

EXODUS 7:8–11:10

Avoiding the Plague

	PLAGUE	WARNING	AFFECTED WHOM	DURATION	PHARAOH'S RESPONSE
FIRST CYCLE <i>Trouble</i>	1 Nile turned to blood	Yes	Egyptians + Israelites	~8 days	Refused to let Israel go
	2 Frogs	Yes	Egyptians + Israelites	~14 days	Israel freed if frogs removed
	3 Gnats	No	Egyptians + Israelites	~8 days	Rejected magicians' advice
SECOND CYCLE <i>Pain</i>	4 Flies	Yes	Egyptians	~10 days	Israel can only worship in Egypt
	5 Death of livestock	Yes	Egyptians	~10 days	Refused to let Israel go
	6 Boils	No	Egyptians	~8 days	Refused to let Israel go
THIRD CYCLE <i>Destruction</i>	7 Hail	Yes	Egyptians	~9 days	Israel freed if rain/hail stop
	8 Locusts	Yes	Egyptians	~14 days	Only men can go
	9 Darkness	No	Egyptians	~11 days	People can go but not animals
CULMINATING JUDGMENT <i>Death</i>	10 Death of firstborn	Yes	Egyptians	4 days	Urged Israel to go but later pursued them to the sea

I. God enacted the plagues to _____ that His power is unmatched.

"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 ...'" Exodus 7:16-17a

II. God enacted the plagues to _____ His judgment for disobedience.

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 8:19

III. God enacted the plagues to _____ His people from enslavement.

The Lord said to Moses, "Yet one plague more I will bring upon Pharaoh and upon Egypt. Afterward he will let you go from here. When he lets you go, he will drive you away completely." Exodus 11:1

AVOID SIN LIKE THE PLAGUE

Turn to Jesus, who took on the _____ of God.

Trust Jesus with _____ surrender.

Worship Jesus, who _____ all things together.

GOD'S STRENGTH IS
STRONGER

HOME GROUP STUDY & DEVOTIONAL

Before you begin, ask the Holy Spirit to teach you and guide your study.

1. Skim over Exodus 7:8–11:10. What surprises you about the sorcerers' power (7:8-13)? Where does it come from? What's the meaning of Aaron's creature swallowing theirs?

2. What points was God was making with the magicians, the staffs and all the plagues? What was He showing about Himself? How can you apply this to yourself?

3. How did God show His care for Israel in the midst of the plagues (see 8:22-23; 9:1-7, 26; 10:23)? How can you apply this to yourself?

4. Why couldn't Israel stay in Egypt to worship the Lord (see 5:1, 3 and 8:25-28)?

5. In the New Testament, Egypt symbolizes slavery to sin. Why can't Christians worship the Lord and still be enslaved to sin? Read Romans 6:15-23 for insight.

6. What indications are there that Pharaoh's conscience was affected by some of the plagues?

7. Are all, some, or no "natural" disasters divine judgments? Explain your reasoning. (Consider Matthew 24:6-8 and Luke 13:1-5.)

8. How has God recently demonstrated His power in your life?

9. Spend some time in prayer, praising the Lord who is supreme over all of nature. Praise Him that there is no other god but Him. Ask Him to write this truth on your heart so that you will be utterly devoted to Him.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Research other Scripture passages that mention the plagues. What do these teach you about God and His purposes in the plagues?

Numbers 14:22	1 Samuel 4:8	Psalms 78:12
Deuteronomy 6:22	Nehemiah 9:10	Joshua 9:9
Jeremiah 32:20-21	Psalms 43-51	Acts 7:36

Observe the parallels between God's judgments on Egypt in Exodus and His judgments on the world in Revelation 8:1–9:21. Why do you suppose Revelation echoes Exodus?

When considering these judgments, especially the first nine, many commentators have attempted to explain them as instances of natural occurrences with perhaps divinely guided timing (cf. 8:23), divinely directed locating (9:4, 6, 26), and in divinely produced proportions. However, it seems best in the light of the timing (viz. Moses' pronouncements), extent (some were limited to the Egyptians; cf. 8:22; 9:4, 6, 26; 11:7) and evident intent to take them as genuine miracles (cf. 7:3), manifestations of supernatural divine power that only the Lord God could have accomplished. This leads to the observation that there is an unmistakable theological intent in these events that should not be missed but often is by those who focus more on naturalistic explanations rather than seeing the very point they were originally meant to make: the Lord is the only true God (cf. 40:17). There was a gradual intensification about these judgments from serious inconvenience to life-threatening disaster. It is clear these judgments were attacks on key features of Egyptian religion and in effect are contests with Egyptian deities (cf. Nm 33:4), designed to prove their impotence and unreality. These tests also are intended to show Pharaoh and his people that the God of the Hebrews, the Lord YHWH, is God. ... Pharaoh is made to confront the fundamental reality that the Lord's will is irresistible. A sub-theme here is that partial repentance and temporary or insincere sorrow for one's sins against the Lord are unavailing. Only sincere submission is acceptable. Only utter humility before God is appropriate (cf. 10:3). ... These events prove that God is sovereign; He is utterly unique; He is active in His creation; He desires the worship of His people; He demands the compliance and obedience of all creatures.

KEVIN ZUBER

A WONDERFUL OFFER

Being a Christian isn't based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God's love for us. Here's how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

1. Realize that you are sinful and separated from God. (Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)
2. Recognize that the penalty for your sin is death—eternal separation from God and all that is good. (Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)
3. Understand that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and that He rose again. (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21)
4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior. (Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9)

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:16 NASB) You can use this prayer to express your decision to God:

"Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in Him alone as the only way to get right with You. Thank You for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen."

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit ccbcfamily.org/events.



LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT CARD? Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.

CCBC OFFICES CLOSED TOMORROW On Monday, May 26 our offices will be closed in observance of Memorial Day.

WOMEN IN THE WORD: SUMMER STUDY This summer, come discover who God is and how His character meets us in everyday life. Through Scripture, we'll explore names of God like Peace, Shepherd and Banner — each one a reminder that He sees us, knows our needs and walks with us through every challenge. Whether you're facing uncertainty, seeking guidance or simply needing rest, God reveals Himself as enough. Join us for a summer study where truth takes root, hope is renewed and you're reminded you're never alone. Sign up at ccbcfamily.org/wiw.

5TH CAMP — A SPECIAL WEEKEND FOR YOUR 5TH GRADER! If you're looking for a fun and meaningful way for your 5th grader to grow in their faith, 5th Camp is the place to be! This exciting event is packed with games, small group time, worship and teaching that's designed to make faith come alive in an age-appropriate and engaging way. Find out more details at ccbcfamily.org/5thcamp.

KIDS MINISTRY SUMMER SESSION Love Jesus? You can make a difference! No special skills are needed — just a willing heart to help kids know and follow Him. Summer is a key time for our church family to step in and create a consistent, gospel-centered space for children. Whether you serve four Sundays or the whole summer, your impact will last far beyond the season! Step in and see what God can do through you! Sign up at ccbcfamily.org/session.

HSM SUMMER STARTS HERE — HSM FIELD TRIP! High school students, your summer of purpose and excitement can start with the Summer Field Trip! This day is packed with fun games, time to connect with friends and space to build meaningful community. It's more than just fun — it's a chance to reset, recharge and refocus on what God has in store for the season ahead. Learn more about the date and time at ccbcfamily.org/fieldtrip.



IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE The process is quick and easy—scan the QR Code to start.