

Va'era "And I Appeared"

Shemot/Exodus 6:2 – 9:35; Ezekiel 28:25 – 29:21; Revelation 16:1-21

"Let The Plagues Begin"

Objective:

- Understand that God gave Pharaoh warnings concerning the plagues.
- Understand that Pharaoh was stubborn and would not let Israel go.
- Understand that God keeps His Promises, both to Israel and us!

Welcome/Opening Slide

- Welcome the children & organize as required
- Opening Prayer

Please Remember These Rules

Say: Here are the rules:

- Please don't talk when others are talking
- Please raise your hand if you would like to ask a question
- Please keep your hands, feet and other body parts to yourself
- You must ask to leave the room

Title Slide

Note: If possible, hold your Bible open throughout the story.

Say: Last week we learned how God began to use Moses to save the Jewish people. God was keeping His promise to deliver them from slavery.

Say: Moses and Aaron visited Pharaoh and asked that Israel leave Egypt.

Say: Pharaoh became angry and made the Jewish people's life of slavery even harder.

Say: God then said that he would harden Pharaoh's heart so that he would not listen to them.

Say: The LORD would begin to punish Egypt for their bad treatment of the Jewish people.

Say: The Torah tells us that Moses was eighty years old, and Aaron eighty-three years old when they first encountered Pharaoh (Exod. 7:7).

Aaron's Rod

Say: In their first meeting with Pharaoh, Aaron threw down his staff and it turned into a snake!

Question: How do you think you would act if you saw such a thing as this?

Say: I would be surprised! The Egyptian magicians threw their rod down and they also turned into snakes.

Say: But Aaron's rod swallowed the Egyptian magician's sticks that became snakes.

Say: Aaron picked up his snake and it turned back into a stick.

Say: Pharaoh was not impressed and he refused to let the Jewish people go.

Say: Sadly, the LORD would use 10 plagues to change Pharaoh's mind.

Plague #1 - Water turned to Blood

Say: Next God told Moses and Aaron to go to the Nile River.

Say: Then the LORD told Moses "... By this you shall know that I am the LORD : behold, I will strike the water that is in the Nile with the staff that is in my hand, and it will be turned to blood. The fish that are in the Nile will die, and the Nile will become foul, and the Egyptians will find difficulty in drinking water from the Nile."

Say: Moses and Aaron obeyed God and struck the water that was in the Nile, in the sight of Pharaoh.

Say: The water turned to blood and the fish that were in the Nile died.

Say: The Nile stunk really badly.

Say: The magicians of Egypt did the same and Pharaoh still did not believe in the LORD.

Plague #2 - Frogs

Say: Pharaoh was still stubborn and would not let Israel leave Egypt even after being warned about being punished with many frogs.

Say: Thousands, millions, a gazillion frogs came out of the Nile River.

Say: Can you image how it sounded in Egypt. Ribbit, Ribbit, Ribbit!

Say: There were frogs everywhere. They were in their houses, beds and in their cereal bowls.

Say: The magicians did the same with their secret arts, making frogs come up on the land of Egypt.

Say: Pharaoh probably hated all the frogs everywhere.

Say: He asked Moses and Aaron to pray to the LORD that He remove the frogs.

Say: Pharaoh also promised to let the Jewish people go, that they may sacrifice to the LORD.

Say: The LORD removed the frogs and they died.

Say: There were so many frogs that the Egyptians piled them in heaps, and the land stank really badly.

Say: Pharaoh became stubborn again and did not keep his promise to let the Jewish people go.

Plague #3 - Lice

Say: Next the LORD told Moses to strike the dust of the earth, that it would become lice.

Say: There were lice on man and beast.

Question: Have you ever had any lice?

Say: It is very uncomfortable. You can scratch and scratch your head and the lice will not leave.

Say: It is nasty!

Say: The Egyptian magicians tried to recreate this plague like the first two but they could not!

Say: Moses went to the place to see the Pharaoh and ask him to let the Jewish people go and to warn of the next plague of flies.

Say: The LORD also said He would "... set apart the land of Goshen, where My people are living, so that no swarms of flies will be there."

Say: God was going to show Pharaoh and the Egyptian people that Israel was different and called for a special job!

Plague #4 - Flies

Say: Next the LORD sent a great swarm of flies into Egypt.

Question: Do you like to have flies on your body? How does it make you feel?

Say: It makes you feel dirty and creepy.

Say: There were flies everywhere - In their houses, ears and noses.

Say: There were no flies in the Land of Goshen where the Jewish people lived.

Say: Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron and said, they could sacrifice to the LORD but they could only go a short distance.

Say: They could not go the three days' journey that Moses requested.

Say: Moses left Pharaoh and prayed that the LORD remove the swarms of flies.

Say: After the flies were gone, Pharaoh changed his mind and did not let the people go.

Plague #5 - Pestilence

Say: When Pharaoh did not let the people go, Moses went back to him and asked him to let the people go.

Say: Pharaoh was warned of the fifth plague that was coming. It was a pestilence on the livestock.

Question: Can anyone tell me about pestilence?

Say: Pestilence is disease that can affect people or animals that make them sick and possibly die.

Say: The pestilence would affect, their horses, donkeys, camels, cows and sheep.

Say: Many of their animals would get sick and die.

Say: Moses also told Pharaoh that the Jewish animals would not die.

Say: Moses left Pharaoh and the next day many of the animals of Egypt died.

Say: Many of their cows, sheep, horses' camels and donkeys died.

Question: How do you think the Egyptians felt when they saw their animals die?

Say: They were probably afraid, especially when they saw the Jewish people 's animals not die.

Say: But the heart of Pharaoh was hardened, and he did not let the people go.

Plague #6 - Boils

Say: The LORD told Moses and Aaron to take for yourselves handfuls of soot from a kiln and throw it toward the sky in the sight of Pharaoh.

Say: Then boils broke out on man and beast in all of Egypt.

Question: Do you know what a boil is?

Say: It is a large and painful sore on a person's skin.

Say: Having just one boil is painful, but can you imagine what it feels like to have many, or even to have your entire body covered with them.

Say: It would really hurt!

Say: Yet Pharaoh was stubborn and would not listen to Moses and Aaron.

Say: Moses also told Pharaoh, that the LORD sent his plagues so that he would know that there is no one like God.

Say: All these plagues did not change Pharaoh's mind.

Plague #7 - Hail

Say: The next plague the LORD would send was very heavy hail.

Say: Moses warned the Egyptians that the animals that survived the pestilence should be brought in from the fields and placed in their barns for protection.

Say: The smart Egyptians that believed what the LORD told Moses placed their animals in their barns.

Say: The LORD told Moses to stretch his hand toward the sky.

Say: Next thunder and hail, and fire ran down to the earth.

Say: There was never a storm like this in all the land of Egypt since it became a nation.

Say: The hail struck the animals in the fields and the crops and trees.

Say: They were killed and destroyed.

Say: Only in the land of Goshen, where the sons of Israel were, there was no hail.

Say: Pharaoh sent for Moses and Aaron and asked them to pray to stop the hail storm.

Say: Once again Pharaoh promised to let the Jewish people go if the hail storm stopped.

Say: Moses went out of the city from Pharaoh, and spread out his hands to the LORD ; and the thunder and the hail ceased, and rain no longer poured on the earth.

Say: When Pharaoh saw that the storm ended he changed his mind and would not let the sons of Israel go.

Say: Despite seeing all these miracles, Pharaoh remained proud and unmoved.

Say: Pharaoh did not change his heart and mind to let the Jewish people go.

Say: We end this story with seven terrible plagues. There are three more plagues coming.

Say: These last plagues would change pharaoh heart and let the Jewish people leave Egypt.

God Does Not Forget

Say: God made a promise to the Jewish people to give them a special promised land.

Say: The challenge was they were slaves in Egypt and the Egyptians and their Pharaoh did not want them to go to their Promised Land.

Say: They thought they could keep God from keeping his promises.

Say: Sadly, they were wrong and suffered many bad things.

Say: No person, or king or even the Evil One can keep God from keeping his promises.

Say: God is not like a person who forgets to keep his promises.

The Evil One is Like Pharaoh

Say: After some plagues, Pharaoh promised to let the Jewish people go, then lied and changed his mind.

Say: Pharaoh hated the Jewish people and wanted to keep them as slaves.

Say: The Evil One wants to keep you down. He hates you just like Pharaoh hated the Jewish people.

Say: He wants the very worst for you because he knows that God wants the very best.

Say: The very best promise God has kept is sending Yeshua to come and die on the cross for our sins.

Yeshua Sets Us Free

Say: Yeshua wants the very best and provides us freedom from the Evil One.

Say: He defeated the Evil One by His Death and Resurrection.

Say: All we need to do to have the freedom that Yeshua gives us is to ask Him to forgive our sins.

Say: We must invite him in our hearts.

Say: If you have any questions and would like to talk about this more, please come and talk to me later.

Let's Learn Hebrew!

Say: In Hebrew the word for plagues is “**Makat**” (Ma-cat). Can you say this word with me a few times?

מַכַּת

Note: Have the children practice the word a few times.

What Did We Learn Today?

- God gave Pharaoh warnings concerning the plagues.
- Pharaoh was stubborn and would not let Israel go.
- God keeps His Promises, both to Israel and us!

Small Group Time

Break the children into two groups:

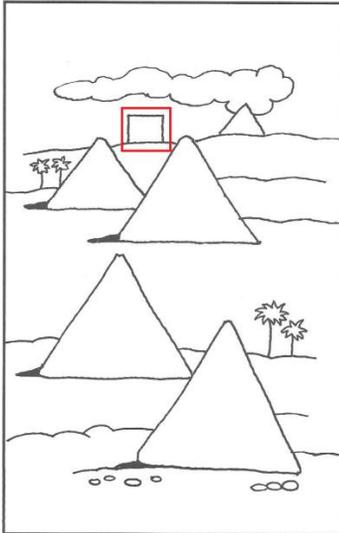
- Primary – Ages 4-7
- Elementary Ages 8-12

Distribute the self-directed learning handout to each child and let them work together or alone.

Primary Handout Answer Sheet

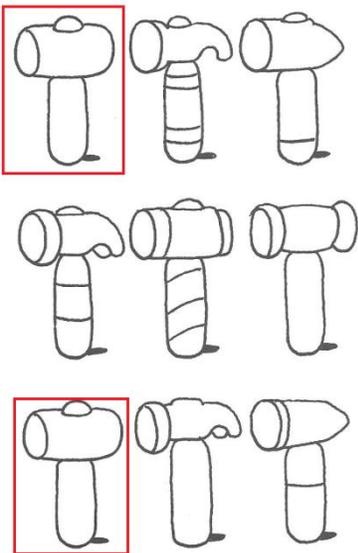
Pyramids – Page 1

Even in the time of Moses, there were old pyramids in Egypt. Can you spot the odd one out?



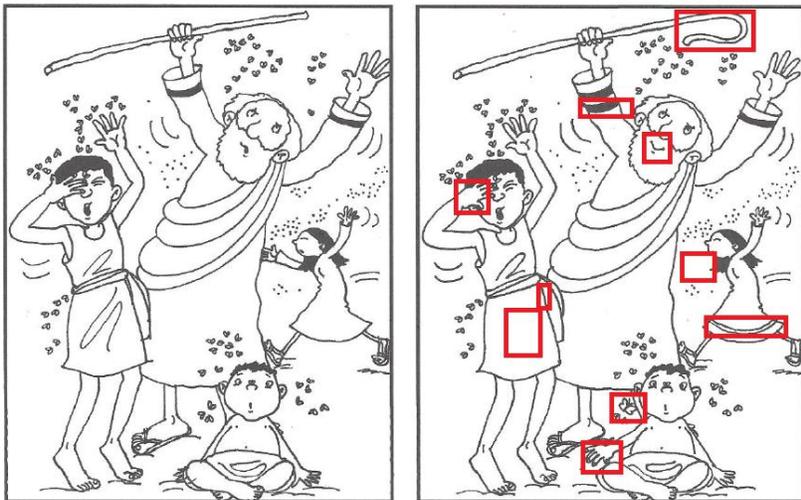
Building Tools – Page 1

The Jewish people were forced to be slaves and had to build cities and pyramids. The builders used shovels, mud bricks and tar as building tools. Which 2 hammers are exactly the same?



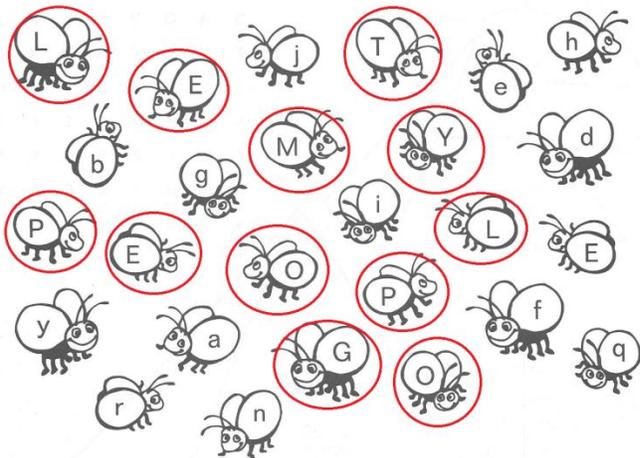
The Flies Plague – Page x

Another time, thousands of flies flew everywhere. Circle 10 differences between these 2 pictures.



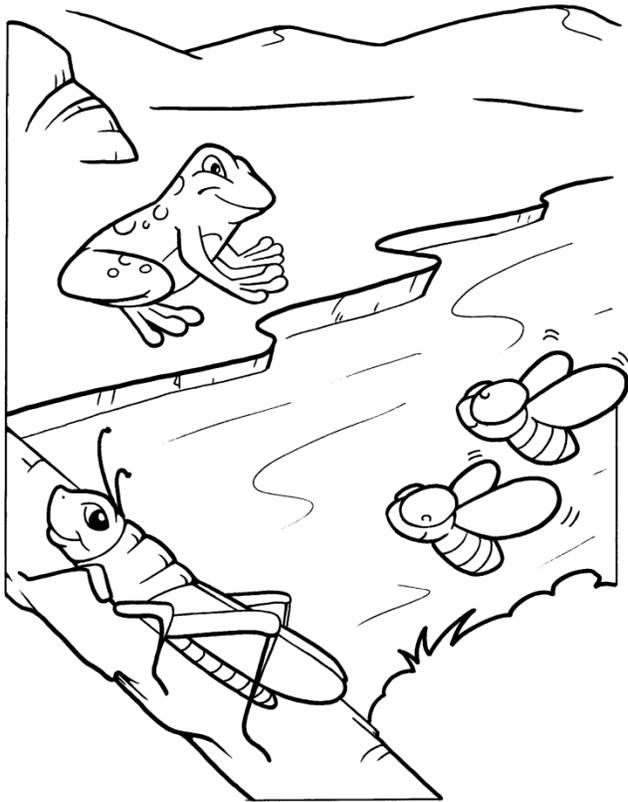
God's Plagues on Egypt – Page x

The king would not listen to Moses. He did not believe that Moses was sent by God. God sent lice, flies and locusts to Egypt to make their king listen. Find God's message by coloring all the bugs that contain lower case letters, then copy the CAPITAL letters that are left to the spaces below.



Solution: **LET MY PEOPLE GO**

Color Me - The Ten Plagues – Page 4



“And Moses and Aaron did all these wonders before Pharaoh: and the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, so that he would not let the children of Israel go out of his land.” Shemot/Exodus 11:10

| |
|--|
| Elementary Handout Answer Sheet |
|--|

The Plagues and their Judgment – Page 1

In Shemot/Exodus 12:12 God says, "... on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments." Thus the plagues are thought to be symbolic of the defeat of various gods venerated in ancient Egyptian mythology (and occultism in general):

| | Plague/Judgment | Hebrew | Torah | The Egyptian gods |
|----|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|--|
| 1 | Water turned to blood | Makat Dam | Ex 7:14–25 | Hapi and/or Khnum (god of the Nile) |
| 2 | Frogs from the Nile River | Makat Tzefarde'a | Ex 7:25–8:11 | Heket (goddess of fertility and water) |
| 3 | Lice/Gnats from the dust | Makat Kinim | Ex 8:12–15 | Geb (god of the Earth) |
| 4 | Swarms of Flies | Makat Arov | Ex 8:20–32 | Khepri (god of creation, lord of flies or beetles) |
| 5 | Death of Livestock | Makat Dever | Ex 9:1-7 | Apis (goddess of animals depicted as a bull); Osiris |
| 6 | Ashes to boils | Makat Shechin | Ex 9:8-12 | Isis (goddess of nature, healing and peace) |
| 7 | Hail and Fire | Makat Barad | Ex 9:13-35 | Nut (sky goddess and sister of Geb) |
| 8 | Locusts sent from the winds | Makat Arbeh | Ex 10:1-20 | Set (god of storms, darkness, and disorder) |
| 9 | Three days of darkness | Makat Choshekh | Ex 10:21-29 | Ra (the Sun god) and Set (god of darkness) |
| 10 | Death of the firstborn | Makat Bechorim | Ex 11:1-12:36 | Pharaoh ("son of Ra"); Khnum/Amon (ram god) |

Let's Learn Hebrew! – Page 1

In Hebrew the word for plagues is “**Makat**” (Ma-cat).

מַכַּת

Questions – Pages 2

Note: References from The Complete Jewish Bible

Circle The Correct Words:

1. ADONAI said to Moshe, Say to Aharon, 'Take your staff, reach out your hand over the waters of Egypt, over their rivers, canals, ponds and all their reservoirs, so that they can turn into **(BLOOD/OIL)** ... (Ex 7:19)

Answer: Blood

2. ADONAI said to Moshe, Say to Aharon, 'Reach out your hand with your staff over the rivers, canals and ponds; and cause **(FROGS/SNAILS)** to come up onto the land of Egypt. (EX 8:5)

Answer: Frogs

3. ADONAI said to Moshe, Say to Aharon: Reach out with your staff and strike the dust on the ground; it will become **(LICE/MICE)** throughout all the land of Egypt. (EX 8:16)

Answer: Lice

4. ADONAI said to Moshe, Get up early in the morning, stand before Pharaoh when he goes out to the water and say to him, Here is what ADONAI says: Let my people go, so that they can worship me. Otherwise, if you won't let my people go, I will send swarms of **(INSECTS/RATS)** on you, your servants and your people, and into your houses ... (EX 8:20-21)

Answer: Insects

5. The hand of ADONAI is on your livestock in the field - on the horses, donkeys, camels, cattle and flocks -and will make them suffer a devastating illness. ⁶ The following day, ADONAI did it - all the **(LIVESTOCK/BIRD)** of Egypt died; but not one of the animals belonging to the people of Isra'el died. (EX 9:3, 6)

Answer: Livestock

6. ADONAI said to Moshe and Aharon, Take handfuls of ashes from a kiln, and let Moshe throw them in the air before Pharaoh's eyes. They will turn into fine dust over all the land of Egypt and become infected **(SOILS/SORES)** on men and animals throughout Egypt. (EX 9:8-9)

Answer: Sores

7. Tomorrow, about this time, I will cause a **(HAILSTORM/STONE)** so heavy that Egypt has had nothing like it from the day it was founded until now. (EX 9:18)

Answer: Hailstorm

8. ADONAI said to Moshe, Reach out your hand over the land of Egypt, so that **(BUTTERFLIES/LOCUSTS)** will invade the land and eat every plant that the hail has left. (EX 10:12)

Answer: Locusts

9. ADONAI said to Moshe, Reach out your hand toward the sky, and there will be **(LIGHT/DARKNESS)** over the land of Egypt, darkness so thick it can be felt! (EX 10:21)

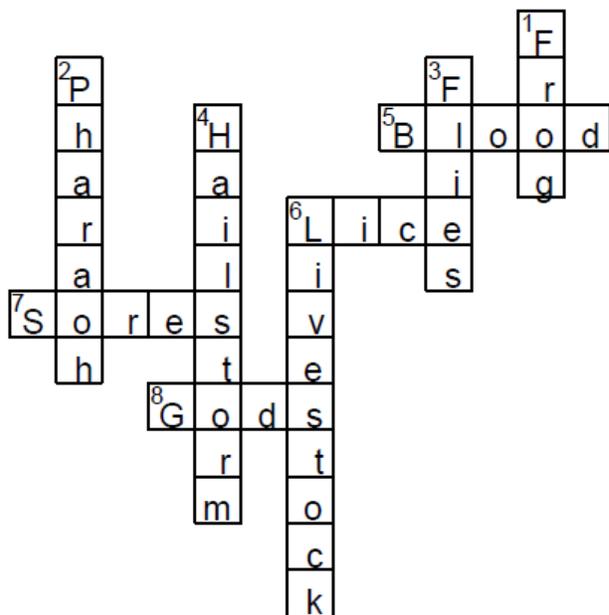
Answer: Darkness

10. At midnight ADONAI killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh sitting on his throne to the **(FIRSTBORN/SECOND BORN)** of the prisoner in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of livestock. (EX 12:29)

Answer: Firstborn

Crossword Puzzle – Page 3

Complete the puzzle using the clues shown below.



Across

5. What was the Nile River water turned into during the first plague?
6. ADONAI said to Moshe, Say to Aharon: Reach out with your staff and strike the dust on the ground; it will become _____ throughout all the land of Egypt. (EX 8:16)?
7. ADONAI said to Moshe and Aharon, Take handfuls of ashes from a kiln, and let Moshe throw them in the air before Pharaoh's eyes. They will turn into fine dust over all the land of Egypt and become infected _____ on men and animals throughout Egypt. (EX 9:8-9)
8. In Exodus 12:12, what was the LORD executing judgment on in Egypt?

Down

1. What creature was used in the second plague?
2. What is the name given to Egyptian kings?
3. What did the LORD send in swarms during the fourth plague?
4. Tomorrow, about this time, I will cause a _____ so heavy that Egypt has had nothing like it from the day it was founded until now. (EX 9:18)
6. What died during the fifth plague in Egypt?

Word Find Puzzle – Page 3

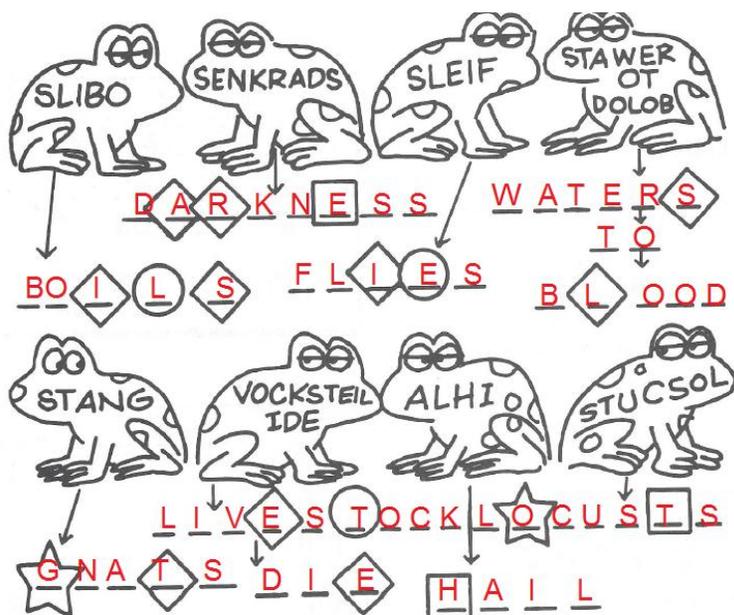
Find the hidden words within the grid of letters.

S M G M V S R V M D R N N Q P
G A B R P W O H I M O R K L U
O K S O V K J A O J O O A O U
R A G T E L K S B B A G L L J
F T I S S C E C T J U Y S B M
R P X L D S I S O E D E A T H
H J O F X R L S T R E T A W
A I D A L I O U V F S O J D V
R M L H F O D A R K N E S S I
A E B E Y D C N O R A A V W W
O T B G N S Q U B N G H S I A
H H E X M G L T S O Z E W W L
B P P F H J M L J T X B Q K F
N Q K N S T H J Z L S L Y B I
U W O I P F O Q F Z F Z S Z C

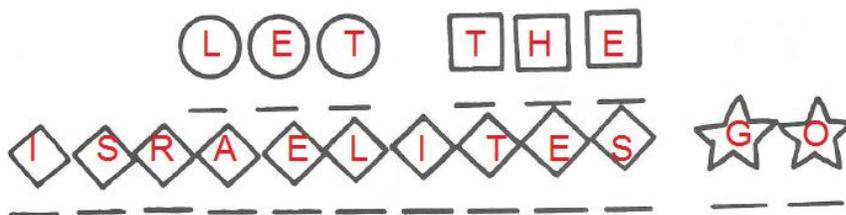
| | | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|-------|
| Aaron | Death | Hailstorm | Makat | Water |
| Blood | Firstborn | Lice | Moses | |
| Boils | Flies | Livestock | Pharaoh | |
| Darkness | Frogs | Locusts | Plagues | |

Scrambled Plagues – Page 4

One of the 10 plagues God sent to the Egyptians was frogs. Unscramble the words on the frogs to discover eight other plagues God sent.



Now put each circled letter in a circle below, each letter with a square around it in a square below, and so on. Unscramble the letters to find God's message to Pharaoh.



© 2011 Shomer Ministry Project, Oklahoma City, OK

All references are taken from the Jewish New Testament, David H. Stern, Publisher: Jewish New Testament Publishers and the New American Standard Bible unless otherwise noted.