Through the Bible for Children: Exodus Lesson 12

NIGHT OF DEATH (I Will Pass Over You) Exodus 11, 12:1-36

The Lord said to Moses, "I will bring one more plague upon Pharaoh and Egypt, after that he will let you go from here. In fact, he will push you out! Speak to the people. Tell every man and every woman to borrow from the Egyptians, jewels of silver and jewels of gold."

Then the Lord gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians so that they were willing to give them what they asked. Also, the man Moses was very famous in the land of Egypt. He was great in the eyes of Pharaoh's servants, and in the eyes of all the Egyptian people.

Moses went before Pharaoh and said, "All the firstborn in the land of Egypt will die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sits on the throne, to the firstborn of the lowliest servant. Even the firstborn of the animals will die. There will be a great cry throughout the land of Egypt, such as was never heard before, nor will ever be heard again. But among the children of Israel there will be no death, not among the people nor among their animals. The Lord will be put a division among the Egyptians and the Israelites. Then all your servants will come and bow down to me, saying, "Get yourself and all your people out of Egypt.. After that I will leave." When Moses finished saying these things, he left the presence of Pharaoh in a great anger.

The Lord told Moses, "Pharaoh will not listen to you, so that my wonders may be shown in all Egypt."

Moses and Aaron had done all the wonders before Pharaoh: but the Lord hardened Pharaoh's heart, so that the would not let the children of Israel go out of his land.

The Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, "This month will now be the first month of the year for you. Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying, 'In the tenth day of this month each man of a household shall take a lamb without blemish. It shall be a male lamb of the first year. You shall keep the lamb with the family until the fourteenth day of the month. On that day in the evening, each family shall kill their lamb and spread the blood of it on the side posts and on the upper door post of your houses. Then you shall roast your lamb with fire and eat it. When you eat this meal you shall be dressed and you shall eat it in a hurry. It is the Lord's passover. For on that night I will go through the land of Egypt and will kill the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beasts. I will execute judgment against all the gods of the land of Egypt. I am the Lord.

The blood will be for a token of protection for you on the houses where you are: and when I see the blood I will pass over you. The plague of death will not be upon you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

You will keep this day as a memorial. You will keep the feast through all your generations."

Then Moses called the elders of Israel and told them what the Lord had said. He told them how the Lord would pass through the land of Egypt and kill all the firstborn, but on the houses where the blood was sprinkled He would pass over and no one would die.

Moses told the elders that they were to always keep this feast and that each generation was to teach it to the next generation throughout all the years.

And so it happened just as God had said. At midnight the Lord killed all the firstborn of Egypt. There was not a household in all the land where the firstborn did not die. Only in the houses of Israel, where the blood had been spread in the door posts were the people safe.

Then Pharaoh rose up in the night, he and all his servants and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt, for there was not a household where there was not one dead.

Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, "Get up and get yourselves away from my people. All of you leave and take your flocks and herds with you."

The Egyptians were urgent upon the people to leave and to send them away from their land, for they said, "We will all be dead men."

The people took their dough before it was raised and they tied their kneading troughs in their clothes. The children of Israel did as they had been instructed and borrowed jewels of silver and jewels of gold from the Egyptians, as well as garments. The Lord gave them favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they lent them what they asked. The children of Israel left the land with the spoils of Egypt.

At last the children of Israel were free to leave the land of their captivity. The struggle had been long and hard for them, but the Lord had used these struggles to show them the falseness of the Egyptian religious system. At the same time He had shown them who He was and His great and mighty power to protect and deliver them.

From the mighty Pharaoh on down to his poorest servants, all had seen the power of the true God. Now they had all seen the truth and they were able to see that Pharaoh, as well as all the other gods that they worshipped were false, the product of man's mind. Now the people of Egypt had the knowledge necessary to chose to worship the true God.

God showed His goodness to Egypt as well as to Israel by the plagues. He used the disasters of the plague to open their eyes to the truth. In the same way, we can show the goodness of God by helping people around us to know the truth and the true God. We can share with them that it is God who governs the weather and our lives, not Mother Nature. He sets the boundaries of the seas and the rivers and lakes. He raises or lowers them as He pleases for His purpose. He uses His creation to open people's eyes to Himself, so that in the ages to come they might know Him and no longer be His enemies under his judgment.

LEARN: For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills is his also. The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry land.

O come let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker.

Psalm 95: 3-6



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- 10 Death- Exodus 11,12:1-36

In these plagues the Lord showed that he is the true God, while all the gods of man, including those of Egypt were false.

For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised: he is also to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the people are idols: but the Lord made the heavens. I Chronicles 19:25:26

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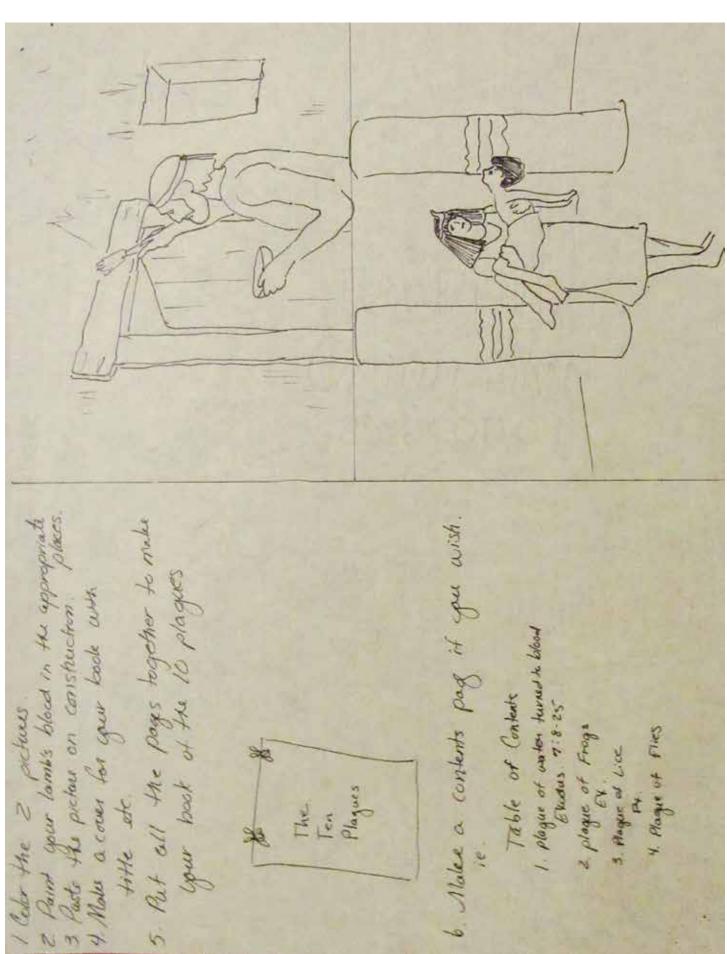
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