATION	NOTES
AN OVERALL SYNOPSIS OF THE ACCOUNT	In the fourth plague, swarms of flies pervaded throughout Egypt. The Hebrew only has ערב, meaning swarms, but it does not contain the word "flies". Some think these swarms may have been a type of beetle prevalent in Egypt in that day.	By now word on the plagues would have been getting around the world, putting their reputation at stake.
ON STATING GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY TO THE EGYPTIANS	"And they shall know that I am the LORD" appears frequently in the Old Testament. This statement is always preceded by an act of God. It may not necessarily mean that the recipients will verbally acknowledge God's sovereign work; however, it does mean that they will know in their hearts the end result of the work of God.	The Muslims, who know God is blessing Israel, making maps without Israel is NOT denying God's work. In their hearts, they know the truth.
ON PHARAOH'S RESPONSE	After the second plague and now the fourth plague, Pharaoh took the initiative to have Moses call on God. Even though, on the surface, it appears that Pharaoh is letting up a bit, bargaining with God displays his belief that he is still in charge.	This is the first time Pharaoh says he will allow them to leave to an extent. Question: what would it do for Israel?
WHO HARDENED HIS HEART	Pharaoh hardened his heart again, causing the onslaught of the fifth plague.	Time is running out for Pharaoh.
WHAT ABOUT GOSHEN	This was not the first time that God initiated a line of separation between the Jews and the Gentiles. Circumcision had already been in place for 100s of years. With the onslaught of the law of Moses, there would be even more distinctions, like diet. While stigmas and biases come with being part of a people group, exhibiting pride is inexcusable. Here, Egypt needed to know that God loved the Israelites.	For the first time, the Hebrews see the distinction God makes between them and Egypt. Israel was in the process of being established, making this distinction a necessary step.
WHICH GOD IN EGYPT GOT JUDGED	This plague judged Uatchit ^{4a} , the fly god, possibly Kheper, god of beetles and flies, ^{4b} and Amun ^{4c} , their god of wind.	
WAS THERE A WARNING	Pharaoh got a total of seven clear warnings, of which this was the fourth one.	Sources differ on which god was hit.
Pharaoh stating stipulations sent a message that he still believed the gods of Egypt were in charge, and that he did not need to heed God's instructions.		

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^{4a} "What was the meaning and purpose of the ten plagues of Egypt?" (n.d.). Accessed December 10, 2022, from <https://www.gotquestions.org/What-was-the-meaning-and-purpose-of-the-ten-plagues-of-Egypt.html>.

^{4b} "The 10 Plagues Of Egypt vs The False Gods of Egypt" (March 5, 2019). Accessed December 30, 2022, from <https://www.simplycomplicatedlife.org/10-plagues-of-egypt/>

^{4c} Ashley, Scott; Seiglie, Mario "The Exodus Plagues: Judgment on Egypt's Gods" (March 5, 2019). Accessed December 10, 2022, from <https://www.ucg.org/beyond-today/beyond-today-magazine/the-exodus-plagues-judgment-on-egypts-gods>

Questions on the Fourth Plague

QUESTIONS REGARDING DOCTRINE AND THEOLOGY	QUESTIONS LEANING TOWARDS APPLICATION
1. Do you think anyone's life was in danger during this plague?	16. Are you guilty of bargaining with God?
2. Why do you think God waited until this plague before protecting Israel?	17. Are you fighting God at present? In what respect?
3. Do you think Pharaoh's reasons for hardening his heart remained the same?	18. Are you guilty of repeat offenses towards God?
4. What was Pharaoh thinking to them go sacrifice? What about the limitations?	19. Have you ever been tempted to worship a false god?
5. How do you think Israel responded to the fourth plague? They were protected.	20. What is it about physical idols that attracts so much attention?
6. Do you think protecting the land of Goshen was economically motivated?	21. What is an unseen idol? State some examples.
7. How do you think the Egyptians opinion towards their gods was changing?	22. Which of these truths would apply for today?
8. Will the mark of the beast arrive onto the scene without warning? (Rev 14:9-11)	23. Do these truths contradict today's widely accepted values?
9. Discuss "that you may know that I am the LORD in the midst of the earth?"	24. Were there any surprises in this passage?
10. What is it about seen idols that attracted so much attention in the ancient world?	25. Is there anything here that seems to contradict other truths in the Bible?
11. What was being exhibited when giving a warning before the plagues?	26. In light of this passage, what changes should you make in your life?
12. Was putting a division between Egypt and Israel an excuse for pride or stigmas?	27. What does this passage say about man in general?
13. Discuss how the Egyptians could have responded after Goshen was protected?	28. How would you apply this lesson to your own life?
14. Why would Moses mention the sacrifices as an abomination? (Exo 8:25-27)	29. How come is it so common for God's people to be the ones being persecuted?
15. Do you think God was offended when the sacrifices were labeled abominable?	30. What are your thoughts about Allah and the Arab/Israeli conflict?
Pharaoh addressing the LORD as "your God" most definitely signified that the LORD was not his God. ^{4d} By the tenth plague, Pharaoh knew the God of Israel was real.	

^{4d} Esword (Version 7.5, 2021) Barnes, notes from Exodus 8:25.

FIVE: LIVESTOCK DIE (EXODUS 9:1-7)

TOPIC	EXPLANATION	NOTES
AN OVERALL SYNOPSIS OF THE ACCOUNT	Not only were livestock, a form of personal property attacked, but this very severe plague destroyed the livestock all in the same day. At least a partial economic collapse as it pertains to food, transportation and necessary goods was inevitable. ^{5a}	With a lifeline to the economy being struck, Pharaoh should have really reconsidered his actions.
ON STATING GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY TO THE EGYPTIANS	Originally, the Hebrews were known as shepherds and now as slaves. The Egyptians did not hold these vocations in high esteem, but in plagues five and seven, God reminded them twice that he was the God of the Hebrews. The one, true God does as he pleases in righteousness (Dan 9:14).	This plague attacked the livestock in the field, not those in the barns. So, it is not a contradiction with the livestock harmed in the seventh plague.
ON PHARAOH'S RESPONSE	An obvious escalation of the intensity of the plagues should have been a clear warning of the upcoming plagues. In addition, even with shepherding being such an abomination to the Egyptians, they had to recognize how God distinguished their identity as being separate from the Egyptians.	The Egyptians had to be wondering why Pharaoh wasn't budging. Egypt saw Pharaoh as a form of god, thus preventing them from speaking up.
WHO HARDENED PHARAOH'S HEART	Little did Pharaoh know that his window of opportunity was dwindling fast. Plague number five was the second from last opportunity for him to repent. We can see the story told from God's eyes which helps us see what is actually happening.	After plague number seven, there would not be any more chances for him to repent.
WHICH GOD IN EGYPT GOT JUDGED	In this plague, God judged the Egyptian goddess Hathor ^{5b} and the god Ptah. ^{5c}	Of the livestock hit, horses, donkeys and camels were mentioned. All were important in that society.
WAS THERE A WARNING	Not only was there a warning, but the timing of the plague was also stated, emphasizing the amount of power, and not chance, used in administering the plagues.	
"God may or may not have used natural mechanisms to accomplish these plagues; even if He did, the timing and character of the plagues come from God's hand alone." ^{5d}		

^{5a} "ONE GOD sends TEN Plagues For TEN Egyptian gods and goddesses" (January 13, 2021). Accessed December 30, 2022, from <https://theologyschool.org/2021/01/13/one-god-sends-ten-plagues-for-ten-egyptian-gods-and-goddesses/>

^{5b} "Ten Egyptian Plagues For Ten Egyptian Gods and Goddesses " (n.d.). Accessed December 24, 2022, from https://www.stat.rice.edu/~dobelman/Dinotech/10_Egyptian_gods_10_Plagues.pdf

^{5c} MacArthur, John. *The MacArthur Study Bible*, Crossway, 2007, p105.

^{5d} Eswold (Version 7.5, 2021) Guzik, notes from Exodus 7:19-21.

Questions on the Fifth Plague

QUESTIONS REGARDING DOCTRINE AND THEOLOGY	QUESTIONS LEANING TOWARDS APPLICATION
1. Were the lives of the Egyptians in danger during this plague?	16. In light of this passage, what changes should you make in your life?
2. Why do you think Pharaoh waited until this round to check on Goshen?	17. How would God judge a nation in the 21st century?
3. Was God being too hard on Egypt?	18. Have you ever experienced God's perfect timing?
4. What did the LORD addressing himself as the God of the Hebrews signify?	19. Do believers suffer financial loss because of poor decisions or chastisement?
5. When was the next time Pharaoh would have a chance to let them go?	20. How would you apply this lesson to your own life?
6. How does the fifth plague stack up to the first four plagues?	21. What aspect in this passage speaks to you the most?
7. How much time do you think the ten plagues took up?	22. Do you think you know anyone who has rejected God so long they can't be saved?
8. Would your enemies triumph over you, how would you respond?	23. What are some signs that someone cannot be saved?
9. How does God express love today?	24. Do believers have the right to make a judgment call on who can be saved?
10. Is there a difference between the livestock in the field and those inside?	25. Is there anything here that seems to contradict other truths in the Bible?
11. Is there a contradiction between the fifth and seventh plagues?	26. How do you handle perceived contradictions in the Bible?
12. Who hardened Pharaoh's heart this time?	27. When does God hurt a Christian's finances?
13. What happened that there were livestock in Egypt in the seventh plague?	28. Does God chastise a believer for not tithing? (Hag 1:6-9; Mal 3:10)
14. How did the Old Testament and the New Testaments come together?	29. What about when there's not enough funds there to tithe?
15. Why was Israel so stiff-necked (later on) though they witnessed so many miracles?	30. Is God just in chastising a believer for not giving an offering?
Ancient Egypt, their culture and religion are buried in history, which makes it non-offensive to them to speak against their gods today? What about similar situations today?	

SIX: BOILS (EXODUS 9:8-12)

TOPIC	EXPLANATION	NOTES
AN OVERALL SYNOPSIS OF THE ACCOUNT	Without warning, Moses and Aaron executed the plague of boils on the people and animals throughout Egypt, making this the first plague that affected their health directly. When you are in the sick bed, life stops, with the only thing you can think of being that of getting well so you can get back to your life.	It's not clear whether anyone died, but this would most certainly have been a warning that there were going to be casualties in Egypt.
ON THE RESPONSE OF THE MAGICIANS	Apparently, their status in society ^{6a} had not been adversely affected after not being able to replicate the third plague. For whatever reason, the magicians could not stand before Moses, possibly due to feeling that they were in a state of being unclean ^{6b} . Perhaps, it pertained to a reason concerning face.	Generally, people in a society won't overtly run counter-culture, even though in their heart, they may not agree with the direction.
ON PHARAOH'S RESPONSE	God hardened Pharaoh's heart, thereby exercising sovereignty over his response.	Repentance is getting more difficult.
WHO HARDENED PHARAOH'S HEART	This is the first of four times, God would harden Pharaoh's heart. It appears that he should have been able to discern the difference between God hardening his heart and him doing it because he would get one more chance to submit on his own.	Regarding the justice and fairness of God, God is the one who sets the standard, not us. (See Eze 18:25-29)
WHICH GOD IN EGYPT GOT JUDGED	The gods judged include Imhotep, god of medicine, Thoth, god of medical science, Nefertem ^{6c} , god of healing, as well as Sekhmet and Sunu ^{6d} , gods of health.	Isis, known as the Mother of Life and the Crone of death, was also judged. ^{6e}
WAS THERE A WARNING	Interestingly enough, the first time God would take the initiative to harden man's heart, he would do it without warning. What would a warning have done?	Reading an inspired account is better than the reports from secular media.
Of the ten plagues, God would take the initiative to harden Pharaoh's heart four times.		

WWW.BIBLECHARTS.GUIDE, 2023.

^{6a} "MacArthur, John. *The MacArthur Study Bible*, Crossway, 2007, p106.

^{6b} "ONE GOD sends TEN Plagues For TEN Egyptian gods and goddesses" (January 13, 2021). Accessed December 30, 2022, from <https://theologyschool.org/2021/01/13/one-god-sends-ten-plagues-for-ten-egyptian-gods-and-goddesses/>

^{6c} "The Exodus Plagues: Judgment on Egypt's Gods" (March 5, 2019). Accessed December 24, 2022, from <https://www.ucg.org/beyond-today/beyond-today-magazine/the-exodus-plagues-judgment-on-egypts-gods>

^{6d} "What was the meaning and purpose of the ten plagues of Egypt?" (n.d.). Accessed December 24, 2022, from <https://www.gotquestions.org/ten-plagues-Egypt.html>

^{6e} "Plagues Against Egyptian Gods" (n.d.). Accessed December 30, 2022, from <https://berean-to-berean.com/plagues-against-egyptian-gods/>

Questions on the Sixth Plague

QUESTIONS REGARDING DOCTRINE AND THEOLOGY	QUESTIONS LEANING TOWARDS APPLICATION
1. Could Pharaoh discern the difference between him and God hardening his heart?	16. In light of this passage, what changes should you make in your life?
2. Is God just in judging a people who don't have a Bible without warning?	17. Have you ever thought God was not being fair? Who declares what fair is?
3. Discuss God waiting until the sixth plague before hardening Pharaoh's heart.	18. Do you think you know someone who has a heart wholly hardened to the gospel?
4. Had God not hardened his heart, do you think he would have relented earlier?	19. Is there anything here that seems to contradict other truths in the Bible?
5. Discuss the difference between an inspired account by the Holy Spirit and another?	20. How would you apply this lesson to your own life?
6. What do you think secular media would have emphasized in this plague?	21. What aspect in this passage speaks to you the most?
7. Would God be just in hardening a man's heart after hearing the gospel only once?	22. How do you handle perceived contradictions in the Bible?
8. How is God just in hardening a man's heart? (Also see Deut 2:30 and explain.)	23. Do these truths contradict today's widely accepted values?
9. What is the significance of this plague being initiated in front of Pharaoh?	24. How does God let a believer know they are being chastised by God?
10. Why is this the only plague ignited in front of Pharaoh without warning?	25. How are believers supposed to know they are being chastised by God?
11. Discuss the bodily harm in this plague in light of the judgment of God.	26. Does God chastise his children via health issues today?
12. Does everyone have a chance to be saved?	27. How does God chastise his people?
13. What are some of the factors of the sixth plague as it relates to election?	28. Was God fair in creating hell and the lake of fire? righteous? good? (Ps 145:17)
14. Apart from judging their gods, is God judging national Egypt or just Pharaoh?	29. Do you think the two beasts in Revelation 13 will have opportunity to be saved?
15. What is the significance of the magicians being mentioned again in the text?	30. What are the differences between hell and the lake of fire?
It is possible that God lined up the plagues with a natural phenomenon that corresponded to that time of the year.	

SEVEN: HAIL (EXODUS 9:13-35)

TOPIC	EXPLANATION	NOTES
AN OVERALL SYNOPSIS OF THE ACCOUNT	For this round, a great hail was to fall upon Egypt, one that would be greater than any hail that had ever fallen upon Egypt. By now, Moses' reputation is getting well established, and with a warning before the event, those who feared God moved their livestock and personnel inside, an obvious good move on their part. So, there were Egyptians who were getting the point, whereas Pharaoh was not.	Societal pressure, which all are under, plays a large role in the decisions you make. There would most likely have been Egyptians who were loyal to Pharaoh until the tenth plague.
ON STATING GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY TO THE EGYPTIANS	They were told that they would know that there is none like the God of Israel in all the earth. Their gods could never compare to the power the God is Israel was executing. The power of the true God eventually far crosses the threshold of faith.	Only one true God exists, and that is the God of the Bible. No other god exists. Other powers are demonic.
ON PHARAOH'S RESPONSE	In the Bible, there are a number of accounts of false, outward repentance, such as Saul's, Judas', and Pharaoh's. A real confession will come from the heart, with it being coupled with an outward, visible repentance. After seeing the hail being removed, he quickly went back to his old ways.	True confession is more than being sorry you got caught; it's hating the sin. A real fear of God is a healthy fear, producing results in your actions.
WHO HARDENED HIS HEART	This would be Pharaoh's last chance to repent on his own. After this plague, God would continually harden his heart until his final demise in the Red Sea.	Was Pharaoh's pride simply in the way? He was thinking something.
WHICH GOD IN EGYPT GOT JUDGED	This plague judged Nut, goddess of the sky, Osiris, their god of crops, and Set ^{7a} , the Egyptian god of storm. In this plague, Pharaoh addresses the LORD as God.	By not attacking the wheat, God was protecting their source of food. ^{7b}
WAS THERE A WARNING	There was a warning, and the God-fearers tended to their livestock and personnel. A genuine fear of God, now seen among some Egyptians, will result with action.	Incidentally, at the Red Sea, there were those who stayed behind (Exo 14:28).
Israel left Egypt in the middle of March (Exo 12:2), leaving us to conjecture as to the total timespan of the plagues, with one commentator calculating around a year. ^{7c}		

WWW.BIBLECHARTS.GUIDE, 2023.

^{7a} "What was the meaning and purpose of the ten plagues of Egypt?" (n.d.). Accessed December 28, 2022, from <https://www.gotquestions.org/ten-plagues-Egypt.html>

^{7b} "Ten Egyptian Plagues For Ten Egyptian Gods and Goddesses " (n.d.). Accessed December 28, 2022, https://www.stat.rice.edu/~dobelman/Dinotech/10_Egyptian_gods_10_Plagues.pdf

^{7c} Eswold (Version 7.5, 2021) Barnes, notes from Exodus 9:14.

Questions on the Seventh Plague

QUESTIONS REGARDING DOCTRINE AND THEOLOGY	QUESTIONS LEANING TOWARDS APPLICATION
1. How was God just in NOT telling Pharaoh this was his last chance?	16. In light of this passage, what changes should you make in your life?
2. How was the seventh plague Pharaoh's last chance?	17. Discuss unhealthy and healthy fears as it pertains to your spiritual life.
3. How did Pharaoh exalt himself against Israel? (Exo 9:17)	18. How should the fear of God be correctly applied in a man's life?
4. What was Pharaoh thinking when hardening his own heart?	19. How does God warn his people via preachers today? In what respects?
5. How did plagues six and seven differ when both attacked their health? (Exo 9:14)	20. How would you apply this lesson to your own life?
6. It does say this hail would be the worst since whenever, but not forever. Why?	21. What aspect in this passage speaks to you the most?
7. How was God just in raising Pharaoh to execute the plagues on him and Egypt?	22. Which of these truths would apply for today?
8. Explain the righteousness of God in giving Pharaoh ample opportunity to repent.	23. Do these truths contradict today's widely accepted values?
9. Is God just in not always giving a clear, official warning?	24. Were there any surprises in this passage?
10. How did Moses know Pharaoh didn't yet fear God? (Exo 7:3)	25. Is there anything here that seems to contradict other truths in the Bible?
11. Discuss the difference between real repentance and Pharaoh's repentance. ^{7d}	26. How do you handle perceived contradictions in the Bible?
12. What is the difference between an outward and inward fear of God?	27. When was the last time God warned you about something?
13. How did the warning of the seventh plague get out to all of Egypt within a day?	28. What aspect of this plague moves you the most?
14. Was the seventh plague announced officially or unofficially to the entire nation?	29. Are you in the process of hardening your heart?
15. What did attacking the flax and barley and not the Emmer wheat signify?	30. What aspect in your life have you hardened your heart toward God?
The God of Israel does not share his deity with any other religion (Deut 4:35). There is only one Savior, Jesus Christ. (Isa 45:21-22; Acts 4:12; John 14:6).	

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^{7d} Esword (Version 7.5, 2021) Gill, notes from Exodus 9:30. "The confession of sin made did not arise from the true fear of God, but from a dread of punishment."

EIGHT: LOCUSTS (EXODUS 10:1-20)

TOPIC	EXPLANATION	NOTES
AN OVERALL SYNOPSIS OF THE ACCOUNT	Due to Pharaoh's insistence to keep the Israelites in Egypt, the Lord brought a swarm of locusts, from the ground six to eight inches thick ^{8a} , to eat up any leftover greenery. Pharaoh's servants begin to give their advice, but it is too late.	The two witnesses, who will have a global reach, may bring in judgments on Egypt more severe than these.
ON STATING GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY TO THE EGYPTIANS	God also wanted Israel to know that he alone was the LORD, which was stated to Moses this round, but not stated to Pharaoh. This truth is sometimes stated after a judgment from God, and sometimes after a work of God in man's favor. Further, while the ultimate authority is God, God and they did respect Pharaoh's authority.	The Muslims know that Israel exists and that the God of Israel fights for Israel, even though they are very reserved to state it outrightly.
ON PHARAOH'S RESPONSE	Initially, Pharaoh allowed the men to go serve the Lord, and again, he manifested an outward form of repentance, but his heart was hardened, and he would not let them go at all. Here, Pharaoh didn't repent because he couldn't.	God is the only one who can execute absolute power absolutely without any error in the matter.
WHO HARDENED PHARAOH'S HEART	God revealed partially why he hardened Pharaoh's heart. God wanted these stories of judgment to be passed down throughout the successive generations. Thereby, Israel would know who the true God is.	Those who will take the mark of the beast will not repent because they will be unable to repent (Rev 16:9-11).
WHICH GOD IN EGYPT GOT JUDGED	The eighth plague judged Serapia, god of locusts ^{8b} , Neper and Nepri who were supposed to govern grain ^{8c} and Set, their god of disorder. ^{8d}	Pharaoh's servants trying to persuade him certainly was breaking protocol.
WAS THERE A WARNING	There was a warning, but with God taking control of Pharaoh's heart, there's not much a warning can do from here on out.	Warnings are a form of mercy from God.
The ten plagues of Egypt were literal, and not symbolic at all. ^{8e}		

^{8a} Esword (Version 7.5, 2021) Adam Clarke, notes from Exodus 10:5.

^{8b} "The 10 Plagues - Jehovah Versus the Gods of Egypt" (n.d.). Accessed December 30, 2022, from <http://biblecharts.org/oldtestament/thetenplagues.pdf>

^{8c} "10 Plagues: Jehovah God vs. gods of Egypt" (n.d.). Accessed December 30, 2022, from <https://housetohouse.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/10plagues.png>

^{8d} Ibid.

^{8e} Esword (Version 7.5, 2021) Guzi, notes from Exodus 7:19-21.

Questions on the Eighth Plague

QUESTIONS REGARDING DOCTRINE AND THEOLOGY	QUESTIONS LEANING TOWARDS APPLICATION
1. Discuss the justice of God in using Pharaoh as a puppet here on out.	16. Have you ever exhibited a mere outward form of repentance?
2. Were Pharaoh's servants breaking protocol in trying to persuade him? How so?	17. Do you know of anyone who has only exhibited an outward form of repentance?
3. Did Moses have the authority to leave Egypt without Pharaoh's permission?	18. What has God warned you about here recently?
4. Would God have allowed the children of Israel to leave without permission?	19. Have you ever deliberately not heeded a warning from God?
5. What does God think about partial obedience or partial service to him?	20. Have you ever partially served the Lord?
6. What kind of repentance did Pharaoh exhibit after this plague?	21. Have you ever partially obeyed the Lord?
7. Do you think the two witnesses in Rev 11 will cause a worse hail? (Exo 10:5-6)	22. Which of these truths would apply for today?
8. What are your thoughts on absolute power in light of righteousness?	23. Do these truths contradict today's widely accepted values?
9. What are your thoughts on absolute power in a context of unrighteousness?	24. Were there any surprises in this passage?
10. Who was past the point of submission to God? All the Egyptians or just Pharaoh?	25. Is there anything here that seems to contradict other truths in the Bible?
11. What always precedes the statement, "And you will know that I am the Lord?"	26. Discuss how to sift through good and bad advice.
12. What does "And you will know that I am the LORD" mean?	27. What aspect in this passage speaks to you the most?
13. How was God just in hardening Pharaoh's heart this round?	28. What does this passage say about man in general?
14. Do you think God kept his servants from speaking up before the 8th plague?	29. How would you apply this lesson to your own life?
15. How did the Egyptians eat after the locusts ate up all the greenery in the land?	30. Had you been in Pharaoh's place, when would you have let the Israelites go?
Hundreds of years later, foreigners would still remember the plagues of Egypt (1 Sam 4:8).	

NINE: DARKNESS (EXODUS 10:21-29)

TOPIC	EXPLANATION	NOTES
AN OVERALL SYNOPSIS OF THE ACCOUNT	Without warning, the ninth plague was initiated by Moses. Darkness, the kind that could be felt, pervaded throughout the land of Egypt. The human eye can get adjusted to natural darkness; however, with the text stating that no one got out during this darkness, you can say that this darkness was a type of supernatural darkness. Their eyes didn't simply get used to it.	Based on the text, the Egyptians most likely did not employ the use of lamps or candles during these dreaded three days (Exodus 10:23). Light is mentioned, but not for Egypt.
ON PHARAOH'S RESPONSE	Pharaoh initially was going to allow them to leave, but their livestock needed to stay behind. In the end, Pharaoh still changed his mind on the matter and would not let them go. He was still haggling with God on how to obey, not a good thing.	Running from a problem only delays the inevitable and often times simply makes the matter worse.
WHO HARDENED HIS HEART	It was too late; God was hardening Pharaoh's heart. Pharaoh had turned into a puppet for the Almighty with no hope for any change for the better.	Pharaoh bringing up the topic of murder was due to a hardened heart.
WHICH GOD IN EGYPT GOT JUDGED	The sun god Ra got judged in the ninth plague. Perhaps, Khepri, the morning sun, Ra, the midday sun, and Atum, the evening sun ^{9a} all three were judged here. In keeping with an intensified progression, Ra, one of their greatest deities was judged right before the last, main plague came into play.	Darkness, the embodiment of death, judgment, and hopelessness ^{9b} , pervaded the land, making Ra, their sun god, look like nothing.
WAS THERE A WARNING	For the third time, God has a plague executed without warning. If this plague was ignited during the day, which it probably was, there would have been a cause for concern, such as someone trying to round up animals that were roaming around or someone working on a roof would have been in quite a predicament.	Without God's presence in the earth, everyone would have a dark heart. Pharaoh, the so-called light in Egypt, is now the cause of complete darkness.
WHAT ABOUT GOSHEN AND THIS PLAGUE	Any Egyptian getting to work in Goshen would have fought to keep his privileged position. Anyone in Christ has all eternity to look forward to without a struggle.	The light that Goshen received reflected the power of their real God.

It would be better to read about the apocalypse than have to live through it. In the case of the ten plagues of Egypt, it would, no doubt, be the same.

^{9a} "Plagues Against Egyptian Gods" (n.d.). Accessed December 30, 2022, from <https://berean-to-berean.com/plagues-against-egyptian-gods/>

^{9b} "ONE GOD sends TEN Plagues For TEN Egyptian gods and goddesses" (January 13, 2021). Accessed December 30, 2022, from <https://theologyschool.org/2021/01/13/one-god-sends-ten-plagues-for-ten-egyptian-gods-and-goddesses/>

Questions on the Ninth Plague

QUESTIONS REGARDING DOCTRINE AND THEOLOGY	QUESTIONS LEANING TOWARDS APPLICATION
1. Can animals make it for three days without food or water?	16. When, where, and in what context was your darkest hour?
2. Do you think the darkness began in broad daylight?	17. Is your heart filled with darkness?
3. Do you think any Egyptians were in a precarious position when this plague started?	18. What aspects in your life are filled with darkness?
4. Do you think that this was a darkness the human eye could get acquainted with?	19. How do you fill a man's heart with light?
5. What was Pharaoh thinking when he threatened Moses with death?	20. What does this passage say about man in general?
6. Could they have known this plague would last three days?	21. How would you apply this lesson to your own life?
7. Do you think this darkness was related to the darkness in Pharaoh's heart?	22. What aspect in this passage speaks to you the most?
8. Do you think owls in Egypt could see during this time?	23. Which of these truths would apply for today?
9. Would Pharaoh see Moses again? (See Exo 10:28-29; 11:4-8; 12:31-32) ^{9c}	24. Do these truths contradict today's widely accepted values?
10. Was Moses correct in saying their livestock needed also to go along with them?	25. Were there any surprises in this passage?
11. Would there have been Egyptians working in Goshen during the ten plagues?	26. Is there anything here that seems to contradict other truths in the Bible?
12. You think the Egyptians were doing everything in their power to work in Goshen?	27. How do you handle perceived contradictions in the Bible?
13. Do you think the Egyptians ate any kind of food during these three days?	28. Do you generally only partially serve the Lord?
14. What is the theology behind God respecting Pharaoh's position as head of state?	29. Are you one to only partially obey the Lord?
15. Could Moses have just up and left anyway without Pharaoh's permission?	30. Are you willing to give God your all?
Since God was judging their gods, they should have figured out the sun god would also be judged. The ninth plague became an "awful emblem of [their] darkened state." ^{9d}	

^{9c} Esword (Version 7.5, 2021) John Wesley, notes from Exodus 10:29. This section needs to be viewed as one section, not two.

^{9d} Esword (Version 7.5, 2021) Adam Clarke, notes from Exodus 10:21.

TEN: DEATH OF FIRSTBORN – THE PASSOVER (EXODUS 11-12)

TOPIC	EXPLANATION	NOTES
AN INTRODUCTION TO THE PASSOVER	There was a nice, progressive succession. Initially, the magicians replicated the plagues, and the Hebrews also suffered. Then, there were no replications, and the land of Goshen became exempt. The middle plagues led to the final plagues, with the tenth plague being the first with requirements for Israel. The Hebrews thrived, but the Egyptians lost all of the battles.	So, Goshen was not automatically exempt from the tenth plague? Egyptian personnel working in Goshen would have had casualties.
AN OVERALL SYNOPSIS OF THE ACCOUNT	Since an entire people was preparing to enter the desert, they needed things, which they got from the Egyptians. Further, a clear warning on the tenth plague was given to Pharaoh, who was possibly Thutmose III ^{10a} or Amenhotep II ^{10b} . Basically, all the firstborn in the land would die. For the Israelites, protection from the tenth plague was called the passover, which ended up becoming the major holy day in Israel. At midnight when the destroyer, probably an angel of God, killed all the firstborn in Egypt, the entire nation, Pharaoh, his servants and the people got up and sent the Israelites away. They had said, "We shall all be dead (Exo 12:33)." Pharaoh's firstborn, also viewed as a god ^{10c} , lost his life, hitting Pharaoh right where it hurts. After the tenth plague was executed, Pharaoh acknowledged the God of Israel is real.	The tenth plague launched the main Jewish holy day, the passover. Basically, the destroyer killed all the firstborn in Egypt, but he passed over the Israelites. The word passover comes from Exodus 12:13 and 12:27. Moreover, the book of Exodus provides an abundance of themes suitable for giving the gospel in today's age. ^{10d}
THE REQUIREMENTS AND RESULTS STEMMING FROM THE PASSOVER	The requirements, followed by all the Israelites (Exo 12:50), resulted in the protection of this plague, with the main requirement being the applying of blood to the tops and sides of the door of the house. There were also other requirements (Exo 12:4-11). Subsequent passovers would last seven days. Even in the Old Testament, salvation came by faith (Gen 15:6). In light of this truth, how could these requirements be without works? A household may have eight people, of which only one person could apply the blood on the sides and tops of the door of the house. They had to believe the words from God that Moses spoke to them. A real faith produces results in outward obedience. The result was getting passed over.	Anyone who participated in the passover had to be circumcised. There was not a house in Egypt without a death of a firstborn (Exo 12:30), so it's clear that none of the Egyptians were circumcised nor were any of them to participate in the passover reserved only for Israel (Exo 12:45).

"When I see the blood" springs from the tenth plague. In the Old Testament, the blood sacrifices were mere types, but with Christ's sacrifice, salvation is here forever.

^{10a} "Pharaoh Timeline" (n.d.). Accessed January 23, 2023, from <https://www.worldhistory.org/timeline/pharaoh/>

^{10b} Esword (Version 7.5, 2021) David Guzik, notes from Exodus 12:29. This section needs to be viewed as one section, not two.

^{10c} "The Ten Plagues Of Egypt: A Reminder Of God's Power And Protection" (November 25, 2022). Accessed Dec 30, 2022, from <https://religionsfacts.com/the-ten-plagues-of-egypt-a-reminder-of-gods-power-and-protection/>

^{10d} Robert D. Bell, *The Theological Messages of the Old Testament Books* (Greenville, SC: BJU Press, 2010), 39.

TEN: THE AFTERMATH – THE RED SEA (EXODUS 12-14)

TOPIC	EXPLANATION	NOTES
ON PHARAOH'S RESPONSE	Initially, Pharaoh and all of Egypt literally pushed Israel out of their land. Then, the Lord hardened Pharaoh's heart one last time as to cause him to pursue the Israelites one more time, only to meet his final defeat in the Red Sea.	Reading about Pharaoh being turned into a pawn (vessel fit for destruction) for God, we should learn a lesson.
WHO HARDENED PHARAOH'S HEART	The Lord hardened Pharaoh's heart (14:4, 17), with Pharaoh being intent on bloodshed. It appears that not all of Pharaoh's army got swept up by the Red Sea as it states that "of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea (14:28)," leaving the possibility open that some stayed behind to return to Egypt to relay the final account to Egypt. Of course, they also wanted to save their lives.	Having an entire people group serving you does sound enticing. Pharaoh may still have been reluctant to let go of all that cheap labor. Truthfully, at this point, he also had other thoughts.
WHICH GOD IN EGYPT GOT JUDGED	Truth be known, which gods or goddesses got judged in the last plague or in any plague depends on which author you read. God said that He would judge all the gods of Egypt (12:12) in the final plague. Others say Pharaoh himself, viewed as a son of Ra, the sun god, was judged. ^{10e} Yet others contend that Isis was judged. ^{10f}	In Exodus 12:12, God states, "I am the LORD." The Egyptians were claiming other deities, but there is only one real God, the God of Israel.
WAS THERE A WARNING	With Moses having become very great in the sight of the people, it makes you wonder how his message fell on deaf ears. With nine plagues already past, it makes you wonder what Pharaoh was thinking at the very, clear warning of the tenth plague. Without God hardening his heart, he may have let them go earlier.	Yes, there was a warning before the tenth plague fell on all Egypt. Further, it does appear that Pharaoh did see Moses' face again (Exodus 12:31-32).
ON STATING GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY TO THE EGYPTIANS	When God says that they shall know that "I am the LORD," he always does a certain work first. Here, it was the destruction of Pharaoh's army. (See Exodus 14:18)	There will always only be one true, sovereign God. All will bow one day.
Pharaoh's survival through the tenth plague signifies he himself was not the firstborn, not doubt by design, allowing him to make it to the Red Sea.		

WWW.BIBLECHARTS.GUIDE, 2023.

^{10e} "Ten Egyptian Plagues For Ten Egyptian Gods and Goddesses " (n.d.). Accessed December 29, 2022, https://www.stat.rice.edu/~dobelman/Dinotech/10_Egyptian_gods_10_Plagues.pdf

^{10f} "What was the meaning and purpose of the ten plagues of Egypt?" (n.d.). Accessed December 29, 2022, from <https://www.gotquestions.org/ten-plagues-Egypt.html>

Questions on the Tenth Plague

QUESTIONS REGARDING DOCTRINE AND THEOLOGY	QUESTIONS LEANING TOWARDS APPLICATION
1. Did any Egyptians participate in the passover requirements?	16. When God sees you, does he see the blood of Christ? Have you ever been saved?
2. When Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron by night, did he see their faces?	17. Are you in a position to lead others to Christ?
3. Did a partial fulfillment of the passover forfeit protection from the tenth plague?	18. Are you aware of the requirements for a man to be saved in the present age?
4. Did any of the Hebrews only fulfill a partial requirement of the passover?	19. What are the requirements for the blood of Christ to be applied to your life?
5. Of the Passover requirements, which one was the most important one? Why?	20. Are you fully trusting in the Lord for your salvation?
6. Can you see the depth in the tenth plague?	21. Are you grateful for the sacrifice Jesus gave for your salvation?
7. Discuss the justice of God in the tenth plague.	22. What aspect in this passage speaks to you the most?
8. Discuss the love of God in the tenth plague.	23. Which of these truths would apply for today?
9. Why do you think the firstborn was attacked? Why not the second born?	24. Do these truths contradict today's widely accepted values?
10. The generation that saw these miracles failed at Kadesh-Barnea? How come?	25. Were there any surprises in this passage?
11. The Israelites were known for being stiff-necked. Why not during the passover?	26. Is there anything here that seems to contradict other truths in the Bible?
12. Explain the significance of the phrase, "when I see the blood."	27. How do you handle perceived contradictions in the Bible?
13. How would a lack of firstborns in society have affected Egyptian life?	28. What is the most important blessing in your life?
14. What is the mixed multitude? Where did they come from? Who were they?	29. What does this passage say about man in general?
15. Were the Egyptians allowed to depart with Israel? Any obstacles in this regard? ^{10g}	30. How would you apply this lesson to your own life?
Discuss the Egyptians not being able to participate in the passover and the modern Gentile world being able to get saved at will.	

^{10g} Exodus 12:38

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