

Exodus
From Slavery to Sonship
Plagues 1-4: Blood, Frogs, Lice and Flies

Exodus 7:13-8:19 Part 12

I. Plague #1: The River Ran Red. 7:14-25

- A. The Nile turns to blood. vv.14-21.
- B. The importance of the Nile economically and religiously in Egyptian life.
Osiris – the god of the underworld – Egyptians believed the Nile was his bloodstream
Nu – the god of life in the river.
Hapi – the god of the flood.) “Hapi was a fertility god who was portrayed as a bearded man with female breasts and a pregnant stomach. The idea was that the annual flooding of the Nile gave birth to Egypt and nursed its strength.” Philip Ryken
- C. The duplication of the plague. v.22
- D. The effects of the plague. vv.21-25

II. Plague #2: Frogs Here, There and Everywhere. 8:1-15

- A. The amphibious invasion. vv.1-6
- B. The duplication of the plague. v.7
- C. The frog and Egyptian idolatry – frogs in Egypt were associated with the god **Hapi** and the goddess **Heqt** (associated with fertility)
- D. The effects of the plague. vv.8-15

III. Plague #3: Dust to Lice on Man and Beast. 8:16-19

- A. The dust turns to lice. vv.16,17
- B. The impotency of the magicians and their confession. vv.18,19
- C. The lice and Egyptian idolatry. “The third plague may have been intended to humiliate the earth-god Geb. By turning the dust into bugs, God was claiming authority over the very soil of Egypt and thus over the god of the ground. “ Philip Ryken
- D. The effects of the plague. v.19

IV. Plague #4: Flies Swarm, but in Goshen Jews are Spared. 8:20-32

- A. The plague of flies. vv.20-21
- B. The distinction made between Egypt and Israel. vv.22,23
Cf. 8:7,26; 10:6,23; 11:7
- C. The flies and Egyptian idolatry.
The ichneumon fly was associated with the god Uatchit Beelzebub (‘lord of the flies’) – “some Egyptians worshiped Beelzebub as their protector and guardian. His role was to protect the land from swarms of flies and other natural disasters. (Philip Ryken)
- D. The effects of the plague. vv.24-32

V. Application Points to be made from these Plagues.

- A. God is sovereign over nature, men and Satan.
- B. Idolatry is alive and well today.
- C. These are but a sign of bigger things to come. Cf. Rev.16:3-9; 13,14