

A desert landscape with sand dunes under a bright sun in a blue sky. The sun is positioned at the top center, creating a lens flare effect. The dunes are in the foreground and middle ground, with their ridges and valleys clearly visible. The sky is a deep blue, and the overall scene is bathed in the warm, golden light of late afternoon or early morning.

THE PLAGUES, PART 1

EXODUS 7-11

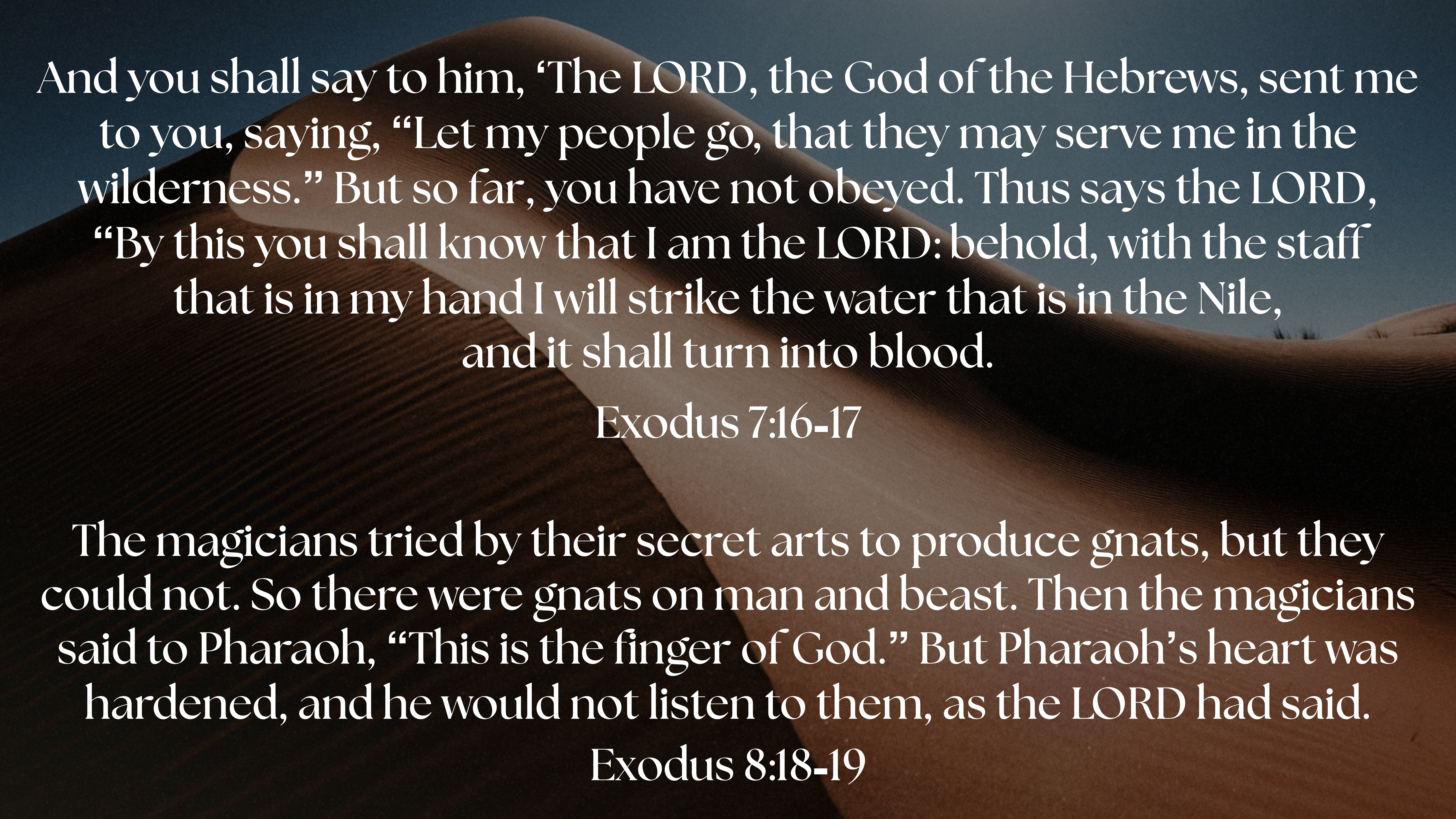
A photograph of a desert landscape featuring rolling sand dunes. The dunes are illuminated by warm, golden light, likely from a low sun, creating soft shadows and highlighting the texture of the sand. The sky is a clear, pale blue. The overall mood is serene and majestic.

I. The plagues were miraculous.

★ Performed by God at a specific time, in a specific place, for a specific purpose.

II. The plagues were meaningful.

- ★ God used the plagues to demonstrate the futility of worshipping false gods.
- ★ God used the plagues to reveal Himself and make Himself known.

A photograph of a desert landscape with rolling sand dunes under a clear blue sky. The dunes are in the foreground and middle ground, with some sparse vegetation visible on the right. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, serif font.

And you shall say to him, “The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, sent me to you, saying, “Let my people go, that they may serve me in the wilderness.” But so far, you have not obeyed. Thus says the LORD, “By this you shall know that I am the LORD: behold, with the staff that is in my hand I will strike the water that is in the Nile, and it shall turn into blood.

Exodus 7:16-17

The magicians tried by their secret arts to produce gnats, but they could not. So there were gnats on man and beast. Then the magicians said to Pharaoh, “This is the finger of God.” But Pharaoh’s heart was hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the LORD had said.

Exodus 8:18-19

A photograph of a desert landscape featuring rolling sand dunes. The dunes are illuminated by warm, golden light, likely from a low sun, creating soft shadows and highlighting the ripples in the sand. The sky is a clear, deep blue. The overall mood is serene and majestic.

II. The plagues were meaningful.

★ GOD IS POWERFUL = WOW!

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II. The plagues were meaningful.

★ GOD IS FAITHFUL = WONDERFUL!

II. The plagues were meaningful.

★ GOD IS WATCHFUL = WHOA!

I (God) have raised you (Pharaoh) up for this very purpose, that I might show you my power and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.

Exodus 9:16



I. The plagues were miraculous.
II. The plagues were meaningful.

Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God's house. For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses — as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God. Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope. Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness, where your fathers put me to the test and saw my works for forty years.

Hebrews 3:1-19

Therefore I was provoked with that generation, and said, 'They always go astray in their heart; they have not known my ways.' As I swore in my wrath, 'They shall not enter my rest.'" Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end. As it is said, "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion." For who were those who heard and yet rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses? And with whom was he provoked for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient? So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.

Hebrews 3:1-19

Then Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron, and said, Intreat the LORD, that he may take away the frogs from me, and from my people; and I will let the people go, that they may do sacrifice unto the LORD. And Moses said unto Pharaoh, **GLORY OVER ME!**: when shall I intreat for thee, and for thy servants, and for thy people, to destroy the frogs from thee and thy houses, that they may remain in the river only? And he said, **TOMORROW**.

Exodus 8:8-10 (KJV)

Then Moses said, “Behold, I am going out from you and I will plead with the LORD that the swarms of flies may depart from Pharaoh, from his servants, and from his people, tomorrow. Only let not Pharaoh cheat again by not letting the people go to sacrifice to the LORD.” So Moses went out from Pharaoh and prayed to the LORD. And the LORD did as Moses asked, and removed the swarms of flies from Pharaoh, from his servants, and from his people; not one remained. But Pharaoh hardened his heart this time also, and did not let the people go.

Exodus 8:29-32 (ESV)

CONCLUSION:

When God opens your eyes to His truth;
When God touches your heart with His mercy;
When God calls you to serve Him by His grace;
The appropriate answer is always and ever: **OKAY...TODAY!**
Don't be like Pharaoh and wait until tomorrow.
The sun will rise tomorrow.
And, when it does it is then we will answer again:
OKAY...TODAY, Here am I, LORD. Send me!!