

**TruthInScripture**  
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**Exodus 8. The Fall Feasts of the**  
**LORD. The Feast of Trumpets**  
**and the Rapture.**

In our current study of Exodus we are now in CH 8. So, just a word or 2 from CH 7. In CH 7 we saw the first of the plagues.

It is interesting that the plagues come in the form of 3 at a time, until the last, the taking of Pharoah's first born.

The first 2 of each set come with a warning period. At least a warning statement that we can take as a sign that there was a warning.

Each plague pointed to a greater meaning than the event itself, by that I mean that the events, the plagues really happened...

As we have noted each plague attacks an Egyptian deity and proves that they are indeed false gods.

/The plagues also answered Pharaoh's original question: Who is the LORD, this YHVH that I, the Pharaoh should obey HIS voice to let Israel go?

The plagues show Pharaoh, the Egyptians and all people, that the LORD GOD is the Living GOD. And ALL of the Egyptian gods are all false. Maybe demons.



So, the first plague: All the waters that were in the Nile river were turned to blood. In fact, all the water in Egypt turned to blood.

The timing and character of the plagues come from GOD's hand alone. So, there was blood throughout the land of Egypt:

/This first plague was directed against several Egyptian river deities. The Nile itself was worshipped as a god by the Egyptians, and the LORD GOD

shows that HE has complete power over the Nile, not some river gods or goddesses.

There is a significant mention of something like this in a papyrus from this general period known as the Ipuwer ipure Papyrus. It actually says (Ipuwer 2.10) that the Nile was blood and undrinkable.

**7:20 So Moses and Aaron (notice the order) did as the LORD had commanded. And the staff was lifted up 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.**

**21 The fish that were in the Nile died, and the Nile became foul (bah ash = foul), so that the Egyptians could not drink water from the Nile. And the blood was through all the land of Egypt.**

**22 But 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.**

**23 Then Pharaoh turned and went into his house with no concern even for this.**

**24 So all the Egyptians dug around the Nile for water to drink, for they could not drink of the water of the Nile.**

Notice that they dug all around the Nile to get down to clean water, but it does not indicate that they found any. Because they did not find any. All water in Egypt was turned to blood.

**25 Seven days passed after the LORD had struck the Nile.**

So, there was a complete period of time for Pharaoh to realize that this was the LORD of ALL. But as we know, Pharaoh did not.

Terrible break for the CH, but remember this 6-7 CH's are all one big continuous story. CH 8 begins.

**8:1 Then 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.**

**2 “But if you refuse to let them go, behold, I will strike your whole territory with frogs.**

**3 The 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.**

**4 “So the frogs will come up on you and your people and all your servants.”””**

This is the second plague and notice there is also a warning.

Period of time...between Vs 4 and 5.

**5 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.’”**

/Most historians, Rabbinical writings agree that the plagues followed in rapid succession. So, that one had not completely ended before another began. There would have been some break, in order that Pharoah repent. But the idea is that it was pretty much nonstop.

/Remember that Moses was 80 years old when he first appeared



before Pharaoh after GOD had called him to lead Israel out of Egypt. Israel spent 40 years in the wilderness before entering Canaan. Moses was 120 years old when he died (DEU 34:7).

So, I think it is safe to say that the combined plagues must have taken less than a year. Some say less than 6 months.

So, after the Nile river plague we see the next one coming. Actually, the text does not tell us how long the Nile was in that condition. It is assumed that it was over after the 7 days.

/GOD tells of a coming plague,  
and brought about a plague of  
frogs for a specific reason.



The Egyptian goddess Heqet was  
always pictured with the head of a  
frog. I would be pissed if I was a  
false goddess and they hook me up  
with a frog head. Thanks a lot.

Among the ancient Egyptians,  
frogs were considered sacred and  
could not be killed.

Frog BTW is the Hebrew  
tsef-ar-day'-ah

/Egyptians worshipped the frog as a female goddess because frogs were common around the Nile, because they reproduced rapidly, and because being amphibians they were said to be of two worlds, creatures of both land and water.

The frog was a goddess, hence the plague was exacerbated because it was against the law and culture to destroy a frog.

This is from the book of Yasher.  
CH 80.

**/6 And the LORD sent again and caused all their waters to bring forth frogs, and all the frogs came into the houses of the Egyptians.**

**7 And when the Egyptians drank, their bellies were filled with frogs and they danced in their bellies as they dance when in the river.**

**8 And all their drinking water and cooking water turned to frogs, also when they lay in their beds their sweat bred frogs.**

Well, I think we get the picture right?



Back to EXO 8

**6 So Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt,**

**and the frogs came up and covered the land of Egypt.**

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

The magicians seem to have been able to increase the plague, but not to remove it.

They could seemingly add more frogs although the frogs were already coming forth, so not sure of that, but the magicians could not remove the frogs. What good was that? They didn't need more frogs but less frogs.

**/8 Then Pharaoh called (called Pharoah, no then...but we know**

this was 7 days after the blood plague started, not ended) **for Moses and Aaron and said,**  
**“Entreat (עָתָר ‘ātar = pray to and ask your GOD) 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.”**

Now Pharoah is either lying here or he does understand that it is the GOD that he said he does not know or so he says, that this GOD YHVH that he said he did not know is indeed the GOD Who is in control here. Do you see that?

Pray to the LORD that HE may take away the frogs:

Here, GOD's previous promise in EXO 7:1 is fulfilled.

**/7:1 Then the LORD said to Moses, "See, I make you as God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron shall be your prophet.**

As a prophet of the One true living GOD, Moses stood before Pharaoh representing the Living GOD, thus as GOD said would happen, Pharaoh made his request of prayer through Moses to the Living GOD.

That word for entreat in Vs 8 ātar an unusual word, meaning intercede by prayer, the first time where we see pharaoh has been really moved, and on which he

makes a promise to let Israel go, a promise which he does not keep.

**9 Moses said to Pharaoh, “The honor is yours to tell me: when shall I entreat or atare (pray on your behalf) 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?”**

Here we do see what appears a phrase of courtesy, and I personally read a hint of sarcasm.

Moses says hey Pharaoh, I submit to you, when do you want me to go to MY GOD with this request to remove the frogs so that HIS people can go?



/So, Pharaoh you still don't believe in the Living GOD right? Right. But you want me to go to the Living GOD and ask HIM to remove the frogs, right? Right. Well OK. There is some irony there.

So, the frogs have I'm sure that the frogs had invaded more than one palace of the Pharaoh.

**10 Then Pharaoh said, "Tomorrow." So Moses said, "May it be according to your word, that you may know that there is no one like the LORD our GOD.**

I don't know why Pharaoh didn't say, right now! Maybe he thought

that was impossible, maybe he thought that as the Pharaoh he would still maintain some control in the process, I don't know.

Well, Moses responds to the Pharaoh's timetable.

**11 “The frogs will depart from you and your houses and your servants and your people; they will be left only in the Nile.”**

**12 Then Moses and Aaron went out from Pharaoh, and Moses cried to the LORD concerning the frogs which HE had inflicted upon Pharaoh.**

**13 The LORD did according to the word of Moses, and the frogs**

**died out of the houses, the courts, and the fields.**

**14 So they piled them in heaps, and the land became foul.**

/Bah ash = שֶׁאֵשׁ bā'aš stink we have seen that word before, to smell. Must have been quite a mess. The Egyptians cast them into their rivers and dug pits to bury the frogs.

GOD would not instantly take them away. This was to convince them of the truth of the miracle, and to make them more aware of this judgment, and more fearful of bringing another.

**13 The LORD did according to the word of Moses, and the frogs**

**died out of the houses, the courts, and the fields.**

**14 So they piled them in heaps, and the land became foul.**

**15 But when Pharaoh saw that there was relief, he hardened his heart and did not listen to them, as the LORD had said.**

This is Pharaoh who hardened his own heart. He hardened his heart:

/Even when Pharaoh's plea was granted, his heart did not change – he hardened his heart – yet Pharaoh did just as GOD said he would.

This becomes a familiar pattern: when Pharaoh did not keep his

word to let the people go the first time, no doubt it became easier and easier to do the same again. Pharaoh ignored his promise; but GOD did not.



Notice that that nine plagues are divided into three groups. 10<sup>th</sup> being the last, as we have noted. Warnings are given of the first two plagues in each group, while the 3<sup>rd</sup> comes without notice.

So, here comes the third.

**16 Then 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.’”**

**17 They 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.**

**18 The magicians tried with their secret arts to bring forth gnats, but they could not; so there were gnats on man and beast.**



Not sure why the translations say that they wanted to bring forth more gnats giving the impressions they were trying to bring more.

The Hebrew word is יָשָׂא yāšā' and means to bring forth or to bring out. I think they were trying to drive the gnats, lice, insects out...but could not.

But either way it shows that the KOD cannot create anything at best it can only duplicate and pervert GOD's creation.

Notice that the two preceding plagues fell upon the Nile. This one with the gnats, fell on the earth. A special sacredness was attached to the black fertile soil of the basin of the Nile.

/Lice קַנֵּן kēn - kane The Hebrew Word occurs only in connection with this plague. These insects are sometimes identified with mosquitos, whatever they were exactly, they were terrible because they were everywhere.

They were said to cause pain, and they are said to penetrate the body through the nose, mouth, ears, yuk.

/This plague also struck at the heart of Egyptian worship,



especially at their priests. The Egyptian priesthood was extremely careful about hygiene and ritual cleansing; and this plague of lice made them unable or unclean so that they could not worship their gods.

The plague of lice was also upon every beast. The gods of Egypt would not receive the sacrifice of lice-infested animals, so this stopped their sacrificial system of worship.

**18 The magicians tried with their secret arts to bring forth gnats (bring out), but they could not; so there were gnats on man and beast.**

**19 Then 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.**

So, there are the first 3 plagues:  
Blood, frogs and gnats, lice, bugs.

When the magicians said to Pharaoh, “This is the finger of God” they did not acknowledge Yehovah (YHVH).

It is even possible to translate this phrase, “This is the finger (es bah) of a god (Elohim).” But they had been forced to admit that some divine power was at work.

/This was the beginning of the escalation of power in the plagues,

yet they said “finger” rather than referring to the more powerful hand or arm. So in any event, the plagues are going to get tougher...although already bad.

Interesting that we are not told how the removal of the pesky insects came about. But, the land has now been severely impacted.

**20 Now the LORD said to Moses, “Rise early in the morning and present yourself (yat sab = station yourself, set up yourself, station) 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.**

So, this means go and station yourself where Pharaoh is bathing in the morning at the Nile river.

So the next 3 plagues are coming, here is the warning for the first.

**/21 “For 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.**

I hate flies.



/The word here is awrobe עָרֹב  
‘ārōb = swarm, the tradition is that  
it is a swarm of flies. It is in the  
singular...

So the tradition is that these are  
blood sucking flies and/or other  
insects. Biting flies. This word  
awrobe really means a swarm, so  
we will go with flies. It seems that  
it was a single swarm that covered  
the land. This plague did not affect  
the land of the Israelites in Egypt,  
that is Goshen.

The Septuagint just goes with dog fly. So, we can go with that, but academic honesty we must acknowledge we are not sure. In any event notice Vs 22

**/22 “But on that day I will set apart the land of Goshen, where MY people are living, so that no swarms will be there, in order that you may know that I, the LORD, AM in the midst of the land.**

This 4<sup>th</sup> plague consisted of dense swarms of what is traditionally understood as flies. But keep in mind our earlier discussion.

These next 3 plagues (flies, dying livestock, and boils) begins just as

the first and last three began, following a confrontation with Pharaoh early in the morning. And what we can assume followed a warning.

Yehovah gives a new sign with the swarm of the flies. For the first time the LORD made a distinction between Pharaoh's people and GOD's people...

/This swarms did not appear in the region of Goshen, where GOD's people lived. As we noted, if these were the dog-fly species like the horse fly, a biting fly. At certain seasons they are still described as a plague worse than mosquitos.

/There are some historians that say these swarms were of a particular beetle. This beetle was worshipped by the Egyptians as a symbol of life. One beetle god was dung, another was chepera...



Pharaoh could not explain the exemption of Goshen from the plague. So no god or goddess of Egypt could be blamed nor counted on to stop it.

**23 “I will put a division between MY people (GOD’s) and your**



**people (Egyptians under Pharaoh).  
Tomorrow this sign will occur.”**

Notice the warning here, so there was time for Pharaoh to repent.

**24 Then 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.**

I just imagine Pharaoh probably not sleeping, waiting for the morning sun. And when the sun rose it revealed the swarm of flies or beetles or whatever it was. And they were everywhere, just like the

blood, just like the gnats. So  
Pharoah, what does he do?

**25 Pharaoh called for Moses and  
Aaron and said, “Go, sacrifice to  
your GOD within the land.”**

/Well, this may seem like a sign  
that Pharoah is coming around, but  
I don't think so. Notice the  
addition of within the land. The  
LORD is continuing to manifest  
HIMself to Pharoah and the  
Egyptian people. Pharoah seems to  
be softening, but actually he is  
hardening his heart towards the  
Israelites and the Living GOD.

And they could have responded.  
And some did, as we have noted.  
Pharoah says look you can worship

your GOD, but don't move. Stay here in the land. Well Moses is going to point out something he knew well from his days in the Pharaohs house. Which GOD prepared him for this moment.

**26 But 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?"**

**27 "We must go a three days' journey into the wilderness and sacrifice to the LORD our GOD as HE commands us."**

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

/Pharaoh is seeing his grip on the Israelites slipping away. So first he says no to the request, then yes BUT you have to stay in the land.

Pharaoh knows if he let's the Israelites go, they are not coming back, and that is true. Now he says well ok but don't go far. What does that mean, what is far?

So, Pharaoh just wants the insects to go away, so he asks Moses to pray this to GOD on his behalf.

But he could have prayed and believed...but he rejects once again.

Imagine the process for Pharoah. He is a man who is used to getting his way in everything. And now he can't even bargain, he slowly agrees to the original request, but he will never do so totally.

I can't help think of believers who do something similar. Seek to negotiate with GOD.

They will follow GOD a little here and there but still live life according to their own plan not GOD's plan. Or many say, get me out of this problem LORD and I will be a different person.

I will get on the straight and narrow, And GOD does in HIS grace and mercy get them out of it...and they do get on the straight and narrow for a little while. But they go back to the vomit.

Grace is getting what we don't deserve (blessing) Mercy is NOT getting what we deserve (punishment).

**/2 PET 2:22, It has happened to them according to the true proverb, 'A DOG RETURNS TO ITS OWN VOMIT,' and, 'A sow, after washing, returns to wallowing in the mire.'**

**28 Pharaoh said, "I will let you go, that you may sacrifice to the**

**LORD (YHVH) your GOD in the wilderness; only you shall not go very far away. Make supplication for me.”**

This was a promise, whether it was sincere or not, Pharaoh did not live up to it.

Did Pharaoh deliberately lie to Moses or simply change his mind once the plague of flies was gone? Well, we don't know, but I suspect he, Pharaoh lied from the beginning.

/Many people run to GOD when tragedy or chaos strikes. And when things get better, they immediately return to their own plan as we noted. But a believer living the

spirit led life will stay in the plan of GOD. When they fail and they will, they rebound, recover and move forward. That is what a true warrior for GOD does.

Pharaoh hardened his own heart time after time, by his Pharaoh's own free will decisions.

Each time it seems to get easier. And that is the way it works. This applies to unbelievers and believers. For believers, they step away from the intake of the Word of GOD, for example, first a day, then a week, then on and on it gets easier and easier.

The alcoholic, sexual pervert, gambler, liar, gossip, whatever,



is someone who at first did evil as far as he dared, a little, and continued until he dares to do evil in which even he at one time which he would have shuddered at.

**28 Pharaoh said, “I will let you go, that you may sacrifice (zaw vak = slaughter, kill) to the LORD your GOD in the wilderness; only you shall not go very far away. Make supplication (atare = pray) for me.”**

**29 Then Moses said, “Behold, I am going out from you, and I shall make supplication to the LORD that the swarm (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.”**

Well there is a clear warning right?

**30 So Moses went out from Pharaoh and made supplication to the LORD.**

**31 The LORD did as Moses asked, and removed the swarms (of flies) from Pharaoh, from his servants and from his people; not one remained.**

**32 But Pharaoh hardened his heart this time also, and he did not let the people go.**



4 of the ten plagues. We will continue next time.