

# Exodus 7:8 – 8:32

## Day 1

Moses and Aaron before Pharaoh: Exodus 7:8-14

1. Why do you think Pharaoh asked Moses and Aaron to perform a miracle? 7:9

**FYI:** "Serpents were feared and worshiped in Egypt...The image of a cobra was a royal symbol, appearing on the front of the headdress of the pharaohs...This symbolized his power." - The Woman's Study Bible (107)

2. Whom did Pharaoh turn to for help? 7:11

- How do you think that the Egyptian were able to turn their staffs into serpents (7:12)?

**FYI:** "**Miracles** - or at least apparent miracles - are part of Satan's arsenal. Paul later wrote on this theme: *The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they may be saved* (2 Thessalonians 2:9-10)." - David Guzik [See also Matthew 24:24]

"These **magician-induced serpents** can only have been 'lying [false] wonders' (II Thessalonians 2:9). Neither men nor demons can create life; this is a prerogative only of God, who 'created...every living creature' (Genesis 1:21)." - Henry Morris

"**sorcerers**" Strong's OT:3784 *kashaph*, to whisper a spell, i.e. to enchant or practice magic

"**magicians**" Strong's OT:2748 *chartom*; a horoscopist (as drawing magical lines or circles)

"**secret arts**" Strong's OT:3858 *lahat*; a blaze; also (from the idea of enwrapping) magic (as covert) - Strong's Concordance

### Digging Deeper

What did the Lord say about these kinds of practices? Deuteronomy 18:9-14

3. What did Aaron's serpent demonstrate about the power of God? 7:12 (See 1 John 4:4)

4. What two barriers did Pharaoh put up between himself and God? 7:13 (Cf. 5:2,4)

5. What did the Lord say about Pharaoh? 7:14

**IT'S HEBREW TO ME:** "**stubborn/unyielding** - 7:14 Strong's OT:3515 *kabad*; heavy; figuratively in a good sense (numerous) or in a bad sense (severe, difficult, stupid) - Strong's Concordance

6. What did Solomon write about our ears and heart? Proverbs 2:1-5

In Romans 1:21,25,28, see the attitudes about God that unbelievers have.

7. Why should we guard our hearts? Proverbs 4:23

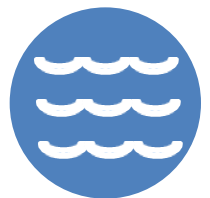
- From Proverbs 4: list the ways God says to do this:
  - 4:20
  - 4:21
  - 4:24
  - 4:25
  - 4:26
  - 4:27

**Applying the Word:** *In what areas of your life, if any, do you feel you turn a deaf ear or have a “stubborn” heart toward God? What is a step you can make toward softening it?*

## Day 2

1st plague – Nile turns to blood: Read Exodus 7:15–25

8. Fill in information about the first plague on the chart *Plagues of Egypt* located at the back of your homework.



**FYI:** “This plague like the following ones, attacked the Egyptian gods. The Nile was central to Egyptian life...Numerous Egyptian gods were associated with the river, including the pharaohs, who were thought to control the Nile. The Lord, however, ruled the Nile and all the water connected to it. What the Egyptians regarded as their source of life the Lord turned into a river of death...Turning the Nile to blood served also as a punishment for its use in killing Israelites babies.”  
- The Womans’ Study Bible (109)

“There is a significant mention... in a papyrus from this general period known as the *Ipuwer Papyrus*. It actually says (Ipuwer 2.10) that the Nile was blood and undrinkable. The same papyrus repeatedly mentions that servants left their masters.”  
- David Guzik

9. What reason did Moses give for God's wanting His people let go? 7:16 (Note: To whom did the people belong? )

10. How extensively were the waters affected? 7:19

- What difficulty did this cause? 7:24

11. What were Pharaoh and his servants able to observe about the execution and timing of the plagues? 7:20 What should this have communicated to them?

12. What did the magicians do? 7:22 What would have been a more powerful and beneficial thing to do?

13. How would you describe Pharaoh's attitude in 7:23?

**Applying the Word:** *Imagine experiencing this plague. What do you think would have alarmed you the most?*

## Day 3

2nd Plague: Frogs: Read Exodus 8:1-15

14. Fill in information about the second plague on the chart  
*Plagues of Egypt.*



**FYI:** "Frogs were venerated in Egypt because they were associated with fertility. But the Lord, the true giver of fruitfulness (see Ex. 1:7) turned what had been revered into a cause for disgust. This plague may also be an ironic punishment directed at Egyptian attempts to prevent the increase of God's people." - The Woman's Study Bible (109)

15. What words describe the extent of land that was affected by the frogs? 8:2,6

16. Describe what you think you would feel like if what were described in 8:3 happened in your house! (Note: How long had it been since the people had been dealing with the Nile turning to blood. 7:25)

See an interesting detail about the frogs emphasized in Psalms 105:30.

17. Why do you think Pharaoh turned to Moses instead of his magicians for relief? 8:8a (Note: By what name did he address God? Contrast 5:2)

- What did Pharaoh promise? 8:8b

18. What did Moses want Pharaoh to know by giving him the “honor” of saying when Moses should pray for him? 8:9,10 (What would setting the time do to any excuses or explanations?)

- How do you think Moses felt about making this prayer?
- What did killing the frogs do to Egypt’s regard for them as “sacred?” 8:13

19. Imagine what it was like when Moses’ prayer was answered. 8:12-14 What other problems do you see this creating?

20. What did Pharaoh’s response (8:15) do to his guilt? See Proverbs 29:1

- Why do you think God, knowing Pharaoh’s heart and what his response would be, honored his request?

**Applying the Word:** When has someone else’s stubbornness and refusal to follow the Lord’s caused you discomfort or problem. What does Moses’ example teach you?

## Day 4

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Plagues: Read Exodus 8:16–32



### **3rd Plague: Gnats**

21. Fill in information about the third plague on the chart.

**FYI:** “This plague struck at the heart of all Egyptian worship...The Egyptian priesthood was extremely careful about hygiene and ritual cleansing; an infestation of lice made them unable to worship their gods. The plague of lice was also upon every beast. The gods of Egypt would not receive the sacrifice of lice-infested animals, so this stopped their sacrificial system.”  
- David Guzik

22. What was different about the miracle of gnats from the first two miracles?

- 8:16 (Compare 8:1)
  
- 8:18

23. What did the magicians recognize about this miracle? 8:19

24. Describe the effect you think these first three plagues would have had on the people?  
(How do you feel about blood? Frogs? Have you ever had lice? Consider the five senses: sight, sound, smell, taste, and touch in dealing with these plagues.)

25. Where do you see God’s mercy in dealing with the Egyptians so far? What chances for repentance had they had?

### **4<sup>th</sup> Plague: Flies/Insects**

26. Record information about the 4<sup>th</sup> plague on the chart.

27. How intense was the “swarm of insects?” 8:21,24

**FYI:** “**Thick swarms of flies came:** Literally, it says God sent *a swarm* (Hebrew, *awrob*) upon Egypt; it does not specify what the swarm was. It may have been a variety of insects. Psalm 78:45 says these swarms *devoured them*, and this indicates that there were biting insects in the swarm.”  
- David Guzik

28. What made this miracle even more remarkable? 8:22 (Imagine insects!)

29. If the Israelites had been affected at least in some part by the first three plagues, how might that have been beneficial?

30. How did Pharaoh try to negotiate? 8:25 (What do you think he was trying to do?)

- Why did Moses object? 8:26
- What did he say must be done? 8:27
- How did Pharaoh respond? 8:28a

**Food for Thought:** “ ‘I will let you go’ carries the tone that Pharaoh believed that he owned or controlled Israel. ‘They were not Pharaoh’s people; Pharaoh...had never brought them where they were. He had not fought with them and overcome them. They were not captives in war, nor did they dwell in a territory which was the spoil of fair conflict.’ (Spurgeon) Evil is always suggesting some compromise. To listen to it, is to remain enslaved. The only way into liberty is to leave the land of evil.”  
- David Guzik

31. What does Pharaoh’s request for prayer (8:28b) show about his understanding of what is happening?

- What warning did Moses give in connection with his prayer this time? 8:29

32. How fully was Moses’ prayer answered? 8:31 What should this have conveyed to Pharaoh?

**Applying the Word:** *When have you felt compelled to pray for your enemies? What attitude did you have about doing that? How did you pray for them?*

*Questions and Discoveries:*