

# Plagues of Egypt vs. Vials

It is most commonly taught that the plagues of Egypt and the plagues of tribulation are physical in nature. It is also taught that they can only occur after anyone who has any affiliation with any church has been “raptured” off into heaven seven years before the second coming of Messiah Yahusha. It is taught that the plagues represent the wrath of Yahuah against a strictly secular world. Let us take a look at both sets of plagues to see if these thoughts represent truth or error.

Let me begin by stating that both sets of plagues have a progression from the first to the last. This progression serves a definite purpose. Why did Yahuah smite the Egyptians with plagues?

**Exo 7:1-5**

So יהוה said to Mosheh, “See, I have made you an Elohim to Pharaoh, and Aharon your brother is your prophet.

“You shall speak all that I command you, and Aharon your brother shall speak to Pharaoh, to let the children of Yisra’el go out of his land.

“But I am going to harden the heart of Pharaoh, and shall increase My signs and My wonders in the land of Mitsrayim.

“And Pharaoh is not going to listen to you, and I shall lay My hand on Mitsrayim, and bring My divisions and My people, the children of Yisra’el, out of the land of Mitsrayim by great judgments.

“And the Mitsrites shall know that I am יהוה, when I stretch out My hand on Mitsrayim. And I shall bring the children of Yisra’el out from among them.”.

Also consider

**Exo 6:1**

And יהוה said to Mosheh, “Now see what I do to Pharaoh, for with a strong hand he is going to let them go, and with a strong hand he is going to drive them out of his land.”

When Moses first appeared before Pharaoh Ex. 5:2) he answered that he did not know Yahweh and did not recognize His authority. Pharaoh thought that he had received a first-class cosmopolitan education. Pharaoh was about to enter post-graduate studies in Who’s In Charge 101!

**Exo 5:2**

And Pharaoh said, “Who is יהוה, that I should obey His voice to let Yisra’el go? I do not know יהוה, nor am I going to let Yisra’el go.”

The plagues of Egypt were all naturally occurring events which were magnified in intensity. They were miraculous because they began on cue exactly when Yahuah said that they would. There were no tricks, mirrors, or sleight of hand. The divine order of their appearance served Yahuah’s plan.

**The Egyptians were well-educated in science, astronomy and the ways of the world, believing themselves to be very wise. Egypt was an active mercantile center with many economic ties. There was a well-developed writing system with literature and mathematics. Unfortunately the Egyptians also had a large number of pagan beliefs. There were many, many of these pagan deities. This system of worship regarded the creation of Yahuah and not the creator of it all. Things were about to change!**

**Going through the plagues one by one gives us a sense of the progression. The first plague concerned the Nile god. The Nile flooded each year in the spring, watering previously dry, parched land and causing it to become green and vital. In the first plague, Ex. 7:20, the waters of the Nile became as blood, the fish died and the water began to stink. Instead of providing life, the waters of the Nile caused death. This plague is the reverse of Yahusha's first miracle in John 2:1-11. Yahusha turned the water into wine, which symbolized his blood. By partaking in his blood we receive eternal life. In the first plague, the Nile god was shown to have no power.**

**The second plague (Ex. 8:2) concerned frogs. The Egyptian frog goddess was supposed to have power over resurrection and procreative power. The frogs entered the beds and bedrooms to show everyone that this was an incorrect focus; Yahuah was the one who blessed them with children. The frogs were in the kneading troughs because the production of crops and food was a blessing from the creator NOT the creation. Pharaoh's magicians could not make the frogs disappear; therefore, Pharaoh was forced to admit that it was the Yahuah of Israel who brought this plague. It was only at His bidding that this plague ended.**

**The third plague (Ex. 8:16) consisted of lice. The Egyptian priests were very careful to always remain in a clean state. They bathed, put on clean clothes and shaved daily in order to prevent an infestation of lice, which would make them unclean. They were not allowed to serve their pagan god if infected with lice. Everyone and everything was affected by this "creepy" plague. When this batch of lice appeared, the magicians acknowledged, "This is the finger of Yahuah." The pagan priests were incapable of serving their gods by reason of their uncleanness.**

**At this point we observe a division between the Hebrews and the Egyptians. The Hebrews become set-apart, for after the third plague the calamities begin to affect the Egyptians only and were not manifested in Goshen. Why did the Hebrews have to go through any of the plagues? The Hebrews had been in Egypt a long time, too long under the "sun", immersed in pagan worship. Israel had to be shown who her Yahuah was!**

**The purpose of the plagues was to show that Yahuah is King of Kings and has absolute authority, and to bring about the repentance of the people. The plagues were to shut down pagan worship, and make the people repent that they had ever taken part in it!**

**The fourth plague concerned "swarms" (Ex. 8:24) a mixed presence of an alarming number of insects. The Egyptians worshipped Baalzebub, the "lord" of the flies. The Egyptians also held the scarab beetle as the emblem of their sun god, who was now detestable in their sight. Note in verse 23 of chapter 8 that this is the plague which divided the children of Israel and the Egyptians. During this plague Pharaoh said that he would let the Israelites go, but that they couldn't go very far. Does Pharaoh have the final authority in telling us how far we can go to serve Elohim?**

The fifth plague (Ex. 9:6) concerned a disease which affected the cattle of Egypt, and focused on the pagan worship of all kinds of animals. The Egyptians had placed their faith in these animal-gods, and now their “gods” were powerless to prevent their own death. The Egyptians revered the lion, wolf, dog, cat, ape, goat, ox, heifer and ram. The plague which struck the cattle was anthrax, a disease carried by flies. If the Egyptians knew that the Israelites were sacrificing a bull, one of their most sacred animals, they would have tried to stone them. How much power did that bull-god have now? This plague severed another limitation on Israel’s service to Yahuah. In this the fifth plague, the “sacred cows” of Egypt were slaughtered with a wasting disease, while the cattle of the Israelites remained healthy.

Also take note that there was a difference between the children of Israel in Goshen and the rest of Egypt. Israel only experienced three of the ten plagues.

#### **Exo 9:4-6**

“And יהוה shall separate between the livestock of Yisra’el and the livestock of Mitsrayim, and let no matter die of all that belongs to the children of Yisra’el.” ’ ’ ”

And יהוה set an appointed time, saying, “Tomorrow יהוה is going to do this word in the land.”

And יהוה did this word on the next day, and all the livestock of Mitsrayim died, but of the livestock of the children of Yisra’el, not one died.

The sixth plague (Ex. 9:10) concerned the boils. It is interesting to note that Moses started this plague by sprinkling dust up toward heaven. Boils are pustules that develop on the surface of the skin. They are a collection of the body’s efforts to clear up an internal infection. The Egyptians worshipped Thoth, a god of medicine and intelligence/wisdom. In their worship, the Egyptian priests sacrificed human beings and scattered their ashes which were supposed to represent blessings. When Moses sprinkled the ashes, they became instead a curse which showed how corrupt these practices were. The boils made the people unclean to worship this pagan god, and therefore shut down this practice. You could see the boils all over the people. The bitterness in their heart and spirit were clearly visible on the surface.

The seventh plague, the plague of hail (Ex. 9:18) , was directed against Isis and Osiris, two of Egypt’s biggest pagan deities. This was not normal everyday hail, but an extraordinary appearance. Please note that some of the Egyptians also “feared the Lord” and were obeying His directives:

#### **Exo 9:20-21**

Those among the servants of Pharaoh who feared the word of יהוה made their servants and livestock flee to the houses.

But those who did not set their heart on the word of יהוה left their servants and livestock in the field.

Please also note that hail is a type of stoning. Stoning is the penalty for blasphemy.

#### **Lev 24:15-16**

“And speak to the children of Yisra’el, saying, ‘Anyone who curses his Elohim shall bear his sin.

**'And he who blasphemes the Name of יהוה shall certainly be put to death, and all the congregation certainly stone him, the stranger as well as the native. When he blasphemes the Name, he is put to death.**

**As Egypt was stoned for blaspheming their Creator, they repented not of their blasphemy. What goes around comes around, and there is nothing new under the sun.**

**What has happened before will happen again. Let's look at Revelation:**

**Rev 16:21**

**And great hail from the heaven fell upon men, every hailstone about the weight of a talent. And men blasphemed Elohim for the plague of the hail, because that plague was exceedingly great.**

**Please take a look at Rev. 2:21, Rev. 9:20 also. The purpose of all these plagues is to bring all people, regardless of heritage, to repentance and service to the King of Kings.**

**The plague of hail originated in the sky where Nut, the sky goddess, was supposed to reside. This plague destroyed the flax and barley crop, as well as stripping the leaves off the trees. The economy and source of food for Egypt was destroyed.**

**Pharaoh did not surrender; therefore Yahuah was not finished. Next was the plague of locusts (Ex. 10:12-13). The locusts came in spite of another Egyptian pagan god who was supposed to prevent them. Pharaoh agreed to let the Israelite men go worship Yahuah, but leave the women and children at home. Men are supposed to lead their households and children in the correct way to worship Yahuah; therefore this was unacceptable. The enemy frequently seeks to divide and conquer. The locusts ate up all of the "green stuff" that the hail had left. When it all boils down, we arrive at a test of faith. Does our faith lie with the "green stuff," (money) or in the Provider of all Blessings? Are we willing to disconnect with the system in order to serve the King of Kings?**

**The ninth plague, the plague of darkness, addressed the Egyptian sun-god and Pharaoh himself, who was supposed to represent this god. For three days light was removed from Egypt and Pharaoh was powerless to bring any light to his people. (But were they his people after all?) Who is capable of bringing light to the world? Gen. 1:3 ; John 12:36; John 12:46; Eph 5:8; I Thess. 5:5. Yahusha represents the light of this world. Pharaoh, on the other hand, represented anti-Yahusha. Pharaoh said that the Israelites could all go serve Yahuah, but that their cattle could not go. Pharaoh would not surrender his authority and power, so Yahuah continued to wage war against him.**

**The plagues occurred in groups of three, with three groups of three. The last plague stands all to itself. Pharaoh himself pronounced this judgement.**

**Exo 4:23**

**so I say to you, let My son go to serve Me. But if you refuse to let him go, see, I am killing your son, your first-born." ' "**

**vs.**

### Exo 12:12

'And I shall pass through the land of Mitsrayim on that night, and shall smite all the first-born in the land of Mitsrayim, both man and beast. And on all the mighty ones of Mitsrayim I shall execute judgment. I am יהוה.

As it was declared in the beginning, so would it be in the end. The Israelites not only got to leave Egypt, they took the jewels, silver, gold, and precious raiment with them. I guess the Egyptians didn't want their bling any more. Note that the Hebrews took their "bread" with them. (Ex. 12:34) It was the most precious possession that they had.

### Joh 6:35

And יהושע said to them, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall not get hungry at all, and he who believes in Me shall not get thirsty at all.

### Plagues vs. Vials

<u>No.</u>	<u>Plague</u>	<u>Scripture</u>	<u>Action Initiated</u>	<u>Revelation correspondence</u>
1	Blood	Ex. 7:20	Aaron- Warning	Rev. 16:3-4 and 16:6
2	Frogs	Ex. 8:2	Aaron- Warning	Rev. 16:13
3	Lice	Ex. 8:16	No warning	
4	Swarms	Ex. 8:21	Warning	
5	Cattle disease	Ex. 9:5	Moses and Aaron	Warning
6	Boils	Ex. 9:10	Moses- No Warning	Rev. 16:2 and also Rev. 16:11
7	Hail	Ex. 9:18	Moses- Warning	Rev. 16:9 Blasphemy Rev. 16:11 Blasphemy Rev. 16:21 Blasphemy; hail as Punishment for blasphemy
8	Locusts	Ex. 10:4	Moses- Warning	Locust army of Rev. 9
9	Darkness	Ex. 10: 22	Moses- No Warning	Rev. 16:8 too much "sun" Rev. 16:10 not enough "Son"
10	Death of "bachor" the Firstborn	Ex. 12:29		Pharaoh pronounced it on himself

### Deu 28:58-62

"If you do not guard to do all the Words of this Torah that are written in this book, to fear this esteemed and awesome Name, יהוה your Elohim, then יהוה shall bring upon you and your descendants extraordinary plagues, great and lasting plagues, and grievous and lasting sicknesses.

"And He shall bring back on you all the diseases of Mitsrayim, of which you were afraid, and they shall cling to you, also every sickness and every plague, which is not written in the book of this Torah, יהוה does bring upon you until you are destroyed.

"And you shall be left with few men, although you had become as numerous as the stars of the heavens, because you did not obey the voice of יהוה your Elohim.

Yahuah is as faithful to the curse as He is to the blessing. What goes around comes around, and as it was in the beginning it will be in the end. Who or what do we serve?

**As the plagues increased in severity, the Egyptian pagan-worshippers became less attached to their gods. Faith in the creation decreased; at the same time faith in the Yahuah of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob increased. All pagan worship relates back historically to sun-worship. As they departed from Ramses, the “city of the sun”, the Hebrews turned their backs on all forms of pagan sun-worship. What has happened before will happen again, there is nothing new under the “Son”!!!!**

**Psalm 78:42-32**

**Psalm 105:26-37**

**Let us sing of the marvelous, righteous teachings and ways of our King!**

**Thus saith Yahuah, let my People go!!!!**

**Rev 7:13-14**

**And one of the elders responded, saying to me, “Who are these dressed in white robes, and where did they come from?”**

**And I said to him, “Master, you know.” And he said to me, “These are those coming out of the great distress, having washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.**

**Rev 12:11**

**“And they overcame him because of the Blood of the Lamb, and because of the Word of their witness, and they did not love their lives to the death.**