

God Begins to Break Pharaoh

Exodus 7:14-11:10

March 22, 2026

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Yahweh began to punish the Egyptians for abusing the people of Israel in order to demonstrate His absolute supremacy to both of them.

I. The plague of blood demonstrated Yahweh's sovereignty over the supposed source of life. (v. 7:14-24)

The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. (Joel 2:1)

II. The Plague of Frogs demonstrated Yahweh's sovereignty over the goddess of fertility. (v. 7:25-8:15)

III. The Plague of Gnats demonstrated Yahweh's sovereignty over the priests and magicians of Egypt. (v. 8:16-19)

IV. The plague of Flies demonstrated Yahweh's sovereignty over the god of the flies and differentiated between the Egyptians and the Israelites. (v. 8:20-32)

V. The plague on livestock demonstrated Yahweh's sovereignty over the Egyptian bull gods and cow goddesses. (v. 9:1-7)

VI. The plague of Boils demonstrated Yahweh's sovereignty over the Egyptian physicians and their gods. (v. 9:8-12)

The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles. (Romans 1:18-23)

Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity... (Romans 1:24)

God gave them over to shameful lusts. (Romans 1:26)

God gave them over to a depraved mind... (Romans 1:28)

VII. The plague of Hail demonstrated Yahweh's sovereignty over the sky gods of Egypt and the nation's fertility. (v. 9:13-35)

What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Not at all! For he says to Moses,

“I will have mercy on whom I have mercy,
and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.”

It does not, therefore, depend on human desire or effort, but on God's mercy. For Scripture says to Pharaoh: “I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display my power in you and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.” Therefore God has mercy on whom he wants to have mercy, and he hardens whom he wants to harden.

One of you will say to me: “Then why does God still blame us? For who is able to resist his will?” But who are you, a human being, to talk back to God? “Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, ‘Why did you make me like this?’” Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for special purposes and some for common use? (Romans 9:14-21)

VIII. The plague of Locusts once again demonstrated Yahweh's sovereignty over the sky gods of Egypt and the nation's fertility. (v. 10:1-20)

IX. The plague of Darkness demonstrated Yahweh's sovereignty over the great sun God Ra. (v. 10:21-29)

X. The final plague on the Firstborn demonstrated Yahweh's sovereignty over life and death and Pharaoh himself.. (v. 11:1-10)