

# THE 10 PLAGUES:

## A lesson for Pharaoh



**Scripture Portion** - Exodus 7-12

## Background

Moses went to the Israelites with a message of hope from God. God had seen their suffering and promised to rescue them from slavery. The people were filled with joy when they heard this.

But instead of freedom, their work became even harder. They now had to make bricks without being given straw. Life was tougher than before. The people became sad and no longer wanted to listen to Moses.

Moses spoke to God about this, and God reassured him that He would rescue the Israelites and bring them out of Egypt. God then instructed Moses on what to say to Pharaoh.

## Moses and Aaron Show God's Power

Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh again and told him to let the Israelites go worship the Lord. Pharaoh asked them to perform a miracle to prove that they were sent by God.

Following God's instructions, Aaron threw his walking stick on the ground, and it became a snake! Pharaoh's magicians did the same using their magic tricks, and their sticks also turned into snakes.

But Aaron's snake swallowed all the other snakes! Even after seeing this, Pharaoh refused to listen. He remained stubborn.

## The 10 Plagues

Since Pharaoh refused to obey, God sent 10 plagues on Egypt. Sometimes, God hardened Pharaoh's heart because of his evil nature, showing him the power of the God of Israel.

The **10 plagues** were:

- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1) The Nile River turned to blood | 2) Frogs covered the land              |
| 3) Lice appeared everywhere       | 4) Swarms of flies                     |
| 5) Disease killed many animals    | 6) Boils covered people's skin         |
| 7) A terrible hailstorm           | 8) Swarms of locusts ate all the crops |

## **9) Complete darkness covered Egypt**

## **10) Death of the firstborn**

After some of the plagues, Pharaoh promised to let the Israelites go, but he changed his mind once the suffering ended. Even Pharaoh's officials realized how powerful the God of Israel was, and they feared Him.

## **The Final Plague**

Moses warned Pharaoh again. If he did not let the Israelites go, every firstborn male in Egypt—both human and animal—would die. Pharaoh still refused.

God gave the Israelites special instructions. They had to kill a lamb and put its blood on their doorposts. That night, the Lord passed through Egypt and struck down every firstborn. But when He saw the blood on the Israelites' doors, He passed over their houses and did not harm them.

At midnight, there was loud crying throughout Egypt. Every Egyptian family had lost someone. But not one Israelite was harmed.

## **Pharaoh lets the Israelites go**

Finally, Pharaoh called Moses and Aaron and told them to leave Egypt with all the Israelites and their animals to worship the Lord. The Egyptian people were also afraid and wanted them to go.

After living in Egypt for 430 years, the Israelites left for the Promised Land.

## **Conclusion**

Being stubborn means refusing to listen or change your mind, even when others are trying to help you. Sometimes, we don't want to follow instructions from parents or teachers because we think we know better. But being too stubborn can lead to problems, just like it did for Pharaoh in the Bible. When we listen and learn from others, we make better choices and avoid mistakes. It's always good to have an open heart and be willing to learn!