

Egyptian gods of the Exodus Plagues

Hapi – Egyptian god of the Nile (Egyptian Plague – Water turned to blood) Ex. 7:14-25

This Egyptian god was a water bearer. Seven days the water throughout all the land of Egypt remained in this state, unsuitable for drinking, the perfect length of time to demonstrate that the Lord was superior to all the other gods of Egypt.

Heket – Egyptian god of Fertility, Water, Renewal (Egyptian Plague – Frogs coming from the Nile River) Ex. 8:1-15

Heket the Egyptian god had the head of a frog. The second plague that was extended upon Egypt, from the “rod” by Aaron, was that of frogs. The frogs came up from the river and were in their houses, in their food, in their clothing, in every place possible.

Geb – Egyptian god of the Earth (Egyptian Plague – Lice from the dust of the earth) Ex. 8:16-19

The Egyptian god Geb was over the dust of the earth. At the command of the Lord to Moses, Aaron was told to stretch forth his rod and smite the dust of the earth. When he did the dust became lice throughout all the land, on both people and beasts. The very dust that was referred to in the creation process of man is now used to plague men, as a reminder of his mortality and sin which both led to death.

Khepri – Egyptian god of creation, movement of the Sun, rebirth (Egyptian Plague – Swarms of Flies) Ex. 8:20-32

Khepri the Egyptian god had the head of a fly. With the fourth Egyptian plague, which consisted of flies, begins the great miracle of separation or differentiation. Moses met Pharaoh at the Nile River in the morning and made the demand, speaking on behalf of the Lord, “Let My people go, that they may serve Me.” Again, Pharaoh hardened his heart and disregarded the request, resulting in a pronouncement of swarms of flies.

Hathor – Egyptian goddess of Love and Protection (Egyptian Plague – Death of Cattle and Livestock) Ex. 9:1-7

Usually this Egyptian goddess was depicted with the head of a cow. This plague was given with an advanced warning, allowing a period of repentance to occur, which goes unheeded. “Tomorrow” the hand of the Lord would be felt upon all the cattle and livestock, of only the Egyptians, as “grievous Murrain”. This means that disease and pestilence would fall upon their livestock by creating a huge economic disaster in areas of food, transportation, military supplies, farming, and economic goods that were produced by these livestock. Still Pharaoh’s heart remained hardened and he would not listen to the Lord, but remained faithful to the Egyptian gods and goddesses.

Isis – Egyptian goddess of Medicine and Peace (Egyptian Plague – Ashes turned to boils and sores) Ex. 9:8-12

Unannounced, the sixth Egyptian plague is given for the first time directly attacking the Egyptian people themselves. Being instructed by the Lord, Moses took ashes from the furnace of affliction, and threw

them into the air. As the dust from the ashes blew all over Egypt, it settled on man and beast alike in the form of boils and sores.

Cleanliness being paramount in the Egyptian society, this plague pronounces the people "unclean". The magicians who have been seen throughout the previous plagues are unable to perform ceremonial rituals to their Egyptian gods and goddesses in this unclean state, not allowing them to even stand before Pharaoh; they are seen in the scriptural account no more. It is great to notice the contrast shown as Moses and Aaron are the only ones left standing in front of Pharaoh, with the "One True God" as their support.

Nut – Egyptian goddess of the Sky (Egyptian Plague – Hail rained down in the form of fire) Ex. 9:13-35

Hail of unspeakable size and ability to destroy would rain down from the sky and turn to fire as it hit the ground. The Lord, in showing Pharaoh that "there is none like Him in the Earth", allows those who are willing to hear His word and do as He commands to be saved.

Seth – Egyptian god of Storms and Disorder (Egyptian Plague – Locusts sent from the sky) Ex.10:21-29

The eighth plague issued by the Lord had an even greater purpose than all the other. 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.

Ra – the Sun god (Egyptian Plague – Three Days of Complete Darkness) Ex. 10:21-29

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.

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.

Pharaoh – The Ultimate Power of Egypt (Egyptian Plague – Death of the Firstborn) Ex. 11:1-12:30

This tenth plague was potentially more devastating than all the other plagues put together. This plague was also very selective – it destroyed only the Egyptians' firstborn males, whether human or animal. This plague was directed against "all of the gods of Egypt (Exo. 12:12) and would show the total inability of the gods of Egypt to protect their subjects. In the face of unparalleled tragedy, "all of the gods of Egypt" were silent.
