

More Plagues

(Exodus 9 - 10)

Introduction

Ask: How strong are you? [Teacher, let the kids challenge each other to arm wrestling.]

Ask: Who is the strongest man in the world? How do you think he compares to the strength and power of God?

This morning we're going to see just how strong our God is.

Opening Prayer

You are an awesome God. Today, I ask that You reveal just how powerful and strong and mighty You are. Excite our hearts! Cause us to fall down on our knees and worship You as we never have before. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen

Memory Verse

*For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.
(Matthew 6:13 NKJ)*

Lesson

We've been learning about how God called Moses to lead the children of Israel out of Egypt, but Pharaoh refused to listen and obey God.

Ask: Why was Pharaoh so reluctant to let the people go?

Pharaoh did not want to let his slaves go free. He was using them to build his great cities.

Last week, we learned that because of Pharaoh's hard heartedness and stubbornness, God sent plagues upon the Egyptians to prove that He is God Almighty. We covered the first four last week, let's review:

- 1st Plague: Turning the water into blood
- 2nd Plague: Frogs
- 3rd Plague: Gnats (or lice)
- 4th Plague: Flies

Ask: How did Pharaoh's magician's miracles compare to Moses'?

The powers of Satan can't come up with anything new on their own. All they can do is try to imitate the things of God. They couldn't get rid of the plagues, nor could they bring forth gnats.

So today we're going to learn about the next 5 plagues.

Fifth plague: diseased livestock

Exodus 9:1-3

"Go back to Pharaoh," the LORD commanded Moses. "Tell him, 'This is what the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, says: Let my people go, so they can worship me. If you continue to hold them and refuse to let them go, the hand of the LORD will strike all your livestock—your horses, donkeys, camels, cattle, sheep, and goats—with a deadly plague."

God sent Moses to Pharaoh to warn him a disease would come and kill all the animals. But, notice in the next verse, God promises that the Israelite's animals would not be touched.

Exodus 9:4

But the LORD will again make a distinction between the livestock of the Israelites and that of the Egyptians. Not a single one of Israel's animals will die!

It happened just as the Lord announced would happen. But still Pharaoh's mind remained unchanged and he would not let the people leave.

So, God sent a 6th plague.

Sixth plague: boils

Exodus 9:8-9

Then the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "Take handfuls of soot from a brick kiln, and have Moses toss it into the air while Pharaoh watches. The ashes will spread like fine dust over the whole land of Egypt, causing festering boils to break out on people and animals throughout the land."

God caused festering boils to break out on people and animals.

Still Pharaoh would not listen. He continued to be hard hearted and stubborn. And God continued to try to prove to Pharaoh that He is Almighty God, ruler of the universe, the only true God.

God is constantly trying to prove His power and strength to us every day, as well. But too often when we are successful at something, we take the credit, don't we? Like if you win at a game or get a good grade on a test at school or hit a home run in softball, isn't it easy to think, "Wow, wasn't I awesome?!" We should be thanking God for giving us the ability.

So, God sent a 7th plague.

Seventh plague: Hail

Exodus 9:13-14

*Then the LORD said to Moses, "Get up early in the morning and stand before Pharaoh. Tell him, 'This is what the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, says: Let my people go, so they can worship me. If you don't, I will send more plagues on you and your officials and your people. Then **you will know that there is no one like me in all the earth.**'"*

God sent a devastating hail storm.

Exodus 9:17-18

But you still lord it over my people and refuse to let them go. So tomorrow at this time I will send a hailstorm more devastating than any in all the history of Egypt.

Ask: Have you been in a hail storm? [Let children respond.]

Exodus 9:23-24

So Moses lifted his staff toward the sky, and the LORD sent thunder and hail, and lightning flashed toward the earth. The LORD sent a tremendous hailstorm against all the land of Egypt. (24) Never in all the history of Egypt had there been a storm like that, with such devastating hail and continuous lightning.

All of Egypt lay in ruins. Everyone in the fields was killed and trees and crops were ruined. The only place where no hail had fallen was where the people of Israel lived.

Exodus 9:25-26

It left all of Egypt in ruins. The hail struck down everything in the open field—people, animals, and plants alike. Even the trees were destroyed. The only place without hail was the region of Goshen, where the people of Israel lived.

God again protected the Israelites from the disaster, just like He promises to put a hedge of protection around us, as well.

You would think God had sent enough plagues to make Pharaoh listen, wouldn't you? But no, Pharaoh's heart was still stubborn.

So, God sent an 8th plague.

Eighth plague: locusts

Exodus 10:1-2

*Then the LORD said to Moses, "Return to Pharaoh and make your demands again. I have made him and his officials stubborn so I can display my miraculous signs among them. I've also done it so you can tell your children and grandchildren about how I made a mockery of the Egyptians and about the signs I displayed among them—and **so you will know that I am the LORD.**"*

God told Moses to tell his children and grandchildren about the miracles he was witnessing. What stories Moses had to tell!

It is important to tell others all about God's wonderful miraculous deeds. It encourages others to believe in Him and to trust Him to work in their life, too.

God's earnest desire is that everyone knows that He is the only true God; there is no other. He is the King of the universe; He is Almighty God and He alone deserves our worship.

Exodus 10:3-6

So Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, "This is what the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, says: How long will you refuse to submit to me? Let my people go, so they can worship me. (4) If you refuse, watch out! For tomorrow I will bring a swarm of locusts on your country. (5) They will cover the land so that you won't be able to see the ground. They will devour what little is left of your crops after the hailstorm, including all the trees growing in the fields. (6) They will overrun your palaces and the homes of your officials and all the houses in Egypt. Never in the history of Egypt have your ancestors seen a plague like this one!" And with that, Moses turned and left Pharaoh.

Now, even Pharaoh's servants begged Pharaoh to listen and obey God:

Exodus 10:7

Pharaoh's officials now came to Pharaoh and appealed to him. "How long will you let this man hold us hostage? Let the men go to worship the LORD their God! Don't you realize that Egypt lies in ruins?"

The Egyptian people realized how powerless their own gods were to stop the plagues. They realized that the God of the Hebrews is a living and personal Being, the only true God, and the only God who should be worshiped. God was proving to both the Israelites and the Egyptians that He alone is the living and all-powerful God.

But Pharaoh continued to refuse to listen and obey God.

Exodus 10:13-15

So Moses raised his staff over Egypt, and the LORD caused an east wind to blow over the land all that day and through the night. When morning arrived, the east wind had brought the locusts. (14) And the locusts swarmed over the whole land of Egypt, settling in dense swarms from one end of the country to the other. It was the worst locust plague in Egyptian history, and there has never been another one like it. (15) For the locusts covered the whole country and darkened the land. They devoured every plant in the fields and all the fruit on the trees that had survived the hailstorm. Not a single leaf was left on the trees and plants throughout the land of Egypt.

Locusts are gigantic horned grasshoppers that fly in swarms, devouring vegetation and crops.

Ninth plague: darkness

Exodus 10:21-23

*Then the LORD said to Moses, "Lift your hand toward heaven, and the land of Egypt will be covered with a **darkness so thick you can feel it.**" So Moses lifted his hand to the sky, and a deep darkness covered the entire land of Egypt for three days. (23) During all that time the people*

could not see each other, and no one moved. But there was light as usual where the people of Israel lived.

God sent darkness so thick the people could feel it; the people could hardly move.

Ask: Have you ever been in total darkness; darkness that closes in around you?

Exodus 10:27

But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart once more, and he would not let them go.

Ask: Why would God harden Pharaoh's heart so that he would refuse to let the people go? [Let the children respond.]

God wanted to display his miraculous signs among the people to prove His mighty power to both the Egyptians and to the children of Israel so that they would have no doubt that He is the only true God, master of the universe!

Over and over again God showed Pharaoh how powerful and strong He is. But Pharaoh refused to humble himself before God, so God sent one catastrophe after another hoping he would confess that God is the one and only true God.

We shouldn't wait until a catastrophe forces us to make a decision to follow Jesus. We should choose to make Him our God and Savior today.

God is an awesome God isn't He? He deserves our worship and our obedience.

Closing Prayer

As a closing prayer, this morning, I want to read a passage of scripture to you from 1 Chronicles 29:11-13.

Let's quietly listen to King David's prayer to God...

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all. Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. Now our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name.
(1 Chronicles 29:11-13 NIV) Amen.

Learning Activities

Craft Corner

Game Center

Have the children sit in a circle. Ask the first child to name a plague, the second child must that plague and add another plague to the list. The third child is to name both those plagues and add another, and so forth, around the circle. A child who can't list the plagues correctly is "out". Game ends when they a child lists all 10. (They do not need to list the plagues in any particular order.)

You could split the children into two teams (seated in two circles) for competition. Find out which team can list 10 plagues the fastest.

Or, Use the following review questions in a game of your choice:

1. Who can name the greatest number of plagues of the nine we've learned about so far? (Water turned to blood, Frogs, Gnats, Flies, Diseased Livestock, Boils, Hail, Locusts, or Darkness.)
2. How was it that the Israelites were not bothered by the plagues that came upon the Egyptians? (God can do anything! He is almighty!)

3. In what way have you noticed that God is the almighty God, ruler of the universe – powerful and strong? (Let the child respond.)
4. Why didn't Pharaoh think he needed to listen and obey God? (He thought he was a god and that he was the most powerful person in the world.)
5. Did the hail fall everywhere? (The hail struck throughout the whole land of Egypt...only in the land of Goshen, where the children of Israel were, there was no hail.)
6. Why did God harden Pharaoh's heart against the Israelites? (God wanted to display his miraculous signs among the people to prove His mighty power to both the Egyptians and to the children of Israel so that they would have no doubt that He is the only true God, master of the universe!)
7. Why is it important to tell others about God's wonderful miraculous deeds? (It encourages others to believe in Him and to trust Him to work in their life, too.)
8. What did the Pharaoh's servants ask Pharaoh to do? (Let the people go!)

[For more expositional lessons for children, visit
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The Plagues on Egypt

(Exodus 7:14-12:30)

God told Moses to tell Pharaoh, "Set God's people free!" But Pharaoh's heart was hard. He didn't even listen.

So God sent plagues to bother Pharaoh—icky, yucky plagues. How many plagues did God send before Pharaoh finally let the Israelites leave? To find out, fill in the blanks and complete the math problem.

THE
DAYS OF
CREATION
(INCLUDE THE
DAY OF REST)

NOAH TOOK
OF EACH
ANIMAL

SARAH and ABRAM HAD
SON

PLAGUES

Extra! Extra! Extra!
Circle the plagues God sent on the Egyptians.

Blood	Fire	Tornadoes
Snakes	Livestock	Locusts
Frogs	Boils	Spiders
Gnats	Chicken pox	Darkness
Flies	Hail	Death of firstborn

4 CHARIOTS

the Nile River

the Nile River