

## “Through the Bible in a Year with Pastor Don and the FBC Family”

**Feb. 3, 2016**

- Exodus 7-8 – Moses, Aaron, and the first 4 Plagues.
- John 1:35-51 – The first disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Song of Solomon 1:8-14 – The king speaks and the Shulamite replies.

### Reflections:

1. Exodus 7-8. The Ten Plagues were not random. Each plague was directed against the various gods of Egypt. Note the chart.

The 10 Plagues - Jehovah Versus the Gods of Egypt			
PLAGUE	GODS OF EGYPT	INTERESTING NOTES	
<b>1</b>	<b>WATER TURNED TO BLOOD</b> Exodus 7:14-25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Khnum - Guardian of river's source.</li> <li>• Hapi - Spirit of the Nile.</li> <li>• Osiris - Nile was his bloodstream.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duplicated by the Egyptians.</li> <li>• Occurs in Goshen where Israelites lived.</li> <li>• Dead fish — putrid smell</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<b>FROGS</b> Exodus 8:1-15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hapi } Frog goddess to Egypt.</li> <li>• Heqt } Both related to fertility</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duplicated by the Egyptians</li> <li>• Occurs in Goshen where Israelites lived.</li> </ul>
<b>3</b>	<b>LICE</b> Exodus 8:16-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seb - The earth god of Egypt</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not duplicated by the Egyptians</li> <li>• Occurs in Goshen where Israelites lived.</li> <li>• Attributed to the "finger of God."</li> </ul>
<b>4</b>	<b>FLIES</b> Exodus 8:20-32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uatchit - The fly god of Egypt.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God now makes a separation between the Egyptians and the Israelites.</li> <li>• No more plagues will come upon the Israelites.</li> </ul>
<b>5</b>	<b>DISEASE ON CATTLE</b> Exodus 9:1-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ptah } Egyptian gods associated</li> <li>• Mnevis } bulls and cows.</li> <li>• Hathor } </li> <li>• Amon } </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affects property.</li> <li>• Death of livestock.</li> </ul>
<b>6</b>	<b>BOILS</b> Exodus 9:8-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sekhmet - Egyptian goddess of Epidemics</li> <li>• Serapis } Egyptian gods of healing.</li> <li>• Imhotep } </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affects physical bodies.</li> <li>• Pharaoh's magicians cannot even appear in court.</li> </ul>
<b>7</b>	<b>HAIL</b> Exodus 9:13-35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nut - Egyptian sky goddess.</li> <li>• Isis &amp; Seth - Egyptian agriculture deities.</li> <li>• Shu - Egyptian god of the atmosphere.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historical uniqueness for such a storm in Egypt.</li> <li>• Pharaoh confesses his sin but later changes his mind.</li> </ul>
<b>8</b>	<b>LOCUSTS</b> Exodus 10:1-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Serapia - Egyptian deity protector from Locusts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pharaoh offers a compromise.</li> <li>• The compromise is rejected.</li> <li>• Pharaoh again confesses his sin.</li> </ul>
<b>9</b>	<b>DARKNESS</b> Exodus 10:21-29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re } Egyptian sun gods.</li> <li>• Amon-re } </li> <li>• Aten } </li> <li>• Atum } </li> <li>• Horus } </li> <li>• Thoth - Egyptian moon god.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dark in Egypt at midday.</li> <li>• Apparently light was still provided for the Israelites in Goshen.</li> </ul>
<b>10</b>	<b>DEATH OF FIRSTBORN</b> Exodus 12:29-36	This plague was a judgment on all of Egypt's gods, including Pharaoh himself. In Exodus 1, Pharaoh had killed the sons of Israel. Now the Lord kills the firstborn sons of the Egyptians (Exodus 11-12). Pharaoh will now let Israel go. He will later lose his army to death in the Red Sea (Exodus 14:4-31).	

Barnes' Bible Charts

A natural question arises as to how could the wise men and sorcerers of Pharaoh perform the same feats of power that God told Aaron and Moses to perform. Several passages (Ex 7:11, 22; 8:7) explicitly state that the wise men, sorcerers, and magicians of Pharaoh did the same works with their enchantments which God commanded Moses and Aaron to perform. However, Moses and Aaron claimed to have been sent from the Lord God. How could these men perform the same feats of power as Moses and Aaron did by the power

of God? The Bible is explicit that one of Satan's tactics in his effort to deceive man is to employ counterfeit or "false wonders" (2 Thess. 2:9; Rev. 16:14). The wise men of Pharaoh are said to do these wonders by their "enchantments" (Ex. 7:11). It is important to make a distinction between a supernatural power and a miraculous power. While Satan and demons have supernatural power, they do not have the power to perform miracles. To say that the sorcerers *truly* made their rods turn into snakes would be to say that they and Satan, have the power of creating life. But only God can create life, as admitted by the sorcerers (Ex. 8:18-19). We are told that they performed their works by means of enchantments, which is why they could only mimic the first three miracles (rod, blood, and frogs). However, when Moses and Aaron by the power of God, brought forth lice from the sand, they could only say "This is the finger of God" (Ex. 8:19). There came a point at which their "enchantments" were no longer able to counterfeit the power of God. Here is a comparison that may be helpful in discerning true and false miracles.

**DIVINE MIRACLE**

- Supernatural
- Connected with Total Truth
- Associated with good
- Never associated with Occult
- Always successful

**SATANIC SIGN**

- Supernatural
- Connected with error
- Associated with evil
- Always associated with Occult
- Not always successful

2. John 1:35-41. In verses 37-39 we have the introduction of the first two disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ. Note what Jesus asked them, "What do you seek?" This is the question He asks every person. In fact, this is what He asks the world. It is important for every believer to have a strong consciousness of what he really seeks—what is the point of life? Who is the chief object of life? Man often lives like an animal, just living hand to mouth, driven by circumstances and unreflecting passions and desires without a clue that life really is about Jesus Christ and Truth as such. Notice their response in wanting to be with Him. Note His second statement to them: "Come and See." This is what He says to all of those who seek Him as such.
  
3. Song of Solomon 1:8-14. In verse 8 the women of the court tell her to go after him. In verses 9-11, the king flatters her beauty (in part to counter her insecurities due to her being sun-tanned from working out in the sun) by comparing her to a majestic mare. While it is not a compliment to call a lover a mare in our generation, at that time it really was a compliment as this mare represented royalty, grace, power, and beauty. Given that she is a poor maiden who is self-conscious about her looks, he tells her that she looks absolutely beautiful and promises to give her jewelry to match her natural pulchritude.

On the Glory Road,

Pastor Don