

1. Introduction & Orientation to Chapters 7-15
 - a. Structure: Ten Plagues or Twelve Mighty Acts?
 - b. Names: Signs, Wonders, Judgments, Strikes, Blows, Plagues
 - c. Progression and Intensification
2. Staff to Serpent (Tannin) (7:8-13)
 - a. YHWH Speaks to Initiate Each Sign (7:8)
 - b. The Staff of God (4:20)
 - c. The Signs of the Sorcerer-Priests (7:11-12)
 - d. A Prelude to YHWH's Victory (7:12; 15:12)
3. Nile to Blood (7:14-18)
 - a. You Shall Know that I am YHWH (7:17)
 - b. The Source of Life Becomes a Source of Death
 - c. A Warning of What is to Come
4. Frogs (8:1-15)
 - a. The Swarm Fills the Land (8:3, 6; 1:7)
 - b. Pharaoh Asks Reprieve (8:8)
 - c. The Stench of Death (7:18, 21; 8:14)
5. Dust to Gnats (8:16-19)
 - a. The Limits of the Sorcerer-Priests (8:18)
 - b. The Finger of God (8:19; Luke 11:20)

"For the biblical writer, the whole episode of Israel in Egypt was a matter of theology. It was a question of who was the one true God, who was sovereign over the operation of the universe, and whose will was to come to pass in heaven and upon earth. The serpent drama introduces us to that theological issue in grand form: Yahweh, god of the Hebrews, engages Pharaoh, a god of Egypt, in a contest of power and will." —J. D. Currid

"When God changes water into blood, the source of life becomes a symbol of death, with blood, rather than water, flowing through the land of Egypt. Even the mighty Nile, which the Egyptians honoured because of its life-giving waters, was not beyond being transformed by the awesome power of YHWH." —T. Desmond Alexander

Reflection Questions (for personal reflection and family conversation):

1. How does God make it clear that all the wonders are his doing? How does this demonstrate his sovereignty?
2. What God's purpose for the first signs?
3. In what ways do these first signs and wonders point forward to the work of Jesus Christ?