

100 Bible Stories

24. The Passover

Exodus 11 - 12 (NKJV)

^{7,10}So Moses and Aaron went in to Pharaoh, and they did so, just as the Lord commanded. And Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh and before his servants, and it became a serpent. ¹¹But Pharaoh also called the wise men and the [b]sorcerers; so the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their [c]enchantments. ¹²For every man threw down his rod, and they became serpents. But Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods. ¹³And Pharaoh's heart grew hard, and he did not heed them, as the Lord had said.

(Nine plagues/Pharaoh's heart processed unto hardening against the LORD)

^{11,1}And the Lord said to Moses, "I will bring one more plague on Pharaoh and on Egypt. Afterward he will let you go from here. When he lets you go, he will surely drive you out of here altogether. ²Speak now in the hearing of the people, and let every man ask from his neighbor and every woman from her neighbor, articles of silver and articles of gold." ³And the Lord gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians. Moreover the man Moses was very great in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh's servants and in the sight of the people. . . . ¹⁰So Moses and Aaron did all these wonders before Pharaoh; and the Lord hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he did not let the children of Israel go out of his land.

^{12,1}Now the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, ²"This month shall be your beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year to you. ³Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying: 'On the tenth of this month every man shall take for himself a lamb, according to the house of his father, a lamb for a household. . . . ⁷And they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it. ⁸Then they shall eat the flesh on that night . . . ¹¹And thus you shall eat it: with a belt on your waist, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. So you shall eat it in haste. It is the Lord's Passover.

¹²For I will pass through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the Lord. ¹³Now the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴So this day shall be to you a memorial; and you shall keep it as a feast to the Lord throughout your generations. You shall keep it as a feast by an everlasting ordinance."

And the Israelites did just as the LORD commanded them.

Miracles vs. tricks (see also Deut. 13.1-5; Matthew 24.24-25).

See other side; plagues against the false Gods of Egypt.

See 1 Cor. 5.6-8

The Plagues and the Gods of Egypt

PLAGUE	REFERENCE	POSSIBLE EGYPTIAN DEITY DIRECTED AGAINST
Nile turned to blood	Exodus 7:14-25	Khnum: guardian of the Nile Hapi: spirit of the Nile Osiris: Nile was bloodstream
Frogs	Exodus 8:1-15	Heqt: form of frog; god of resurrection
Gnats (Mosquitoes)	Exodus 8:16-19	
Flies	Exodus 8:20-32	
Plague on cattle	Exodus 9:1-7	Hathor: mother-goddess; form of cow Apis: bull of god Ptah; symbol of fertility Mnevis: sacred bull of Heliopolis
Boils	Exodus 9:8-12	*Imhotep: god of medicine
Hail	Exodus 9:13-35	Nut: sky goddess Isis: goddess of life Seth: protector of crops
Locusts	Exodus 10:1-20	Isis: goddess of life Seth: protector of crops
Darkness	Exodus 10:21-29	Re, Aten, Atum, Horus: all sun gods of sorts
Death of firstborn	Exodus 11:1-12:36	The deity of Pharaoh: Osiris, the giver of life.

These are only some of the gods whom the plagues may have been directed against. It is not necessarily conclusive.
*Perhaps too early for this deity to have been involved.