

Signs and Wonders

Lesson 4: Exodus 7-8

September 27, 2020

Exodus Outline

- 1-18 History
 - 1-4 In bondage in Egypt
 - 5-10 The contest with Pharaoh
 - 11-15 The exodus from Egypt
 - 16-18 Early days of travel
- 19-40 Worship
 - 19-24 The institution of the Law
 - 25-31 The tabernacle revealed
 - 32-34 The gold calf
 - 35-40 The tabernacle constructed

Plague	Staff/hand	Morning	Let Israel go	Imitation	Relief	Hard heart	As YHWH said	Israel spared	Warning	Permission
Water into blood	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Pharaoh	Yes		No	
Frogs	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Pharaoh	Yes		Yes	
Gnats	Yes	No	No	No	No	Pharaoh	Yes		No	
Swarms	No	Yes	Yes		Yes	Pharaoh	No	Yes	Yes	in the land, not very far
Death of cattle	No	No	Yes		No	Pharaoh	No	Yes	Yes	
Boils	No	No	No		No	the LORD	Yes		No	
Hail	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Pharaoh	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Locust	Yes	No	Yes		Yes	the LORD	No		Yes	men only
Darkness	Yes	No	No		Yes	the LORD	No	Yes	No	no livestock
Death of firstborn	No	No	No		No	the LORD	No	Yes	No	all

Lesson Outline

- 7:1-7 Summary of the plan
- 7:8-13 Introductory miracle
- 7:14-25 Plague 1: Water into blood
- 8:1-15 Plague 2: Frogs
- 8:16-19 Plague 3: Gnats
- 8:20-32 Plague 4: Swarms (of flies)

Summary of the plan Exodus 7:1-7

¹Then the LORD said to Moses, “See, I make you *as* God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron shall be your prophet. ²You **shall speak** all that I **command** you, and your brother Aaron **shall speak** to Pharaoh that he let the sons of Israel go out of his land. ³But I will harden Pharaoh’s heart that I may multiply My signs and My wonders in the land of Egypt. ⁴When Pharaoh does not listen to you, then I will lay My hand on Egypt and bring out My hosts, My people the sons of Israel, from the land of Egypt by great judgments. ⁵The Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch out My hand on Egypt and bring out the sons of Israel from their midst.” ⁶So Moses and Aaron **did it**; as the LORD **commanded** them, thus they **did**. ⁷Moses was eighty years old and Aaron eighty-three, when they spoke to Pharaoh.

- God -> Moses -> Aaron -> Pharaoh
- Pharaoh’s hard heart was for God’s glory
- Moses knew that Pharaoh would not listen beforehand
- God would reveal Himself in this

Introductory miracle Exodus 7:8-13

⁸Now the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, ⁹“When Pharaoh speaks to you, saying, ‘Work a miracle,’ then you shall say to Aaron, ‘Take your staff and throw *it* down before Pharaoh, *that* it may become a serpent.”” ¹⁰So Moses and Aaron came to Pharaoh, and thus they did just as the LORD had commanded; and Aaron threw his staff down before Pharaoh and his servants, and it became a serpent. ¹¹Then Pharaoh also called for *the* wise men and *the* sorcerers, and they also, the magicians of Egypt, did the same with their secret arts. ¹²For each one threw down his staff and they turned into serpents. But Aaron’s staff swallowed up their staffs. ¹³Yet Pharaoh’s heart was hardened, and he did not listen to them, as the LORD had said.

- God provides for Moses and Aaron ahead of time
- It happens as God said
 - Demand for a sign
 - Hardening of Pharaoh’s heart

Plague 1: Water into blood

Exodus 7:14-18

¹⁴Then the LORD said to Moses, “Pharaoh’s heart is stubborn; he refuses to let the people go. ¹⁵Go to Pharaoh in the morning as he is going out to the water, and station yourself to meet him on the bank of the Nile; and you shall take in your hand the staff that was turned into a serpent. ¹⁶You shall say to him, ‘The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, sent me to you, saying, “Let My people go, that they may serve Me in the wilderness. But behold, you have not listened until now.”

¹⁷Thus says the LORD, “By this you shall know that I am the LORD: behold, I will strike the water that is in the Nile with the staff that is in my hand, and it will be turned to blood.

¹⁸The fish that are in the Nile will die, and the Nile will become foul, and the Egyptians will find difficulty in drinking water from the Nile.”””

- The repeated command to Pharaoh is to let the people go
- Results of striking the Nile
 - Turned to blood
 - The fish died
 - The Nile became foul
 - Difficulty in drinking

Plague 1: Water into blood

Exodus 7:19-21

¹⁹Then the LORD said to Moses, “Say to Aaron, ‘Take your staff and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt, over their rivers, over their streams, and over their pools, and over all their reservoirs of water, that they may become blood; and there will be blood throughout all the land of Egypt, both in *vessels of wood* and in *vessels of stone*.’”

²⁰So Moses and Aaron did even as the LORD had commanded. And he lifted up the staff and struck the water that *was* in the Nile, in the sight of Pharaoh and in the sight of his servants, and all the water that *was* in the Nile was turned to blood. ²¹The fish that *were* in the Nile died, and the Nile became foul, so that the Egyptians could not drink water from the Nile. And the blood was through all the land of Egypt.

- Structure of the narrative
 - What will happen
 - The event
 - The result
- This plague would be extensive
- Everything happens as was foretold

Plague 1: Water into blood

Exodus 7:22-25

²²But the magicians of Egypt did the same with their secret arts; and Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he did not listen to them, as the LORD had said. ²³Then Pharaoh turned and went into his house with no concern even for this. ²⁴So all the Egyptians dug around the Nile for water to drink, for they could not drink of the water of the Nile. ²⁵Seven days passed after the Lord had struck the Nile.

- The first plague has no affect on Pharaoh
- Alternate water sources are sought

Plague 2: Frogs Exodus 8:1-6

¹Then the LORD said to Moses, “Go to Pharaoh and say to him, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Let My people go, that they may serve Me. ²But if you refuse to let *them* go, behold, I will smite your whole territory with frogs. ³The Nile will swarm with frogs, which will come up and go into your house and into your bedroom and on your bed, and into the houses of your servants and on your people, and into your ovens and into your kneading bowls. ⁴So the frogs will come up on you and your people and all your servants.’”” ⁵Then the LORD said to Moses, “Say to Aaron, ‘Stretch out your hand with your staff over the rivers, over the streams and over the pools, and make frogs come up on the land of Egypt.’” ⁶So Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt, and the frogs came up and covered the land of Egypt.

- A warning is provided before this plague comes
- This plague, like the previous, will also be extensive
- The staff is used to bring the frogs

Plague 2: Frogs Exodus 8:7-9

⁷The magicians did the same with their secret arts, making frogs come up on the land of Egypt.

⁸Then Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron and said, “**Entreat** the LORD that He remove the frogs from me and from my people; and I will let the people go, that they may sacrifice to the LORD.” ⁹Moses said to Pharaoh, “The honor is yours to tell me: when shall I **entreat** for you and your servants and your people, that the frogs be destroyed from you and your houses, *that* they may be left only in the Nile?”

- The magicians are no help in removing the plagues
- Pharaoh asks for relief
- Pharaoh offers to let the people go

Plague 2: Frogs Exodus 8:10-15

¹⁰Then he said, “Tomorrow.” So he said, “*May it be* according to your word, that you may know that there is no one like the LORD our God. ¹¹The frogs will depart from you and your houses and your servants and your people; they will be left only in the Nile.” ¹²Then Moses and Aaron went out from Pharaoh, and Moses cried to the Lord concerning the frogs which He had inflicted upon Pharaoh. ¹³The Lord did according to the word of Moses, and the frogs died out of the houses, the courts, and the fields. ¹⁴So they piled them in heaps, and the land became foul. ¹⁵But when Pharaoh saw that there was relief, he hardened his heart and did not listen to them, as the Lord had said.

- Pharaoh still appears mostly unconcerned about this plague
- The removal would also provide knowledge of God
- Moses intercedes for Pharaoh
- The offer of release vanishes

Plague 3: Gnats Exodus 8:16-19

¹⁶Then the LORD said to Moses, “Say to Aaron, ‘**Stretch out** your staff and **strike** the dust of the earth, that it **may become** gnats **through all the land of Egypt.**’” ¹⁷They did so; and Aaron **stretched out** his hand with his staff, and **struck** the dust of the earth, and there **were** gnats on man and beast. All the dust of the earth became gnats **through all the land of Egypt.** ¹⁸The magicians tried with their secret arts to bring forth gnats, but they could not; so there were gnats on man and beast. ¹⁹Then the magicians said to Pharaoh, “This is the finger of God.” But Pharaoh’s heart was hardened, and he did not listen to them, as the LORD had said.

- There is no warning for this plague
- The gnats came on humans and animals
- The magicians fail
- If this is God’s finger, what can His arm do?

Plague 4: Swarms (of flies)

Exodus 8:20-23

²⁰Now the LORD said to Moses, “Rise early in the morning and present yourself before Pharaoh, as he comes out to the water, and say to him, ‘Thus says the Lord, “Let My people go, that they may serve Me. ²¹For if you do not let My people go, behold, I will send swarms of flies on you and on your servants and on your people and into your houses; and the houses of the Egyptians will be full of swarms of flies, and also the ground on which they *dwell*. ²²But on that day I will set apart the land of Goshen, where My people are living, so that no swarms of flies will be there, in order that you may know that I, the LORD, am in the midst of the land. ²³I will put a division between My people and your people. Tomorrow this sign will occur.””

- Another morning announcement
- Another call to let the people go
- Another warning of consequences
- The Israelites will be spared
- Knowledge of God is the purpose

Plague 4: Swarms (of flies)

Exodus 8:24-28

²⁴Then the LORD did so. And there came great swarms of flies into the house of Pharaoh and the houses of his servants and the land was laid waste because of the swarms of flies in all the land of Egypt.

²⁵Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron and said, “Go, **sacrifice** to your God within the land.” ²⁶But Moses said, “It is not right to do so, for we will **sacrifice** to the LORD our God what is an **abomination** to the Egyptians. If we **sacrifice** what is an **abomination** to the Egyptians before their eyes, will they not then stone us? ²⁷We must go a three days’ journey into the wilderness and **sacrifice** to the LORD our God as He commands us.”

²⁸Pharaoh said, “I will let you go, that you may **sacrifice** to the Lord your God in the wilderness; only you shall not go very far away. Make supplication for me.”

- Pharaoh calls for relief again
- The people are permitted to sacrifice in the land
- Moses points out they can’t sacrifice in the land
- Again, Pharaoh wants Moses to pray for him

Plague 4: Swarms (of flies)

Exodus 8:29-32

²⁹Then Moses said, “Behold, I am going out from you, and I shall make **supplication** to the LORD that the swarms of flies may depart from Pharaoh, from his servants, and from his people tomorrow; only do not let Pharaoh deal deceitfully again in not letting the people go to sacrifice to the LORD.”

³⁰So Moses went out from Pharaoh and made **supplication** to the LORD. ³¹The LORD did as Moses asked, and removed the swarms of flies from Pharaoh, from his servants and from his people; not one remained. ³²But Pharaoh hardened his heart this time also, and he did not let the people go.

- Pharaoh’s pattern of deceit had already been established
- Moses prays for Pharaoh anyway
- God listened to Moses’ prayer
- God completely removes the plague

Summary

- The Lord's servants are to be obedient and faithful
- What God says will happen happens
- All that God does reveals Himself
- God provides when His servants must go through difficulty