Portion:

SCRIPTURES

- Exodus 6:2-9:35
- Luke 9:1-2
- Ephesians 1:17-20, 3:20
- II Peter 1:3
- Mark 16:20
- Rom 9:14-24
- Luke 11:14-23
- Ezekiel 29:9-21
- Numbers 12:1-13
- I Peter 3:7

Title:

THE PURPOSE OF POWER!

- Let My People Go!
- Yahweh's Glorious Promises
- The Power of Moses
- The Power of the Church
- Dividing Kingdoms
- Distinction in the Plagues
- Separation in the Plagues
- Purpose in the Plagues
- The Weaker Vessel
- The Missing Sign!

THEME: I SHOW MY POWER!

"So the LORD said to Moses: "See, I have made you as God to Pharaoh, and Aaron your brother shall be your prophet."

(Exodus 7:1) "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 NKJV

OUTCOME: I GIVE YOU POWER!

"For the Scripture says to the Pharaoh, "For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth...What if God, wanting to show His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, and that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory," Romans 9:17, 22-23 NKJV

"Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases. He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick." Luke 9:1-2 NKJV

This week we witness the powerful hand of Yahweh as He moves in the life of Moses, a taste of "His divine power that gives to us all things that pertain to a godly life (2 Peter 1:3)," and a picture of His ultimate prophetic promise to the Church, "the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe (Ephesians 1:19)."

Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

- 1. This portion tells of Yahweh's glorious promises.
 - (a) I will bring you out
 - (b) I will rescue you
 - (c) I will redeem you
 - (d) I will take you as My people
 - (e) I will bring you into the land.

 The narrative progresses with seven of the ten plagues that unleashed the power of God against Egypt.
- 2. Yahweh reminds Moses that He is the same God who appeared to the patriarchs and that He remembers the covenant with them, but that He had not done so using His name "Yahweh." (See last week's notes on the His name.)
- 3. He instructs Moses to tell the Israelites that He will rescue them from slavery with demonstrations of power and justice.
- 4. Moses tells this to the Israelites. But they didn't believe because of the hard labor their complete exhaustion and.
- 5. Moses cannot see how Pharaoh could possibly obey him to "let the people go" when the Israelites won't even believe.
- 6. All the leaders of the tribes of Israel are named showing that Moses and Aaron are direct descendants.

- 7. The stage is set for Moses to tell Pharaoh everything that Yahweh has said, the main theme being, "Let My People Go so they can worship Me!"
- 8. Yahweh says to Moses, "See, I've made you like God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron will be your prophet."
- 9. Yahweh will speak to Moses, Moses to Aaron, Aaron to Pharaoh, and Yahweh will harden Pharaoh's heart, and so Yahweh will use significant demonstrations of power and events to institute justice.
- 10. By this the Egyptians will know who Yahweh is and His people will be freed. Moses is 80 and Aaron 83 at this time.
- 11. Moses and Aaron appear before Pharaoh and perform the sign He showed them earlier. It's time to demonstrate POWER.
- 12. "When Pharaoh says to you, '**Perform a miracle**,' then say to Aaron, 'Take your staff and throw it down before Pharaoh,' and it will become a snake."
- 13. His shepherd's rod becomes a snake as the first demonstration of power, which Pharaoh's magicians duplicated only to have their snakes swallowed up by Aaron's. Pharaoh remains stubborn. [note that they use the snake, but not the leprous hand sign prior to the 10 plagues, and the Blood sign becomes the first plague.]

- 14. Prior to the 'rod into a snake sign' Moses is instructed as such: ""Go in, tell Pharaoh king of Egypt to let the children of lsrael go out of his land." "I am the LORD. Speak to Pharaoh king of Egypt all that I say to you."
- 15. So Moses and Aaron went in to Pharaoh, and they did so, just as the LORD commanded. Although in his first face-to-face encounter with Pharaoh, he demands that he "Let the people go... let us go three days' journey... or there is destruction coming, but does not display any 'signs'. [Outcome no more straw for bricks].
- 16. Then they come back and Aaron casts down his rod before Pharaoh and his servants, and it became a serpent."
- 17. **Let the Plagues Begin:** The call to "Let My people go to worship Yahweh," will be declared to Pharaoh six more times during the 10 plagues. (A total of 7 times including his first encounter!)
- 18. The entire narrative from the signs and plagues are a **demonstration of power**, and this is something we need to seriously consider as believers, especially as we approach the end of the age.
- 19. **(1) Blood:** Yahweh tells Moses to go back in the morning and have Aaron touch the Nile with the rod and turn it into blood. All the water, even in vessels, becomes undrinkable blood; the fish die, the river stinks of death; Pharaoh's magicians pull some

- water into blood trick and Pharaoh is unimpressed by Moses and unmoved, even by such a demonstration. The Egyptians are forced to dig wells for drinking water for seven days.
- 20. **(2) Frogs:** Let my people go so that they can worship Me (duplicated by Egyptian magicians/religious leaders); Pharaoh asks Moses for prayer to remove the frogs and promises to let the people go; Moses does and Pharaoh does not!
- 21. **(3) Lice:** Magicians unable to duplicate this one; Pharaoh remains stubborn.
- 22. (4) Insects (Flies): Let my people go so that they can worship

 Me. Egyptian houses will be filled, Goshen is unaffected as

 Yahweh puts a barrier between His people and Egypt's. Pharaoh offers to let Israel sacrifice within the land. Moses insists they go a three-day journey as Yahweh has ordered. Pharaoh says he will let them go if they don't go too far and asks for prayer again. Moses agrees and warns Pharaoh not to lie again, but he does and refuses to let them go.
- 23. **(5) Diseased livestock:** Let my people go so that they can worship Me. All of Egypt's livestock die (but it would seem that this just affects the livestock owned by Pharaoh himself) and again Israel is unaffected. Pharaoh remains stubborn.
- 24. **(6) Boils and blisters:** on people and animals (on the animals that remained alive after last plague). Moses is active in this

- plague as he throws ashes into the air in front of Pharaoh, which turns to soot over the whole land fo Egypt. Even the Egyptian religious experts are affected so they offer no resistance to Moses. Pharaoh remains stubborn.
- 25. (7) Hail and thunder: Let my people go so that they can worship Me. This time Yahweh is targeting Pharaoh's officials and people. Yahweh's message to Pharaoh is that he could have wiped them all out in an instant but, instead, in order to counteract Pharaoh's continued abuse of power against Israel and to show His power, and to make His name known in the whole world, He has taken the slow route. A warning is issued to bring all people and livestock under shelter. Any person or animal that is out in an open field will die when the hail rains down on them. (It seems that the livestock owned by people were not affected by the animal disease of the earlier plague, only Pharaoh's. NOTE: at the time of Joseph the people had to sell all their livestock for food, so it seems things have changed since then, as the people appear to now own livestock.) Some of Pharaoh's officials, who took Yahweh's word seriously, rushed to bring their servants and livestock inside for shelter. Others did not. The hail beat down everything that was in the open field throughout the entire land of Egypt, both people and animals. The hail also beat down all the grain in the fields, and it

shattered every tree out in the field. Goshen is spared again as Yahweh separates His people. Pharaoh sends for Moses and Aaron and admits he has sinned and that Yahweh is right, and he and his people are wrong. He asks for prayer yet again. And says they can go. Moses knows that even now Pharaoh and his officials don't take Yahweh seriously. (Note: flax and the barley were destroyed, because the barley had ears of grain and the flax had buds. But both durum and spelt wheat weren't ruined, because they hadn't come up.) The hail stops and Pharaoh sins yet again.

26. **Timeline:** it was 64 years from the death of Joseph to the birth of Moses. So, during those 64 years the people are still 'guests' and not 'slaves' and are multiplying rapidly in numbers, and it is when the new Pharaoh who does not know Joseph takes over [Exodus 1:8] that the captivity [hard labor] begins. This is right before the birth of Moses when Pharaoh orders the death of all newborn boys. That would mean the hard labor lasts for 80 years, the age Moses is when he is called back to Egypt to free the people and when these plagues are taking place. There is 144 years between the death of Joseph and the Exodus.

POWER

1. Let My People Go!

A. Yahweh's Glorious Promises

- (1) "Therefore say to the children of Israel: 'I am the LORD; I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, I will rescue you from their bondage, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments. I will take you as My people, and I will be your God. [Marriage proposal] Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God who brings you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. And I will bring you into the land which I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; and I will give it to you as a heritage: I am the LORD.'
 ""Exodus 6:6-8 NKJV
 - (a) I will bring you out
 - (b) I will rescue you
 - (c) I will redeem you
 - (d) I will take you as My people
 - (e) I will bring you into the land
- (2) Moses has witnessed Israel's loss of belief in what he is telling them thus far, so he doubts that Pharaoh would do any different. "And Moses spoke before the LORD, saying, "The children of Israel have not heeded me. How then

shall Pharaoh heed me, for I am of uncircumcised lips?"" Exodus 6:12 NKJV! (Of course Yahweh gave him the three signs to help Israel, Himself, and Pharaoh believe!)

- (a) The rod into a snake
- (b) The Leprous hand (more on this later)
- (c) Water into blood (more on this later)

B. Demonstrations of Power

- (1) Like God! Moses will be like God to Pharaoh (Like Jospeh was a Father to Pharaoh)— Aaron was the prophet in this case! (Later a Priest)
 - (a) "So the LORD said to Moses: "See, I have made you as God to Pharaoh, and Aaron your brother shall be your prophet [prophet to Moses, eventually the priest to the people, that is why he is the voice!]. You shall speak all that I command you. And Aaron your brother shall tell Pharaoh to send the children of Israel out of his land." Exodus 7:1-2 NKJV [LOOK AT THE THREE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT ALWAYS IN PLAY—in this instance]
 - I. Moses—Executive Branch—GOD—King
 - II. Aaron—Judicial Branch—Prophetic
 - III. Pharaoh—Legislative Branch—the people—Priest
 - (b) "So now it was not you who sent me here, but God; and He has made me a **father to Pharaoh**, and lord of all his

house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt." Genesis 45:8

- (2) The one sign used here
 - (a) The Rod into a snake.
 - (b) Then we go to the first Plague skipping the sign with the Leprous hand (see notes in section three: VESSELS)
- (3) Signs and Wonders!
 - (a) Power—Moses and Aaron to Pharaoh and Egypt (a testimony to who Yahweh is and to His power!).
 - I. "So the LORD said to Moses: "See, I have made you as God to Pharaoh, and Aaron your brother shall be your prophet." Exodus 7:1
 - II. "But indeed for this purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth." Exodus 9:16 NKJV
 - III. "And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch out My hand on Egypt and bring out the children of Israel from among them."" Exodus 7:5 NKJV
 - IV. "Then the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, "When Pharaoh speaks to you, saying, 'Show a miracle for yourselves,' then you shall say to Aaron,

- 'Take your rod and cast it before Pharaoh, and let it become a serpent.' "" Exodus 7:8-9 NKJV
- V. "And the magicians could not stand before Moses because of the boils, for the boils were on the magicians and on all the Egyptians." Exodus 9:11 NKJV
- VI. "for at this time I will send all My plagues to your very heart, and on your servants and on your people, that you may know that there is none like Me in all the earth." Exodus 9:14 NKJV
- VII. "Now if I had stretched out My hand and struck you and your people with pestilence, then you would have been cut off from the earth." Exodus 9:15 NKJV
- VIII."As yet you exalt yourself against My people in that you will not let them go." Exodus 9:17 NKJV
- IX. "And Moses stretched out his rod toward heaven; and the LORD sent thunder and hail, and fire darted to the ground. And the LORD rained hail on the land of Egypt. Exodus 9:23
- X. Entreat the LORD, that there may be no more mighty thundering and hail, for it is enough. I will let you go, and you shall stay no longer." So Moses said to him, "As soon as I have gone out of the city, I will spread

out my hands to the LORD; the thunder will cease, and there will be no more hail, that you may know that the earth is the LORD's." Exodus 9:28-29 NKJV

(b) Power—the Church in the world

- I. "And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. **But you shall receive power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."" Acts 1:7-8 NKJV
- II. "For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake." I Thessalonians 1:5 NKJV
- III. "Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem **until you are endued** with power from on high."" Luke 24:49 NKJV
- IV. "And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power," I Corinthians 2:4 NKJV

- V. "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." II Timothy 1:7 NKJV
- VI. "Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, **according** to the power that works in us," Ephesians 3:20 NKJV
- VII. "that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places," Ephesians 1:17-20 NKJV
- VIII."Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases. He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick." Luke 9:1-2 NKIV

- IX. "as His <u>divine power</u> has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue," II Peter 1:3 NKJV
- X. "And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen." Mark 16:20 NKJV
- XI. "Therefore they stayed there a long time, speaking boldly in the Lord, who was bearing witness to the word of His grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands." Acts 14:3 NKJV
- XII. "Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles." Acts 2:43 NKJV
- XIII. "And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon's Porch." Acts 5:12 NKJV
- XIV."Truly the signs of an apostle were accomplished among you with all perseverance, in signs and wonders and mighty deeds." II Corinthians 12:12 NKJV

XV. "And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."" Mark 16:17-18 NKJV

C. A Deep Dive into Divine Power (Exceedingly great and precious promises for the People of Yahweh!)

- (1) 2 Peter 1:1-11–His **Divine Power** gives us:
 - (a) All things that pertain to life and godliness
 - (b) Exceedingly great and precious promises
 - (c) Partakers of the divine nature
 - (d) Escape the corruption that is in the world through lust
 - (e) You will be neither barren nor unfruitful
 - (f) You will never stumble
 - (g) An Abundant entrance into the everlasting kingdom
- *The one thing that will wreck these promises: forgetting you have been cleansed from your old (past) sins.

D. <u>Dividing Kingdoms—The Prophetic Significance</u>

- (1) Three days' Journey (Separating Yahweh's people from Egypt)
 - (a) YAHWEH'S INSTRUCTIONS TO MOSES: "Then they will heed your voice; and you shall come, you and the

elders of Israel, to the king of Egypt; and you shall say to him, 'The LORD God of the Hebrews has met with us; and now, please, **let us go three days' journey** into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.'" Exodus 3:18 NKJV

(b) MOSES FIRST ENCOUNTER WITH PHARAOH:

"Afterward Moses and Aaron went in and told Pharaoh,
"Thus says the LORD God of Israel: 'Let My people go,
that they may hold a feast to Me in the wilderness.' "
And Pharaoh said, "Who is the LORD, that I should
obey His voice to let Israel go? I do not know the
LORD, nor will I let Israel go." So they said, "The God
of the Hebrews has met with us. **Please, let us go three**days' journey into the desert and sacrifice to the LORD
our God, lest He fall upon us with pestilence or with the
sword."" Exodus 5:1-3 NKJV (Outcome no straw for
bricks)

(c) **BEFORE THE PLAGUE OF FLIES:** "Then Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron, and said, "Go, sacrifice to your God in the land." And Moses said, "It is not right to do so, for we would be sacrificing the abomination of the Egyptians to the LORD our God. If we sacrifice the abomination of the Egyptians before their eyes, then will

they not stone us? **We will go three days' journey** into the wilderness and sacrifice to the LORD our God as He will command us." So Pharaoh said, "I will let you go, that you may sacrifice to the LORD your God in the wilderness; only you shall not go very far away. Intercede for me."" Exodus 8:25-28 NKJV

- (d) FIRST TIME WE SEE THIS THREE DAYS' JOURNEY IS
 WHEN JACOB SEPARATES FROM LABAN: "Then he
 put three days' journey between himself and Jacob, and
 Jacob fed the rest of Laban's flocks." Genesis 30:36
 NKIV
- (e) **FOOD FOR THOUGHT:** Why must the people of Yahweh separate with a three day's journey? And sacrifice to Me!
 - I. The last three days of the prophetic week (Thursday, Friday, Sabbath—a day is 1000 years). "Repent, the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand." (That was declared at the beginning of the 5th Millennium from creation (a Thursday morning). We are now poised on a Friday night (right before the 3rd day). The Sabbath (Kingdom) Millennium at hand.
 - II. Two Thousand Years of the Church and then the Return (Millennial Kingdom)!

- III. Like the three reasons for the signs: first they were for Moses himself, then for the elders of Israel, and then for Pharaoh.
- IV. The death (Passover) burial (Unleavened Bread) resurrection (First Fruits) of Y'shua (3 days and three nights (like the sign of Jonah).
- V. "But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." Matthew 12:39-40 NKJV
- (2) Water into Blood (separating Yahweh's people from Egypt/ Sin)
 - (a) **First Plague—Water into Blood:** "Thus says the LORD: "By this you shall know that I am the LORD. Behold, I will strike the waters which are in the river with the rod that is in my hand, and **they shall be turned to blood**." Exodus 7:17 NKJV
 - (b) **Israel's freedom begins**—freed to marry Yahweh at Mt. Sinai because of the Passover (the shedding of Lamb's blood). Without the shedding of blood there is no

- remission of sins (Hebrews 9:22 from Leviticus 17:11 In a sense, Israel's freedom begins with the first Plague of water becoming blood.
- (c) **First miracle—Water into Wine:** Y'shua's first miracle was also at a wedding! (John 2:1-12).
- (d) Yahshua's ministry begins at the wedding of Cana with water into wine (Blood) and grants us freedom at the cross (the Passover) the shedding of blood of the Lamb. Freed to become the Bride of Messiah!
- (3) Yahweh's Prophetic Plan (separating vessels of honor from vessels of dishonor)
 - (a) "What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? Certainly not! For He says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion." So then it is not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who shows mercy. For the Scripture says to the Pharaoh, "For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth." Therefore He has mercy on whom He wills, and whom He wills He hardens. You will say to me then, "Why does He still find fault? For who has resisted His will?" But indeed, O

man, who are you to reply against God? Will the thing formed say to him who formed it, "Why have you made me like this?" Does not the potter have power over the clay, from the same lump to make one vessel for honor and another for dishonor? What if God, wanting to show His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, and that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory, even us whom He called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?" Romans 9:14-24 NKJV

(b) A KINGDOM DIVIDED CANNOT STAND! "But He, knowing their thoughts, said to them: "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and a house divided against a house falls. If Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? Because you say I cast out demons by Beelzebub. And if I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. But if I cast out demons with the finger of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you. When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are

- in peace. But when a stronger than he comes upon him and overcomes him, he takes from him all his armor in which he trusted, and divides his spoils. He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters." Luke 11:17-23 NKJV
- (c) Ezekiel 29:9-21 (Separating Egypt from its former glory)
 - "Egypt will become a desolate wasteland. Then they will know that I am the LORD. "Because you said, 'The Nile is mine; I made it,' therefore I am against you and against your streams, and I will make the land of Egypt a ruin and a desolate waste from Migdol to Aswan, as far as the border of Cush. The foot of neither man nor beast will pass through it; noone will live there for forty years. I will make the land of Egypt desolate among devastated lands, and her cities will lie desolate for forty years among ruined cities. And I will disperse the Egyptians among the nations and scatter them through the countries. "Yet this is what the Sovereign LORD says: at the end of forty years I will gather the Egyptians from the nations where they were scattered. I will bring them back from captivity and return them to Upper Egypt, the land of their

ancestry. There they will be a lowly kingdom. It will be the lowliest of kingdoms and will never again exalt itself above the other nations. I will make it so weak that it will never again rule over the nations. Egypt will no longer be a source of confidence for the people of Israel but will be a reminder of their sin in turning to her for help. Then they will know that I am the Sovereign LORD." " Ezekiel 29:9-16 NIVUK

II. THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WITH A KING AND KINGDOM THAT DOES NOT HAVE A JOSPEH! It will be the lowliest of kingdoms and will never again exalt itself above the other nations. I will make it so weak that it will never again rule over the nations."

Ezekiel 29:15

PLAGUES (Covering all 10)

2. Distinction, Separation and Purpose

A. It is almost as if there is a pattern (at first the distinction between God's people and Egypt is supernatural, with the flies and death of livestock, and darkness, Yahweh simply protects the Israelites. Boils seem to aim at the magicians. And then when a plague (hail) is set to include the people (aimed at your very heart), Yahweh gives a way out for the

Egyptians, but still separated the Israelites. No hail in Goshen. But when the death of the firstborn arrives, all firstborns are at risk, all are given a way out, **but**, **ALSO**, **all must do something themselves (they must apply the blood!)**

B. Plagues with demands

- (1) Let my people go! In only 6 of the 10 plagues Moses is told to go and tell Pharaoh to "Let my people go!" Plus in Moses first encounter with Pharaoh (total of 7 times)
 - (a) First in Exodus 5:1-3 before the plagues, but without any signs (at Moses First encounter with Pharaoh)
 - (b) #1-Blood Exodus 7:16
 - (c) #2–Frogs Exodus 8:1-2
 - (d) #4-Flies Exodus 8:20
 - (e) #5-Livestock Exodus 9:1
 - (f) #7-Hail Exodus 9:13
 - (g) #8-Locust Exodus 10:3

C. <u>Plagues with mimics</u>

- (1) Notice that Yahweh allows the false "prophets" to perform miraculous signs as well!
 - (a) Second encounter with Pharaoh the Rod into a snake is duplicated Exodus 7:11-12
 - (b) #1-Blood Exodus 7:22
 - (c) #2- Frogs Exodus 8:7

D. Plagues against the land

- (1) Blood Exodus 7:14-15
- (2) Frogs Exodus 8:1-15
- (3) Flies Exodus 8:20-32
- (4) Hail Exodus 9:13-35
- (5) Locusts Exodus 10:1-20 (This plague duplicates the famine of Joseph as all food is destroyed).

E. Plagues against the animals

- (1) Blood Exodus 7:14-15 (fish die)
- (2) Lice Exodus 8:16-19
- (3) Livestock Exodus 9:1-7
- (4) Boils Exodus 9:8-12
- (5) Hail Exodus 9:13-35
- (6) Death of the Firstborn Exodus 11:1-12:30

F. Plagues against the people

- (1) Frogs Exodus 8:1-15
- (2) Lice Exodus 8:16-19
- (3) Flies Exodus 8:20-32
- (4) Boils Exodus 9:8-12
- (5) Hail Exodus 9:13-35
- (6) Locusts Exodus 10:1-20 (all food is destroyed)
- (7) Death of the Firstborn Exodus 11:1-12:30

G. Plagues against Pharaoh, his leaders, servants and people

- (1) Flies Exodus 8:20-32
- (2) Boils Exodus 9:8-12 (Now we see the attack on the false spiritual leaders!)
- (3) Hail Exodus 9:13-35
- (4) Locusts Exodus 10:1-20 (They beg Pharaoh to listen) **First** plague in which Pharaoh's Servants give him advice to back off!
- (5) Death of the Firstborn Exodus 11:1-12:30

H. Plagues with options

- (1) Hail Exodus 9:13-35
 - (a) Get inside and bring your animals if you want to be safe. Even Egyptians who now feared Yahweh escaped inside—these may well be the same who would later come out in the Exodus having already acknowledged that Yahweh is going to win this battle.)
 - (b) Going at Pharaoh's very heart, but also the first Plague where the distinction moves toward the people having an option. "Go inside to be safe." But the Israelites are STILL SAFE either way, no choice necessary! This gave a way out for the "innocent" Egyptians who were subjected to Pharaoh's stubbornness, and cause a separation from him. Again, maybe this caused many to come out with Israel in the Exodus (Passover). This was

- following the a direct attack on Pharaoh's spiritual leaders (magicians).
- (2) Death of the Firstborn Exodus 11:1-12:30 (Apply the blood!)

I. Plagues with distinctions

- (1) Lice Exodus 8:16-19 (Magicians cannot duplicate it and acknowledge "This is the finger of God.")
- (2) Flies Exodus 8:20-32 (Goshen set apart from the rest of Egypt) Now there is a distinction between Israel and Egypt. (But the distinction is all Yahweh's; people do NOTHING) As a result, this is the first plague in which Pharaoh says, "OK, go!"
- (3) Livestock Exodus 9:1-7 (Goshen set apart from the rest of Egypt) **Again a distinction is made: (Still all on Yahweh; people do nothing for it!)**
- (4) Hail Exodus 9:13-35 (Goshen set apart from the rest of Egypt for this purpose, also—I have raised you up to show my POWER)
- (5) Locusts Exodus 10:1-20 (Seems to say they will be in Pharaoh's territory and in the houses of Egyptians.)
- (6) Darkness Exodus 10:21-29 (the children of Israel had light in their dwellings.)

- (a) ALSO IN THIS 9TH PIAGUE PHARAOH SEALS HIS

 DESTINY! "Then Pharaoh said to him, "Get away from
 me! Take heed to yourself and see my face no more! For
 in the day you see my face you shall die!" So Moses
 said, "You have spoken well. I will never see your face
 again."" Exodus 10:28-29 NKJV
- (7) Death of the Firstborn Exodus 11:1-12:30
 - (a) Israel to gather the wealth of Egypt
 - (b) The cry throughout the land of Egypt will be deafening
 - (c) Against none of the children of Israel will you here a peep of an animal
 - (d) Against the firstborns (of man and animals) of the land of Egypt and of the captives (other slaves in Egypt)!
 - (e) Yahweh executes judgement against the gods of Egypt
 - (f) In this case those at risk are specified, and there is a distinction between Egypt and Israel (Ex. 11:7) only in that Israel will be instructed how to avoid the plague. Anyone wishing to avoid it must DO SOMETHING to be safe! This speaks of human initiative in cooperation with Yahweh's prophetic plan. This is ultimately connected to the "revealing of sons" in Romans 8 which should open your eyes to the revealing of sons being a picture of Passover (the separation of true

firstborn sons) and how it is connected with human initiative (you must do something).

- (g) "...that you may know that the LORD does make a difference between the Egyptians and Israel." Ex. 11:7 N
- (h) "For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God." Romans 8:19 NKJV

J. Plagues in which Pharaoh asks for help

- (1) Frogs Exodus 8:1-15
- (2) Flies Exodus 8:20-32
- (3) Hail Exodus 9:13-35
- (4) Locusts Exodus 10:1-20

K. Plagues in which Pharaoh say "Ok, go, but then lies."

- (1) Frogs Exodus 8:1-15
- (2) Flies Exodus 8:20-32
- (3) Locusts Exodus 10:1-20 (Let the men go)
- (4) Darkness Exodus 10:21-29 (But leave your livestock)
- (5) Death of the Firstborn Exodus 11:1-12:30 (Ok, Go! vv. 31-33) (Then Pharaoh later pursues Israel going back on his promise one last time in Exodus 14:5-9)

L. Plagues in which Pharaoh acknowledges his sin

- (1) Hail Exodus 9:13-35
- (2) Locusts Exodus 10:1-20

VESSELS

3. The Weaker Vessel

A. The Leprous Hand

- (1) Although this sign (the 2nd sign) does not appear for use in convincing Pharaoh of Yahweh's identity, power, intentions, and call on Moses' life, it does show up later on when his brother Aaron and sister Miriam are getting rebellious and jealous of Moses.
 - (a) "Then Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married; for he had married an Ethiopian woman. So they said, "Has the LORD indeed spoken only through Moses? Has He not spoken through us also?" And the LORD heard it. (Now the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth.) Numbers 12:1-3
- (2) Moses is My prophet and I speak to him face-to-face. How dare you question it? It seems that earlier Aaron is only considered a 'prophet' for the interactions between Moses and Pharaoh as Yahweh is putting Moses in the 'God' position. (I believe this is why Aaron acted as a prophet (Just to Moses) as Yah spoke to Moses face-to-face!)

- (a) "Suddenly the LORD said to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam, "Come out, you three, to the tabernacle of meeting!" So the three came out." Then the LORD came down in the pillar of cloud and stood in the door of the tabernacle, and called Aaron and Miriam. And they both went forward. Then He said, "Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream. Not so with My servant Moses; He is faithful in all My house. I speak with him face to face, Even plainly, and not in dark sayings; And he sees the form of the LORD. Why then were you not afraid to speak against My servant Moses?" Numbers 12:4-8
- (b) "So the LORD said to Moses: "See, I have made you as God to Pharaoh, and Aaron your brother shall be your prophet [prophet to Moses, eventually the priest to the people, that is why he is the voice!]. You shall speak all that I command you. And Aaron your brother shall tell Pharaoh to send the children of Israel out of his land." Exodus 7:1-2 NKJV
- (3) The Missing Sign!
 - (a) So the anger of the LORD was aroused against them, and He departed. And when the cloud departed from

leprous, as white as snow. Then Aaron turned toward Miriam, and there she was, a leper. So Aaron said to Moses, "Oh, my lord! Please do not lay this sin on us, in which we have done foolishly and in which we have sinned. Please do not let her be as one dead, whose flesh is half consumed when he comes out of his mother's womb!" So Moses cried out to the LORD, saying, "Please heal her, O God, I pray!"" Num.12:9-13

- (b) As in almost all cases when husbands and wives are going "at it" in an argument, the last thing anyone wants to hear is some Christian platitude.
- (c) To remind you, when Moses is being told, "it's time, go speak to Pharaoh!" he was given three signs of power, and curiously, those signs were to legitimize his call in three ways, first to himself, then to his people, and finally to Pharaoh and his officials.
- (d) 1. Rod into snake, 2. Leprous hand, 3. Water into blood.
- (e) By the time he gets to Pharaoh, he does the rod thing (and Pharaoh's magicians repeat it, but their snakes are ultimately swallowed up).
- (f) Then... Moses skips the leprous hand and goes right to the first Plague (water into blood).

- (g) So, "I'm curious why he skipped the leprous thing?"
- (h) That sparked my memory of when Aaron and Miriam later have a "moment" of rebellious thought— "Hey Moses, who made you boss?" "Are you the only one who hears from God?"
- (i) What happens then is that Yahweh uses the WEAKER VESSEL (Miriam) to show this sign. Aren't you curious why he does not hit Aaron with it?

B. <u>Both Aaron and Miriam rebelled, why was only Miriam struck with leprosy?</u>

- (1) Miriam is the weaker vessel
 - (a) "Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered." I Peter 3:7 NKJV
- (2) Thought Process (a note to husbands and wives)
 - (a) Yahweh always stresses the woman first, as she was designed to need a stable man on which to anchor!
 - (b) Think about it; what would have happened had Adam been a strong tower when Eve was Tempted, rather than a pushover?

Questions & Discussion

- 1. Discuss the five ultimate promises in Exodus 6:6-8 and consider the nature of the proposal in the forth one.
 - A. I will bring you out
 - B. I will rescue you
 - C. I will redeem you
 - D. I will take you as My people
 - E. I will bring you into the land
- 2. Compare the positioning of Moses to Pharaoh (Exodus 7:1-2) and Joseph to Pharaoh (Genesis 45:8).
 - A. Food for thought: Aaron was Moses' prophet but ultimately he becomes the first High Priest (and the patriarch to the entire priestly line).
 - B. Discuss the Separation (SOP) of Powers and the roles and positions of each (King, Priest, and Prophet).
 - C. What does SOP look like today? In the Church? In Government? In Industry?

3. Power!

- A. How and why did Yahweh demonstrate His power through Moses?
- B. How and why does Yahweh demonstrate His power through the Church?

- C. How can this demonstration of power divide Kingdoms?
- D. Why is this demonstration of power essential at the end of the age?
- 4. Discuss the prophetic significance of the Three Day's Journey separation Yahweh commanded when His people left Egypt.
 - A. How does it relate to the prophetic week?
 - B. How might it relate to the Passover?
 - C. How might it relate to the three days and three nights Y'shua we in the grave?
- 5. Why did Moses NOT use any of the signs in his first face-to-face encounter with Pharaoh?
 - D. What does he do instead?
 - E. What is the outcome?
- 6. Discuss the context of the woman being the weaker vessel in I Peter 3:7.
 - A. How might this relate Miriam being struck with Leprosy, and not Aaron in Numbers 12:9-13?
 - B. How might the rebellious actions of Miriam and Aaron in Numbers 12:1-3 be related to Yahweh's distinction of Moses as prophet in Numbers 12:4-8 vs. Aaron as a prophet in Exodus 7:1-2?