

# 7

## LESSON

# Frogs and Flies

*Bible Passage - Exodus 7:25—10:11*

A week after the LORD changed the water to blood, Pharaoh's heart was still hard. He would not let the Israelites leave Egypt, so the LORD sent Moses to Pharaoh to warn him that another plague was coming if he refused to obey.

Pharaoh would not listen, however, so Aaron held his staff over the Nile, and frogs crawled up out of the water. Not just a dozen or two, but thousands! Everywhere there were frogs—in the streets and houses, in people's beds, even in the cooking pots! Frogs covered the land! Then Pharaoh's magicians used their tricks to make frogs too.

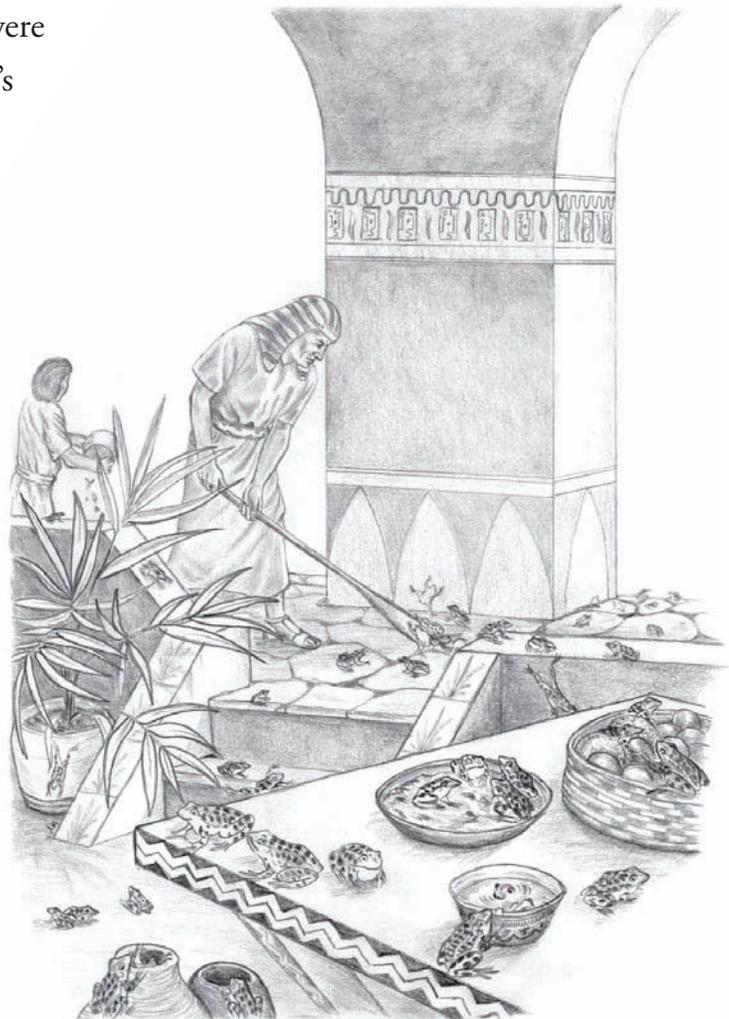
Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron, "Pray to the LORD. Ask Him to take the frogs away. Then I will let the Israelites go."

Moses prayed and the frogs died the very next day. The Egyptians piled the dead frogs into stinking heaps. But when Pharaoh saw that the plague had passed, he hardened his heart again.

So the LORD sent a third plague. At Moses' command, Aaron hit the ground with his staff. The dust crawled with lice, and the lice tormented the Egyptians and their animals. The magicians tried to make lice but failed. They knew

this was from God. "This is the finger of God," they told Pharaoh. But he hardened his heart.

Once more God sent Moses and Aaron to Pharaoh. "If you will not let Israel leave," they said, "the LORD will send another plague. Swarms of flies will fill your houses. But in Goshen there will be no flies."



## Lesson 7

The flies vexed Pharaoh until he cried, “Why must you leave Egypt to worship your God? Can’t you worship Him here?!”

“We will offer to the LORD animals that the Egyptians worship,” Moses explained. “Your people would be angry.”

“Well then,” Pharaoh said, “you may go—but not far.”

However, when the LORD took away the flies, Pharaoh hardened his heart again. So the LORD sent another plague. A severe disease struck the Egyptians’ animals. Many died, but none of the Israelites’ livestock became ill. And yet, Pharaoh’s heart was hardened more.

The LORD told Moses, “Take handfuls of ashes and toss them into the air in Pharaoh’s presence.” Moses obeyed the LORD. Instantly, painful boils broke out on men and beasts throughout Egypt. Pharaoh’s heart grew harder still.

Then the LORD told Moses that He was going to send a hailstorm. “Warn the Egyptians to find shelter for themselves and their cattle,” the LORD told Moses.

Again Moses and Aaron pled with Pharaoh, but he would not listen. So at the LORD’s command, Moses stretched his staff toward the sky. Immediately, a storm broke upon the land. Dark clouds rolled across the sky, and hail pounded the earth, ruining the crops. Anyone who was outdoors was killed. Such a storm had never occurred in Egypt

before, but in Goshen there was no storm.

Pharaoh was frightened. He called Moses to the palace. “I have sinned. The LORD is righteous; my people and I are wicked. Please ask the LORD to stop the hail, and I will let your people go.”

Moses replied, “As soon as I leave the city, the LORD will stop the storm. But I know that you do not yet fear the LORD.”

When the storm ceased and Pharaoh saw the bright sun once more, his heart became hard again. He broke his promise and would not allow Israel to leave Egypt.

“Go to Pharaoh. Tell him that I am going to send another plague if he will not humble himself and obey Me,” the LORD said to Moses. “The next plague will be locusts that will eat whatever remains after the hail.”

When Pharaoh’s servants heard this, they said to Pharaoh, “How long are you going to let this man trouble us? Egypt is ruined! Let these people go!”

Pharaoh listened to his people and called again for Moses. “You may go worship the LORD your God, but how many of your people will go?”

“We will all go, young and old, sons and daughters. We will take our flocks and herds, for we must offer sacrifices to the LORD,” answered Moses.

Pharaoh responded, “You have something evil planned! Only the men will be allowed to go.” Once again, the king sent Moses away.

## THE LAY OF THE LAND

1. In what part of Egypt were there no flies, livestock disease, or hail? \_\_\_\_\_

## KNOW YOUR BIBLE

2. Why did the LORD cause frogs to come up out of the Nile? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What did Pharaoh promise to do if God would take the frogs away? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What happened when Moses prayed about the frogs? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. How were the magicians' actions during the third plague different from their actions during the first two plagues? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. What word picture did the magicians use to describe the cause of the plague of lice? "The \_\_\_\_\_ of God."
7. What did Pharaoh do after the LORD took away the flies? \_\_\_\_\_

## TAKE IT TO HEART

**Write the plagues in the order they occurred.** The first one is done for you.

lice    flies    disease on livestock    boils    frogs    hail

8. a. water changed to blood                      e. \_\_\_\_\_  
 b. \_\_\_\_\_    f. \_\_\_\_\_  
 c. \_\_\_\_\_    g. \_\_\_\_\_  
 d. \_\_\_\_\_

- ① God had told Moses that Pharaoh would not let Israel go until God forced him to. Pharaoh hardened his heart each time a plague passed. Even when Pharaoh's servants begged him to let Israel go, the king was too proud to yield. What does it mean to "harden your heart"? It means to stubbornly resist or refuse to listen to God's words.

## Lesson 7



**Look up Proverbs 24:14. Complete the verse. Then answer the question.**

9. " \_\_\_\_\_ is the man that \_\_\_\_\_ always: but he that \_\_\_\_\_ his heart shall fall into \_\_\_\_\_."
10. What does it mean that Pharaoh hardened his heart? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## LOOKING BACK

11. Write the vocabulary word that means something that brings suffering and severe trouble: \_\_\_\_\_.
12. What did God promise to renew for the Israelites? \_\_\_\_\_
13. Where did God promise to take the people of Israel? \_\_\_\_\_
14. The Israelites became \_\_\_\_\_ with Moses because their suffering increased after he spoke with Pharaoh. But Moses felt \_\_\_\_\_ for the people of Israel.
15. What did the Egyptians have to do to get water after the first plague?
- a. They had to draw water from the river.
  - b. They had to ask Moses to provide water.
  - c. They had to dig wells to find water.
  - d. They had to buy water from Pharaoh's taskmasters.
16. Why did the Israelites bow down and worship God after they heard the message that Moses and Aaron had brought from God?
- a. They were delighted to see Moses again after so many years.
  - b. They were thankful that God had promised to deliver them from slavery.
  - c. They were struck with awe at the miracles God was doing before Pharaoh.
  - d. They were afraid that God was going to punish them for not believing Him.
17. What would the strong hand of God convince Pharaoh to do? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
18. Why did the fish in the Nile River die? \_\_\_\_\_
19. What was the importance of the sun and the Nile River to the Egyptians? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

△ 20. Why did the Israelites have to gather their own straw? \_\_\_\_\_

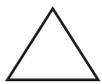
# 8

## LESSON

# Plague or Passover?

*Bible Passage - Exodus 10:12—12:36*

### Vocabulary Words



*Passover* (pas' ō' vər): the night God passed over Israelite homes, not killing the firstborn children; the special meal eaten to celebrate God's passing over the Israelites' homes

*unleavened bread* (ən le' vænd bred): flat bread which does not rise because it contains no yeast

Because Pharaoh was still unwilling to obey Him, the LORD caused an east wind to blow all day and night. In the morning, great clouds of locusts arrived on the wind. They covered the land, making it black. The hail had destroyed the barley and flax crops, but the wheat and rye had not yet sprouted. Now the wheat and rye were growing, and the locusts destroyed them. They ate every green thing; not a blade of grass was left! The Egyptians' food supply was gone.

Pharaoh ordered Moses and Aaron to come to his palace. "I have sinned against the LORD your God, and against you. Forgive me just this time and ask your God to remove this plague."

In response, Moses prayed, and the LORD answered. A strong west wind carried the locusts away. But in spite of the relief God gave him, Pharaoh's heart was hardened.



The locusts mentioned in the Bible are a kind of grasshopper. They travel in huge swarms. Sometimes the swarm is so large that it blocks out the sunlight. Locusts eat and destroy crops and other plants.



Locusts devouring a thistle plant

## Lesson 8

So the LORD told Moses to hold his staff toward heaven. Darkness spread over Egypt. For three days there was nothing but thick darkness. No one could leave home. No one in Egypt could see. But in Goshen, the Israelites could see!

Again Pharaoh sent for Moses and Aaron. “I will let all your people go,” Pharaoh said, “but your flocks and herds must stay here.”

“We are all going,” Moses answered. “Not even a hoof will be left behind!”

This made Pharaoh angry. “Get out of my sight! I never want to see you again. If I see you again, I will kill you.”

“It will be as you say. I will never see your face again,” Moses said.

The LORD told Moses, “I am going to send one more plague, and then Pharaoh will allow the Israelites to leave. Get the people ready, for your time here will end soon.”

Then the LORD gave Moses and Aaron specific instructions for the children of Israel. First they were to ask their Egyptian neighbors for silver and gold and clothes. God gave His people favor with the Egyptians, so that the Egyptians freely gave their wealth to the Israelites. The descendants of Jacob, who had been poor slaves, were suddenly a wealthy nation.

Then Moses told the people, “Tonight the LORD is going to bring one last plague upon

the Egyptians, and then they will let us leave. At midnight the LORD will strike the land. The firstborn son in every family will die,” Moses said, “but your families will be safe, if you do exactly as I tell you.

“This month will be the beginning of a new year for us. Every family must take a one-year-old male lamb and kill it. The lamb must be without blemish. Take some of the lamb’s blood and paint it above and on each side of the door of your house. This will be a sign that the firstborn son in your house should be spared from death. You must not go out of your house! If you do, you will not be under the LORD’s protection.”

For their evening meal, the Israelites were to roast the lamb over a fire. This special meal was called the **Passover**. The people were to eat quickly, taking care not to break any of the lamb’s bones. With the lamb they would eat bitter herbs and **unleavened bread**. While they ate, they would wear their shoes and hold their staff in their hand. They must be ready to leave at a moment’s notice.

That night, as the Israelites ate the Passover in Goshen, the Egyptians went on with life as usual. But at midnight a terrible

cry split the calm. Then another cry arose, and another, until the night was filled with wailing. All over Egypt, the firstborn in each family died, from the most important

The slain lamb and its sprinkled blood, which saved the Israelites from death, reminds us of Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God. Jesus shed His blood on the cross to save all people from their sins. Christians celebrate Communion to remember their deliverance from sin through Jesus’ suffering and death.

Egyptian family to the lowliest. Even the firstborn animals died.

But in the homes of the Israelites, there was calm. Lambs had died in the place of Israel's firstborn sons. And the children of Israel knew that the LORD had sent Moses to deliver them from Pharaoh.

Even Pharaoh's firstborn son died. Pharaoh was humbled. He called for Moses in the middle of the night and admitted that this was the hand of the LORD. "Get your people

out of this land!" he told Moses. "Take everyone and everything that you have; leave nothing behind!" Now the Egyptians were anxious to be rid of the Hebrews, for they feared something worse might happen, and they all would die.

Word spread throughout Goshen: "It is time to leave!" Hundreds of years had passed since Jacob had gone to Egypt. At last his descendants were leaving Egypt to return to Canaan, the land God had promised them.

## KNOW YOUR BIBLE

① The special meal was called *Passover* because when the LORD saw the lamb's blood over the doorway of an Israelite's house, He "passed over" that house. The LORD commanded the Israelites to eat this meal at the same time every year, in memory of the night when God protected the firstborn of His people from death. To this day the Jewish people—Israel's descendants—celebrate the Passover. They eat unleavened bread, bitter herbs, and roasted lamb. They thank God for delivering Israel from bondage in Egypt.

1. a. What is the special meal called that the Israelites ate? \_\_\_\_\_  
 b. What is this meal in memory of? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- c. What did the Israelites eat at this meal? Roasted \_\_\_\_\_, bitter \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ bread.
- d. Which people still observe this meal? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Which two plagues together destroyed the Egyptians' food supply? \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
3. How long did the plague of darkness last? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What happened during the last plague that finally caused Pharaoh to let Israel go?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

## Lesson 8

5. What sign protected the Israelites? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. What died in the Israelites' homes? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What is unleavened bread? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Why were the Israelites told not to leave their homes after they put blood on the door frames? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## KNOW GOD

9. What caused Israel suddenly to become a wealthy nation? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ① Several hundred years after God led Jacob's family to Egypt, God forced Pharaoh to let the Israelites go. The time had come for God to lead His people back to Canaan, the land He had promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob's descendants.

**Look up the following verses in your Bible and read the verses that come before them.**

**Write *Abraham, Isaac, or Jacob* before the words that God spoke to each man.**

10. \_\_\_\_\_ Genesis 17:8 "And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed [descendants] after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God."
11. \_\_\_\_\_ Genesis 26:3 "Sojourn in this land, and I will be with thee, and will bless thee; for unto thee, and unto thy seed [descendants], I will give all these countries, and I will perform the oath which I sware unto Abraham thy father."
12. \_\_\_\_\_ Genesis 28:13 "And, behold, the LORD stood above it, and said, I am the LORD God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed [descendants]."

## LOOKING BACK

13. What did Moses do to get rid of the frogs? \_\_\_\_\_
14. Which plague caused the Egyptian magicians to recognize the "finger of God"?  
\_\_\_\_\_

15. What Biblical expression means “to stubbornly resist or refuse to listen to God’s words”?
- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Who is described as doing this in response to the plagues? \_\_\_\_\_

**Write true or false.**

16. \_\_\_\_\_ The Israelites did not experience the plague of flies.
17. \_\_\_\_\_ The plague that killed livestock only destroyed about half of Israel’s livestock in Goshen.
18. \_\_\_\_\_ Hail did not ruin crops in Goshen.
19. \_\_\_\_\_ The Egyptian magicians recognized that the LORD had performed the miracle of the plague of lice.
20. \_\_\_\_\_ Pharaoh promised to let the Israelites go if God took away the plague of frogs.

**Number the plagues in the order that they occurred. Three of them are in today’s lesson.**

- |                                   |                              |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 21. a. _____ disease on livestock | f. _____ flies               |
| b. _____ locusts                  | g. _____ water becomes blood |
| c. _____ frogs                    | h. _____ darkness            |
| d. _____ boils                    | i. _____ lice                |
| e. _____ death of firstborn       | j. _____ hail                |

# 9

## LESSON

# Exodus!

*Bible Passage - Exodus 12:37-42, 51; 13:17—15:2*

That Passover night, the Israelites went out of Egypt. The most direct route from Egypt to Canaan would have been east along the Mediterranean Sea, through the land of the

Philistines. However, God did not lead them that way, for Philistine armies would oppose them. So they departed from the city of Ram- ses and went south toward Succoth.