

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS

JUNE 12, 2024

EXODUS 8:16-19

### INTRODUCTION:

1. The ten plagues put the power of God on display as He makes Himself known to Pharaoh with a “*strong hand*” (Ex. 3.19,20; 6.1)
3. The third plague: Frogs on the land
  - a) The magicians were unable to remove them. (Ex. 8.8)
  - b) God killed all the frogs on the land “*and the land stank*” (cf. Ex. 7.21).
  - c) Pharaoh hardened his heart “*when Pharaoh saw that there was relief*” (Ex. 8.15).

### I. BREAKING DOWN THE TEXT

- A. The third plague: Lice (gnats)
  1. **EXODUS 8.16:** “*strike the dust of the land, so that it may become lice*”
  2. Moses and Aaron did not go to Pharaoh with an ultimatum. (cf. Ex. 8.1,2)
  3. Lice (ken): Literally, gnats (esv). Only found six times. (Ex. 8.16-18; Ps. 105.31)
    - a) Probably a specific species of gnat known as sciniphes.
    - b) These gnats had a painful sting and were attracted to carbon dioxide causing them to be attracted to the nose, mouth, and eyes.
  4. **EXODUS 8.17:** “*All the dust of the land became lice*”
    - a) Consider the magnitude of this plague. (Gen. 13.16; Isa. 40.12)
    - b) No plague was inflicted on a small scale. (Ex. 7.19; 8.3; 8.18)
    - c) Just as the water of the Nile was defiled, so it was with the soil of the land.
- B. The failed attempt of the Egyptian magicians.
  1. **EXODUS 8.18:** “*Now the magicians so worked with their enchantments to bring forth lice, but they could not.*” (Ex. 7.11; 7.22; 8.7)
    - a) Enchantments: Literally, secret mutterings. It refers to incantations.
    - b) This is the last time we read about the magicians trying to replicate the plagues.
  2. **EXODUS 8.19:** “*This is the finger of God.*”
    - a) Not from the Lord, but from God. Elohim: generic for deity.
    - b) The Egyptians saw God as one of many. (Ex. 18.11; 1 Sam. 4.5-8; 5.2-5)
    - c) Yet there is just one God. (Deut. 4.32-35)
  3. **EXODUS 8.19:** “*But Pharaoh’s heart grew hard, and he did not heed them, just as the LORD had said.*”

### II. BRINGING IT HOME

- A. God wants to be known as the only God.
  1. The purpose of the ten plagues was twofold.
    - a) It was to make God known to the world. (Ex. 7.17; 8.10; Ex. 15.14,15; Lev. 10.3)
    - b) It was to prove to Israel that “*the Lord Himself is God*” (Deut. 4.32-35; 7.17,18).
  2. Do you direct people’s attention to God? (Matt. 5.14-16; cf. 6.1,2)
- B. God wants to be our exclusive help.
  1. Through the ten plagues, God is showing His care for His people. (Ex. 3.7,16; 4.31)
  2. He did not leave Moses to face Pharaoh on his own. (Ex. 4.12)
  3. In our lives, do we turn to God for help? (Isa. 45.22; 47.9-12; Hos. 11.8,9)
- C. God expects our exclusive attention. (Ex. 20.4-6)