

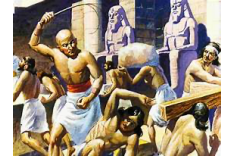


Passover - God's Triumph Over the Gods of Egypt Compiled by Karen Sue Nyquist



Every year, Jews celebrate Passover in remembrance of their deliverance from 400 years of slavery in Egypt. Their departure came after a spiritual battle where God showed His power over the demonic powers of the Egyptian religion. At first, Pharaoh's magicians were even able to mimic several of the miracles that God worked through Moses, turning rods into snakes and water into blood! Let's watch how the battle between good and evil unfolded while God's power and mercy were displayed for all the world to see and remember.

God's Salvation Plan: "Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel has come to Me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. Come now, therefore, and I will send you (*Moses*), to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt."
(Exodus 3:9-10)



God's Strategy: "Against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD (*Jehovah or Yahweh*)."
(Exodus 12:12)

God's Mercy: "If I had stretched out My hand and struck you (*pharaoh*) and your people with pestilence, then you would have been cut off from the earth."
(Exodus 9:15)

God's Purpose: "But indeed for this purpose I have raised you (*pharaoh*) up, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth."
(Exodus 9:16)

1st Plague - Waters Became Blood (Exodus 7:14-25)

Egyptian gods and goddesses: Khnum - guardian of the Nile; Tauret - hippopotamus - goddess of the river; Na - god of life in the Nile; Hapi - crocodile - spirit of the Nile; and Osiris - god of the underworld - the Nile was his blood stream. **God's Mercy:** He allowed them to find clean water when they dug new wells.

2nd Plague - Frogs Come Out of the Nile and Invade All of Egypt (Exodus 8:1-15)

Egyptian gods and goddesses: Heqt - wife of creator or goddess of birth - head of a frog; Hather "mother of Pharaoh;" Khnum - god that's the source of the Nile, w/head of a ram.

God's Mercy: He removed the frogs when pharaoh asked for prayer.

3rd Plague - Lice Made from the Dust and Invade All of Egypt (Exodus 8:16-19)

Egyptian gods and goddesses: Geb - god of the earth, soil, dust. **God's Mercy:** God used Pharaoh's own magicians to declare that God had brought the lice.

4th Plague - Swarms of Insects Invade Most of Egypt (Exodus 8:20-32) This was probably the scarab beetle, which are blood-sucking gadflies and are worse than termites, because they eat through wood.

Egyptian gods and goddesses: Kheper - god of beetles and flies; Amon - creator god w/head of a beetle. **God's Mercy:** They did not invade Gorshen, where the Israelites lived.

5th Plague - Livestock Epidemic (Exodus 9:1-7)

Egyptian gods and goddesses: Apis - the sacred bull had his stall in Ptah's great temple; Ptah - god of craftsmen, Hathor - goddess of love and protection w/a head of a cow.

God's Mercy: The disease did not enter Gorshen, so none of the Israelites' animals died.

6th Plague - Ashes from Sky Bring Boils on Man & Their Animals (Exodus 9:8-12)

Egyptian gods and goddesses: Isis - high goddess with great magic, protector of Egypt, governed the skies; Imnotep - god of medicine; Thoth - god of intelligence & medical learning.

God's Mercy: This plague did enter Gorshen, so it did not effect Israelites nor their animals.

7th Plague - Storm with Extreme Hail, Thunder, and Fire (Exodus 9:13-35)

Egyptian gods and goddesses: Nut - sky goddess; Isis and Seth - protector of crops; Shu - wind god, Horus - sky god with the head of a falcon. **God's Mercy:** Moses warned Egyptians

so those who feared the LORD (Jehovah or Yahweh) would bring their animals and servants inside. The storm was not in Goshen, where the Israelites lived.

8th Plague - Locust Invasion (Exodus 10:1-20)

Egyptian gods and goddesses: Seth - god of crops; Ermut - goddess of childbirth and crops; Nepri - god of grain; Thermuth goddess of fertility and crops. **God's Mercy:** When Pharaoh asked Moses to pray, God immediately blew the locusts away.

9th Plague - Three Days of Extreme Darkness (Exodus 10:21-29)

Egyptian god and goddesses: Ra - Sun God, the main god; Horus - god of light; Ptah - creator of moon, sun, and earth, Tem - god of sunset; Shu - god of sunlight and air.

God's Mercy: Egyptians could't even see their faces, but there was light in Israelites' homes!

The Passover is Instituted - (Exodus 12:1-28) Each family was to kill a lamb and put the blood on the doorposts of their home. That night when God passed through the land bringing the 10th plague, He would see the blood, and pass over their homes. The blood of the lamb protected them from God's judgment. They are to do this as an annual memorial and celebration of God's salvation.



10th Plague - Death of First-born Egyptians & Animals (Exodus 11:1-10, 12:29-30). **Egyptian gods and goddesses:** Pharaoh - a "god" himself, his "divine" heir died; Selket - guardian of life; Renenutet - guardian of pharaoh. **God's Mercy:** God instructed the Israelites to paint the blood on the door posts and stay inside, so none died. The Egyptians gave them gifts as they left Egypt to go back to their homeland, Israel.

The Exodus: God parted the Red Sea, Israelites walked through, Egyptian army was drowned (Exodus 14)!

- (1) "Ten Egyptian Plagues For Ten Egyptian Gods and Goddesses, www.stat.rice.edu/~dobelman/Dinotech/10_Egyptian_gods_10_Plagues.pdf
- (2) "Ten Egyptian Plagues For Ten Egyptian Gods and Goddesses," owlcation.com/humanities/Ten-Plagues-For-Ten-Gods



Would you like to know this God that has such love, mercy, and power to overcome evil? You may. Today, the world is in slavery to sin, doing things that we know are not right, but are unable to stop. God has a merciful plan for us.

He sent His Son (John 3:16-17), **Jesus, the Lamb of God** (Genesis 22:8, John 1:29). He atoned or paid the death penalty for our sins (Genesis 2:17, Leviticus 5:6) with His death on the cross (Romans 6:23). Then He rose from the dead (Mark 9:9, John 2:22) to give us eternal life. With His Spirit living in us, we have the power to overcome sin (Romans 12:21) and live a victorious life. When we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior, God the Father sees that Jesus' blood has been applied to our lives as payment for our sins and forgives our sins (Ephesians 1:7). Do you want to repent now (Acts 2:38) and turn toward God?



A Suggested Prayer: "Dear God, I repent from trying to live my life my way and ask You to be my Lord. Forgive me for all my sins and cleanse me from all my sinful ways. Make me the kind of person You want me to be. Right now, Jesus, I open my heart and receive You as my personal Lord and Savior. AMEN!" Name _____ Date _____

Now that you have asked Jesus into your heart, He will start revealing Himself to you (John 14:21). But to steadily improve your relationship with God, spend time with Him. Start talking (praying) to Him. Read His book, the Bible (Psalm 119), where He reveals Himself more clearly. Daily, ask Him to become involved in your life and request His advice, direction, even correction. Obey Him when He reveals His will to you. Spend time with others who love God too. Go to a good church where you feel God's presence, they preach the Bible, and you can fellowship with other believers. We learn much about God from each other. GOD BLESS YOU!

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