

SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

AN OVERVIEW OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

JN. 5:39



Jn. 5:39 “**Search the scriptures....they are they which testify of me.**”

Jn. 5:46 For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for **he wrote of me.**

Rom. 15:4 For whatsoever things were **written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.**

Two weeks ago, we began looking at the 10 plagues that God brought upon Egypt before the Exodus of His people from their bondage. We covered the first seven plagues:

1. **The Plague of Blood**, **Ex. 7:14-24** → Hapi (also called Apis), the bull god, god of the Nile; Isis, goddess of the Nile; Khnum, ram god, guardian of the Nile; others...
2. **The Plague of Frogs**, **Ex. 8:1-15** → Heket, (Heqet,) goddess of birth, with a frog head
3. **The Plague of Lice**, **Ex. 8:16-19** → Set or Geb, god of the desert storms
4. **The Plague of Flies**, **Ex. 8:20-32** → Khepri, and Uatchit, represented by the fly.

5. The Plague on Livestock (Hathor), Ex. 9:1-7

6. The Plague of Ashes Boils and Sores (Isis), Ex. 9:8-12

7. The Plague of Hail in the Form of Fire (Nut),
Ex. 9:13-35

❖ Remember that one of the purposes of the plagues is for God to show His strength and power over the gods of Egypt.

Ex. 7:5 And **the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD**, when I stretch forth mine hand upon Egypt, and bring out the children of Israel from among them.

Ex. 12:12 For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and **against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD.**

Num. 33:4 For the Egyptians buried all *their* firstborn, which the LORD had smitten among them: **upon their gods also the LORD executed judgments.**

Tonight, we will cover two of the last three of the 10 Plagues and God's confrontation against the gods of Egypt.

8. The Plague of Locusts (Seth), Ex. 10:1-20

Ex. 10:1 And the LORD said unto Moses, Go in unto Pharaoh: for I have hardened his heart, and the heart of his servants, **that I might shew these my signs before him:**

2 And that thou mayest **tell in the ears of thy son, and of thy son's son, what things I have wrought in Egypt, and my signs which I have done among them; that ye may know how that I *am* the LORD.**

3 And Moses and Aaron came in unto Pharaoh, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD God of the Hebrews, **How long wilt thou refuse to humble thyself before me?** let **my** people go, that they may serve **me**.

7 And Pharaoh's servants said unto him, How long shall this man be a snare unto us? let the men go, that they may serve the LORD their God: **knowest thou not yet that Egypt is destroyed?**

11 Not so: **go now ye that are men, and serve the LORD;** for that ye did desire. And they were driven out from Pharaoh's presence.

19 And the LORD turned a mighty strong west wind, which took away the locusts, and cast them into the Red sea; there remained not one locust in all the coasts of Egypt.

20 But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, so that he would not let the children of Israel go.

❖ The 8th Plague represents God's conquering of the Egyptian god, Seth.

Seth - Egyptian God of Storms and Disorder
Egyptian Plague- The Plague of Locusts.

According to several myths from ancient Egypt, Seth (sometimes known as “Set” or “Seteh” or “Satet”) was the god of chaos, anger, deceit, destruction, and war.



- ❖ The arrival of the locusts symbolized a divine judgment on the Egyptian god Seth, associated with agriculture and fertility. This plague served as a concrete demonstration of Jehovah's supremacy over the gods of nature, emphasizing His power to bring about both destruction and restoration.
- ❖ The devastating swarm of locusts wreaked havoc on the remaining crops and vegetation. These voracious insects descended upon the land, devouring everything in their path, leaving behind utter desolation.

- ❖ The eighth plague issued by the Lord had an even greater purpose than all the others – it was to be felt so that Pharaoh would tell even "his sons and son's sons" the mighty things of the Lord, thus teaching even future generations of the power of the "strong hand of God" over all the other Egyptian gods and goddesses.
- ❖ The Book of Revelation mentions locusts being destructive during the Tribulation Period.

Rev. 9:2 And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.

3 And there came out of the smoke **locusts upon the earth**: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.

9. The Plague of Darkness (Ra), Ex. 10:21-29

Ex. 10:21 And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand toward heaven, that there may be **darkness over the land of Egypt, even darkness which may be felt.**

22 And Moses stretched forth his hand toward heaven; and there was a thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days:

23 They saw not one another, neither rose any from his place for three days: but **all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings.**

24 And Pharaoh called unto Moses, and said, **Go ye, serve the LORD; only let your flocks and your herds be stayed: let your little ones also go with you.**

28 And Pharaoh said unto him, Get thee from me, take heed to thyself, see my face no more; for in *that* day thou seest my face thou shalt die.

29 And Moses said, **Thou hast spoken well, I will see thy face again no more.**

❖ The Plague of Darkness was the conquering of Ra, the sun god.



- ❖ This plague of darkness directly challenged the authority of Ra, the sun god, revealing the absolute power of Jehovah over the Egyptian deities. The darkness was not just a physical absence of light but symbolized the spiritual blindness and ignorance that had engulfed the Egyptians.
- ❖ The sun, the most worshipped God in Egypt other than Pharaoh himself, gave no light. The Lord showed that he had control over the sun as a witness that the God of Israel had ultimate power over life and death. The psychological and religious impact would have had a profound influence on the Egyptians at this point. Darkness was a representation of death, judgment, and hopelessness. Darkness was a complete absence of light and could be felt.

- ❖ As the ninth plague descended upon Egypt, an impenetrable darkness shrouded the land for three long days. In this eerie darkness, the Egyptians were rendered helpless, unable to see, move, or carry out their daily activities.
- ❖ The darkness served as a stark reminder of their refusal to acknowledge the true God and their unwavering loyalty to their false gods.
- ❖ The Israelites, however, experienced light in their dwellings, a clear demonstration of God's favor and protection upon His chosen people.

- ❖ The darkness that blanketed Egypt during this plague carried a significant message: allegiance to false gods leads to spiritual darkness, while trust in the one true God brings forth spiritual illumination and understanding.

Jn. 3:19 And this is the condemnation, that **light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.**

- ❖ This plague marks a pivotal moment in the struggle between Jehovah and the Egyptian pantheon, highlighting God's sovereignty and His purpose of setting His people free from the clutches of slavery.

❖ Darkness now fell upon Egypt, unannounced, as a prelude to the future fate to be felt by the Egyptian empire when the message of the Lord was not heeded, and they still turned to their own Egyptian gods and goddesses. Three days of palpable darkness, that was so immense it could be physically felt, covered the land of Egypt.

Darkness In The Book Of Revelation

Rev. 16:10 And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; **and his kingdom was full of darkness;** and they gnawed their tongues for pain,
11 And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds.

Summary

Acts 26:13 At midday, O king, I saw in the way a light from heaven, above the brightness of the sun, shining round about me and them which journeyed with me.

14 And when we were all fallen to the earth, I heard a voice speaking unto me, and saying in the Hebrew tongue, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? *it is* hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

15 And I said, Who art thou, Lord? And he said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest.

16 But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee;

17 Delivering thee from the people, and *from* the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee,

18 **To open their eyes, *and* to turn *them* from darkness to light, and *from* the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.**

Conclusion

2 Cor. 4:3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:

4 In whom the god of this world hath **blinded the minds of them which believe not**, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

5 For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

6 For **God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.**

7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.