

Reasons for the Plagues of Egypt (in order presented)

(Exodus 7-11)

Reason #1 – That the Egyptians would know God IS THE LORD (see reason #4).

Exodus 7:5a, "5 And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch out My hand on Egypt..."

Reason #2 – To free the Israelites from bondage ("Let My people go.")

Exodus 7:5b, "5 ... when I stretch out My hand on Egypt and bring out the children of Israel from among them."

Also see Exodus 6:1, 7:16, 8:1, 20, 9:1, 13, 10:3, & 11:1. The MOST COMMON reason given...to free God's people.

Reason #3 – So the people of Israel could SERVE the Lord.

Exodus 7:16, ", "Let My people go, that they may serve Me in the wilderness"; but indeed, until now you would not hear!"

Also see Exodus 8:1, 20, 9:1, 13, 10:3. The 2nd MOST COMMON reason given...So God's people can serve Him.

This is NOT to say they could not serve the Lord in bondage in Egypt. But this was much more freedom.

Reason #4 – That Pharaoh would know God IS THE LORD (see reason #1).

Exodus 7:17, "17 Thus says the Lord: "By this you [singular] shall know that I am the Lord."

Also see Exodus 8:22, 10:2b.

Reason #5 – To prove to Pharaoh & Egypt God is THE ONLY GOD.

Exodus 8:10, "10 ...And he [Moses] said [to Pharaoh], "Let it be according to your word, that you [singular] may know that there is no one like the LORD our God."

Also see Exodus 9:14.

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Reason #6 – That God could show His power.

Exodus 9:16a, “16 But indeed for this *purpose* I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you...”

Reason #7 – That God’s name may be declared in all the earth.

Exodus 9:16b, “16 ... and that My name may be declared in all the earth.”

Reason #8 – That Pharaoh would know the earth is the Lord’s.

Exodus 9:29b, “29 ... that you [singular] may know that the earth is the Lord’s.”

Reason #9 – That God’s deeds would be told to future generations.

Exodus 10:2a, “2 ”and that you may tell in the hearing of your son and your son's son the mighty things I have done in Egypt.”

Reason #10 – That the people of Israel would know God is the Lord.

Exodus 10:2a, “2 ” ... that you [plural] may know that I am the LORD.”

Reason #11 – That the people of Egypt would know God makes a distinction between them & Israel.

Exodus 11:7, “7 ” ... that you [plural] may know that the LORD does make a difference between the Egyptians & Israel.”

Also see Exodus 8:23.

The Plagues of Egypt (Exodus 7-11)

Plague	Description of the Plagues	Exodus Passage	Did God say, "Let My people go."?	Did God warn Pharaoh?	Copied by men of Egypt?	Israelites Spared?	Egyptian god(s)*
Pre	Moses Rod / Serpent	7:8-13	Earlier (5:1)	N/A	Yes (7:11-12)	N/A	Buto
1	Blood	7:14-25	Yes (7:16)	No	Yes (7:22)	No Comment	Hapi (aka Apis), Isis, Khnum
2	Frogs	8:1-15	Yes (8:1)	Yes (8:2)	Yes (8:7)	No Comment	Heqet
3	Lice	8:16-19	No	No	No (8:18)	No Comment	Set
4	Flies	8:20-32	Yes (8:20)	Yes (8:21)	No	Yes (8:22-23)	Ra or Uatchit
5	Livestock	9:1-7	Yes (9:1)	Yes (9:2-3)	No	Yes (9:4-6)	Apis, Hathor
6	Boils	9:8-12	No	No	No	Yes (9:11)	Sikhmet, Sunu, Isis
7	Hail & Lightning	9:13-35	Yes (9:13)	Yes (9:18)	No	Yes (9:26)	Nut, Osiris, Set
8	Locusts	10:1-20	Yes (10:3)	Yes (10:4)	No	No Comment	Nut, Osiris
9	Darkness	10:21-29	No	No	No	Yes (10:23)	Ra, Horus, Nut, Hathor
10	Death of Firstborn	11:1-10	No	Not directly (11:4-8)	No	Yes (11:7)	Min, Isis

A partial list of the "gods" of Egypt: Hapi (aka Apis - god of the Nile), Isis (goddess of the Nile and of healing), Khnum (ram god guardian of the Nile), Heqet (goddess of birth with frog head), Set (god of the desert & storms), Ra (aka Re - sun god), Uatchit (fly), Hathor (goddess with cow head), Sekhmet (goddess with power over diseases), Sunu (pestilence god), Nut (sky goddess), Osiris (god of crops & fertility), Horus (sun god), Min (god of reproduction), Buto (cobra goddess).