

God's Sovereignty Demonstrated

Exodus 7:8 - 8:15

Introduction

- In our last passage, Exodus 6:13-7:7, God revealed Moses' credentials to be the spiritual leader of Israel, and explained why God chose to destroy Egypt.
- In our sermon today, we see the grace of God in helping the people of Egypt and the world know who is the

- true and living God.
- People who are born into pagan and demonic darkness will never know the real truth unless God graciously reveals it to them.
- God is going to prove the “gods” of Egypt are false and futile.

The Snake Confrontation - 7:8-13

^{ESV} **Exodus 7:8-13** Then the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, ⁹ "When Pharaoh says to you, 'Prove yourselves by working a miracle,' then you shall say to Aaron, 'Take your staff and cast it down before Pharaoh, that it may become a serpent.'" ¹⁰ So Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and did just as

the LORD commanded. Aaron cast down his staff before Pharaoh and his servants, and it became a serpent. ¹¹ Then Pharaoh summoned the wise men and the sorcerers, and they, the magicians of Egypt, also did the same by their secret arts. ¹² For each man cast down his staff, and they became serpents. But Aaron's staff swallowed up their staffs. ¹³ Still Pharaoh's heart

was hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the LORD had said.

- The serpent, particularly the cobra, was one of the “gods” in Egyptian religion and served as a symbol of immortality.
- The Uraeus is a symbol for the goddess Wadjet, one of the earliest of Egyptian deities, who often was depicted as a cobra.







- This encounter may be viewed as a contest to see whose God/god is stronger.
- The fact that Aaron's rod/snake has greater power and swallowed the magician's rods/snakes did not cause Pharaoh to submit. Instead, Pharaoh hardens his heart and becomes more stubborn.

Turning water into Blood 7:14-25

¹⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Pharaoh's heart is hardened; he refuses to let the people go. ¹⁵ Go to Pharaoh in the morning, as he is going out to the water. Stand on the bank of the Nile to meet him, and take in your hand the staff that turned into a serpent. ¹⁶ 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.¹⁷ Thus says the LORD, "By this you shall know that I am the LORD: behold, with the staff that is in my hand I will strike the water that is in the Nile, and it shall turn into blood."¹⁸ The fish in

the Nile shall die, and the Nile will stink, and the Egyptians will grow weary of drinking water from the Nile." 19 And the LORD said to Moses, "Say to Aaron, 'Take your staff and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt, over their rivers, their canals, and their ponds, and all their pools of water, so that they may become blood, and there shall be blood throughout all the land of

Egypt, even in vessels of wood and in vessels of stone.'" ²⁰ Moses and Aaron did as the LORD commanded. In the sight of Pharaoh and in the sight of his servants he lifted up the staff and struck the water in the Nile, and all the water in the Nile turned into blood. ²¹ And the fish in the Nile died, and the Nile stank, so that the Egyptians could not drink water from the Nile. There

was blood throughout all the land of Egypt. ²² But the magicians of Egypt did the same by their secret arts. So Pharaoh's heart remained hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the LORD had said. ²³ Pharaoh turned and went into his house, and he did not take even this to heart. ²⁴ And all the Egyptians dug along the Nile for water to drink, for they could not drink the

water of the Nile. ²⁵ Seven full days passed after the LORD had struck the Nile.

- The Nile river, personified and worshipped as the god “Hapi” is the next false deity to be attacked.
- This miracle is a punishment for Pharaoh’s lack of obedience to God’s command.



- Notice that the intensity of the conflict increases slowly. This too, is the a demonstration of the grace and mercy of God.
- The presence of the pronouns “their” in the phrases, “their rivers, their canals, and their ponds, and all their pools of water,” suggests that this miracle was targeting the Egyptians.

- This miracles lasted for seven days.
- Subsurface water had not been affected.
- The lethality of this miracle was limited to the fish.
- Pharaoh and his magicians could not reverse this miracle by turning blood back into water.

The Invasion of Frogs 8:1-15

^{ESV} **Exodus 8:1** Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go in to Pharaoh and say to him, 'Thus says the LORD, "Let my people go, that they may serve me. ² But if you refuse to let them go, behold, I will plague all your country with frogs. ³ The Nile shall swarm with frogs that shall come up into your house and into

your bedroom and on your bed and into the houses of your servants and your people, and into your ovens and your kneading bowls. ⁴ The frogs shall come up on you and on your people and on all your servants."''' ⁵ And the LORD said to Moses, "Say to Aaron, 'Stretch out your hand with your staff over the rivers, over the canals and over the

pools, and make frogs come up on the land of Egypt!"⁶ So Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt, and the frogs came up and covered the land of Egypt.⁷ But the magicians did the same by their secret arts and made frogs come up on the land of Egypt.⁸ Then Pharaoh called Moses and Aaron and said, "Plead with the LORD to take

away the frogs from me and from my people, and I will let the people go to sacrifice to the LORD." ⁹ Moses said to Pharaoh, "Be pleased to command me when I am to plead for you and for your servants and for your people, that the frogs be cut off from you and your houses and be left only in the Nile." ¹⁰ And he said, "Tomorrow." Moses said,

"Be it as you say, so that you may know that there is no one like the LORD our God. ¹¹ The frogs shall go away from you and your houses and your servants and your people. They shall be left only in the Nile." ¹² So Moses and Aaron went out from Pharaoh, and Moses cried to the LORD about the frogs, as he had agreed with

Pharaoh. ¹³ And the LORD did according to the word of Moses. The frogs died out in the houses, the courtyards, and the fields. ¹⁴ And they gathered them together in heaps, and the land stank. ¹⁵ But when Pharaoh saw that there was a respite, he hardened his heart and would not listen to them, as the LORD had said.





Explanation

- The first three miracles—the staff turned into a serpent, the water turned to blood, and the invasion of the frogs—have in common the fact that all of them were duplicated by Pharaoh's court magicians.
- The ability to work a miracle is no proof that the power comes from God!

- God warns us through the Apostle Paul that in the last days Satan will attack God's truth and God's people by imitating the works of God.
- Paul says, "Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so also these men also oppose the truth, men corrupted in mind and disqualified regarding the faith" (2 Tim. 3:8).

- Jesus, in his Parable of the Tares, also warned that Satan “plants” imitation Christians in the visible church (Mat. 13:24-30, 36-43).
- Paul warns about “false brethren” (2 Cor. 11:26).
- We also are told that Satan has a imitation gospel (Gal. 1:6-9).

- Satan even has a counterfeit righteousness (Rom. 10:1-3).
- Satan also has counterfeit ministers who spread his lies (2 Cor. 11:13-15).
- Satan will one day produce a false Christ who will deceive the whole world (2 Thes. 2:1-12).

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