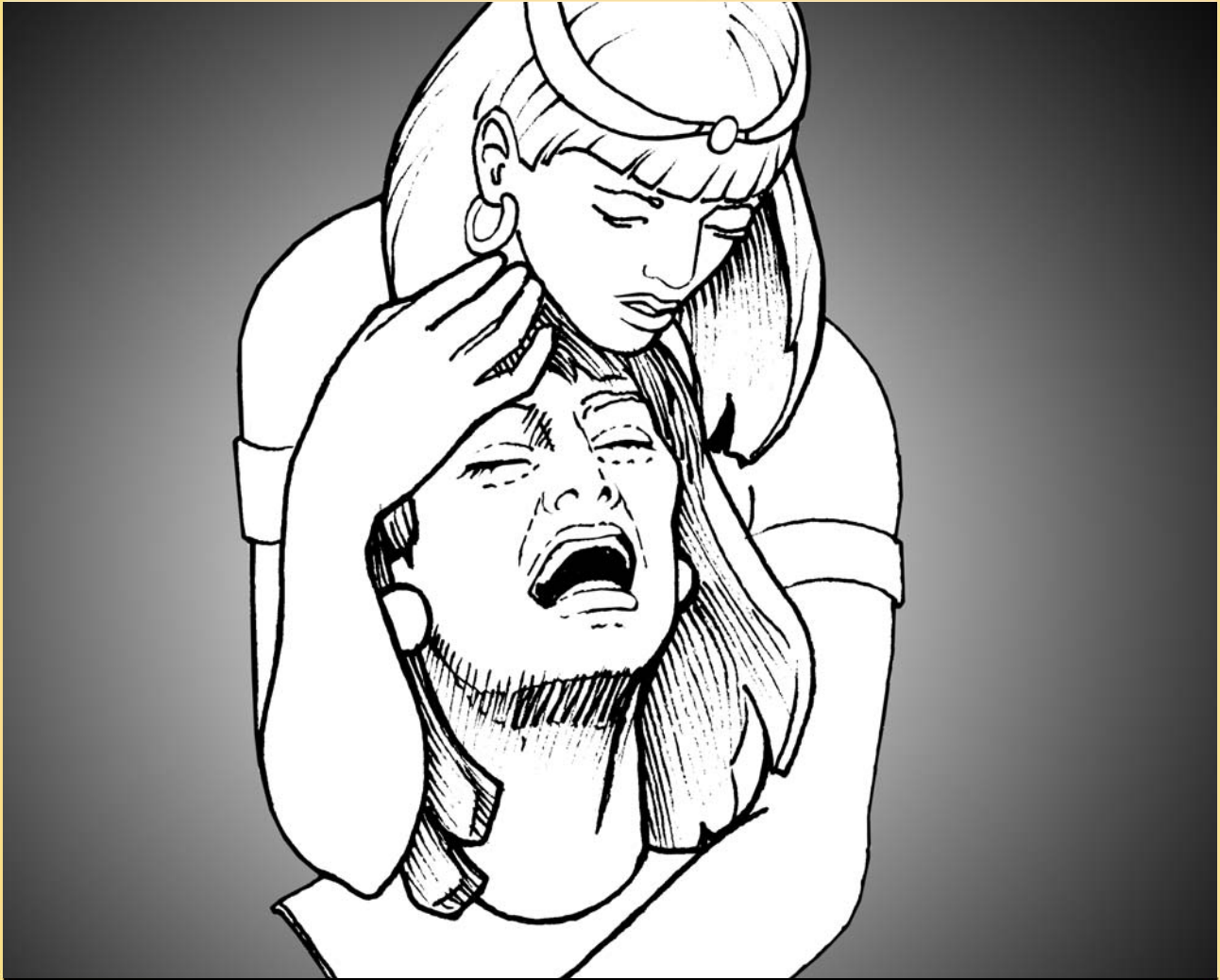
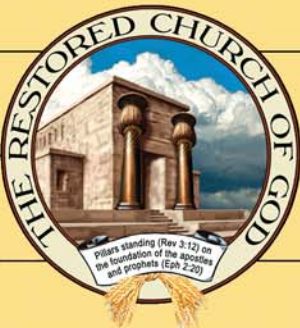


THE RESTORED CHURCH OF GOD

CHILDREN'S BIBLE LESSONS



The Plagues in Egypt



LEVEL 2
LESSON 7

The Plagues in Egypt

The children of Israel grew in number after Joseph's death. There were about two to three million of them living in Egypt. A new pharaoh worried that the Israelites might become the Egyptians' enemies and fight against them.

Slavery of the Israelites

Pharaoh thought that if he made the Israelites do more hard work, they would stop having so many children. Pharaoh made the Israelites his slaves. This means that he owned them, and they had to do whatever he said. Pharaoh set harsh taskmasters over them and ordered the Israelites to make bricks to build cities.

Even though their work was very difficult, the Israelite women continued having babies. Pharaoh was so upset that he ordered the mid-

wives (women who help mothers give birth to babies) to kill the male babies.

The midwives did not obey Pharaoh because murder is against God's Law. Pharaoh asked the midwives why the baby boys were not being killed. They replied that the Israelite women gave birth before the midwives even arrived. God blessed the midwives for their obedience.

But Pharaoh had a new plan for destroying the Israelites' sons. He ordered that all male babies be thrown into the Nile River!

Moses is Born

A baby boy was born to a husband and wife who were both from the tribe of Levi. They hid him from the Egyptians for three months. They were afraid that he might be



the baby until he was old enough to live with the princess. Can you guess whom she asked to nurse the baby? The baby's mother! The princess even paid the baby's mother to care for him!

The baby was brought to Pharaoh's daughter when he was old enough. She named him Moses, which means "drawn out," because she drew him out of the river. He was taught by the best teachers in Egypt as he grew. He learned to be a great leader.

Moses Flees to Midian

discovered. So the baby's mother made a basket out of bulrushes and waterproofed it with asphalt and pitch.

The baby was put in the basket and placed at the edge of the river. The baby's sister stayed close by to see what would happen to him. Before long, Pharaoh's daughter, a princess, came to the river to bathe. She saw the basket and asked that it be brought to her. She was full of compassion when she found a crying baby inside. The baby's sister offered to find a woman to nurse

The Egyptians' harsh treatment of Moses' brethren greatly upset him. One day, he saw an Egyptian beating an Israelite. When he thought no one was looking, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. Pharaoh heard about what Moses did and wanted to kill him. So Moses fled to a land called Midian.

While Moses was in Midian, he met seven sisters at a well. He helped them get water for their father's animals. Their father, Reuel (or Jethro), asked that Moses be

brought to him. Reuel gave Zipporah, his daughter, to be Moses' wife. She later gave birth to two sons.

The Burning Bush

Many years later, the Egyptians continued to treat the Israelites harshly, so they cried out to God for help. God heard the Israelites and remembered His promises to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

One day, Moses was leading Jethro's flocks. He saw a bush that was on fire, but it was not burning up!

A voice from the bush said, "Moses, Moses!"

Moses said, "Here I am."

"Do not come any closer," the voice said. "Take off your sandals because the ground is holy." God was speaking to Moses!

God told Moses to return to Pharaoh and ask him to let the Israelites leave Egypt. Moses

could not understand why God wanted *him* to do such an important job. He was also worried that

nobody would believe that God had really appeared to him.

God told Moses to throw his shepherd's rod on the ground. Moses was surprised to see it turn into a snake! When Moses grabbed the snake by the tail, it became a rod again.

Next, God told Moses to put his hand in his jacket. Moses did as God said, and his hand turned white with leprosy! When he put his hand back in his jacket, the leprosy disappeared.

Moses still did not want to go to Egypt after seeing God's power. He told God that he was not a good speaker. God became angry. He said that Aaron, Moses' brother, would speak for him.

We should always believe what God says. Sometimes, it may seem as though what God requires is



impossible to believe or do. However, with God, “all things are possible” (Matthew 19:26).

Moses obeyed God and returned to Egypt with his family. The Israelite leaders believed the words and powerful signs from God.

Moses and Aaron Speak With Pharaoh

Moses and Aaron came before Pharaoh. They told Pharaoh to let the people of Israel go into the desert to worship God. Pharaoh became angry. He said that he would not do such a thing. Pharaoh did not fear the true God.

Pharaoh told the taskmasters to make the Israelites work even harder! The Egyptians were to no longer give the Israelites straw to make the bricks. The Israelites still had to make as many bricks as before, even though they now had to find the straw themselves!

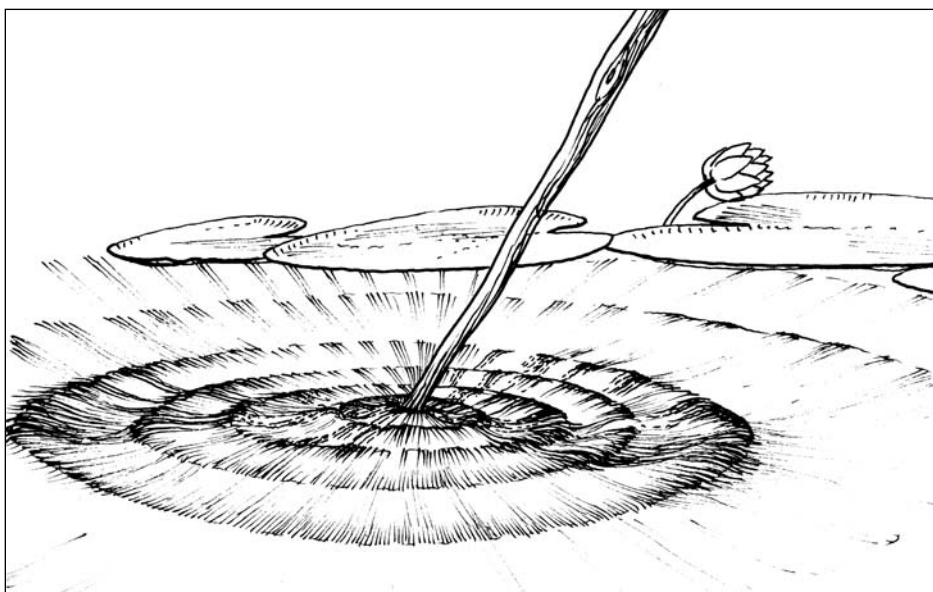
The Israelites were not able to make as

many bricks. So the taskmasters beat them. This caused the Israelites to become upset with Moses.

Moses brought his troubles before God. God reassured Moses that He would rescue the Israelites from slavery in Egypt.

When Moses and Aaron came before Pharaoh again, he asked them to prove that they were sent by God. Aaron threw down his rod before Pharaoh. It became a snake. Pharaoh called for his magicians. Their rods also became snakes. But to the Egyptians’ surprise, the snake that came from Aaron’s rod ate the magicians’ snakes!

Pharaoh became angry and would not let the Israelites leave Egypt.





First Plague: Blood

The next morning, God sent Moses and Aaron to Pharaoh again. While Pharaoh was bathing in the Nile River, Aaron put his rod in the water, and the entire river became blood! However, Pharaoh's magicians also turned water into blood. So he still would not let the Israelites leave Egypt.

For seven days, the Egyptians had to dig around the river for fresh

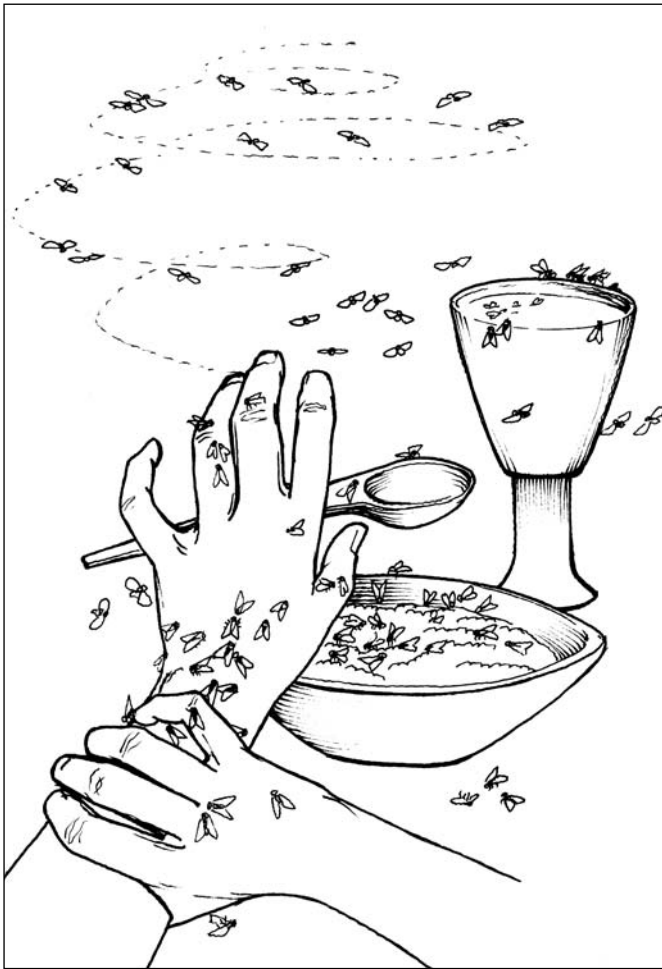
water. The fish in the river died, and the river stank.

Second Plague: Frogs

God sent Moses and Aaron to Pharaoh again, but Pharaoh refused to let the Israelites go into the desert. So, God caused frogs to come out of the waters of Egypt and cover the land. The Egyptians found frogs in their beds, ovens and bowls!

Pharaoh told Moses and Aaron that he would let the Israelites go if God took away the frogs. So the next day, God caused the frogs to die. Egypt stank from the huge piles of dead frogs.





However, once life became easier again, Pharaoh forgot about the bad times. So he refused to let the Israelites leave Egypt.

Third Plague: Lice

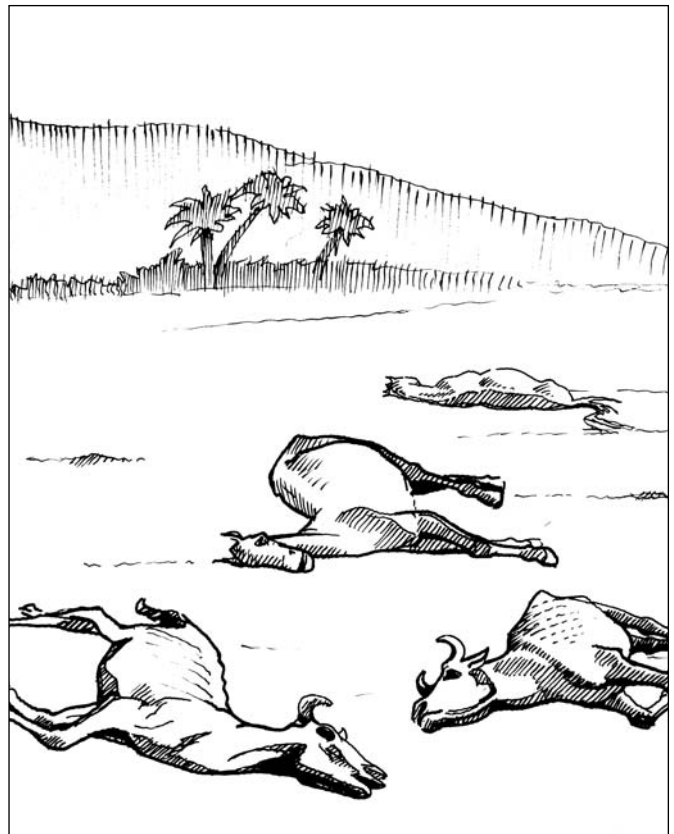
God then had Aaron hit the dust of the ground with his rod, and it became lice. The lice bit and sucked blood from the Egyptians and their animals. Pharaoh's magicians knew the lice had come from God because they were not able to make lice

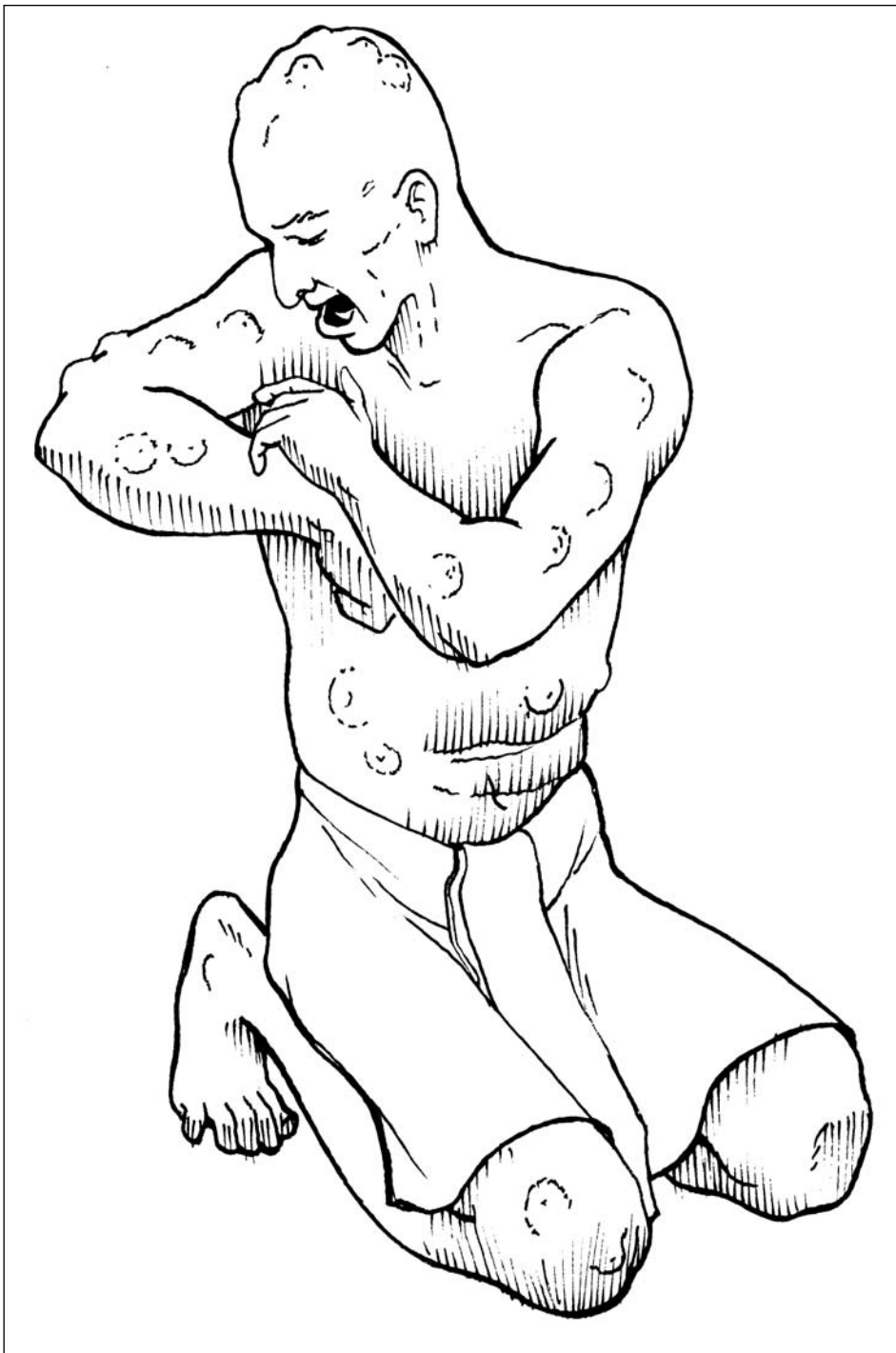
appear. Pharaoh continued to be stubborn.

Are there ever times when you act stubborn? Do you sometimes refuse to learn from your parents when they discipline you?

Fourth Plague: Flies

God instructed Moses and Aaron to appear before Pharaoh again. Aaron told Pharaoh that if he did not let the Israelites go, God would send swarms of biting flies upon the Egyptians, but not upon the Israelites.





three-days' journey into the desert. Pharaoh agreed. So Moses asked God to remove the flies. After the flies died, Pharaoh changed his mind again.

Fifth Plague: Farm Animals Die

God sent Moses and Aaron to warn Pharaoh of another plague. The next day, the Egyptians' cattle, horses, donkeys, camels, oxen and sheep died. But not one of the Israelites' farm animals died.

Pharaoh still would not let the Israelites go.

Sure enough, Pharaoh refused. Thick swarms of flies came into the Egyptians' homes. Pharaoh told Moses and Aaron that the Israelites could sacrifice in Egypt. But Moses said that they must travel a

Sixth Plague: Boils

God told Moses and Aaron to come before Pharaoh again and scatter ashes toward the sky. The ashes



became fine dust and spread throughout Egypt. Painful sores broke out on the Egyptians and their animals when the ashes touched their skin.

Pharaoh still would not listen to Moses and Aaron.

Seventh Plague: Hail

God sent Moses and Aaron to Pharaoh to warn him of yet another plague. The next day, there was

lightening and thunder. Large hail fell from the sky. The hail hit the Egyptians and their animals, plants and trees. There was no hail in the land of Goshen, where the Israelites lived. God protected His people from this plague.

Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron. He admitted that he was wrong in not letting the Israelites go. God caused the hail to stop. But then, just like before, Pharaoh changed his mind!



Eighth Plague: Locusts

Moses and Aaron warned Pharaoh of another plague that was to strike Egypt.

The next day, wind from the east brought many locusts. The Egyptians could not see the ground! The locusts ate all the leaves and plants.

Pharaoh asked Moses and Aaron to ask God to take away the locusts. God caused a powerful wind from the west to blow every single locust into the Red Sea. Pharaoh changed his mind yet again!

Ninth Plague: Darkness

God told Moses to stretch his hand toward the sky. Moses obeyed God. There was complete darkness throughout Egypt for three days. The Egyptians could not see each other, and they stayed in their homes. But the Israelites had light where they lived.

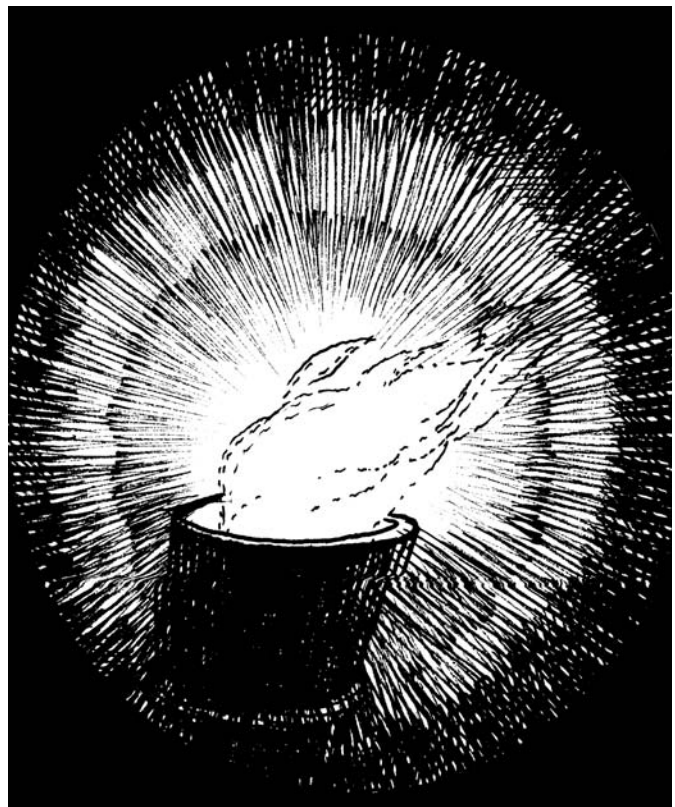
Pharaoh called for Moses again. He told him that the Israelites could leave Egypt to serve God if they left their animals behind. Moses told

Pharaoh that they had to take all of their animals.

Pharaoh became angry. He would not let the Israelites go. Pharaoh told Moses that he would be killed if Pharaoh ever saw him again. Moses replied that Pharaoh would never again see his face.

God told Moses that there would be one more plague. Afterward, Pharaoh would be eager to let the Israelites go.

In the next lesson, we will learn about the death of the Egyptians' firstborns, the tenth and final plague and the Israelites' journey out of Egypt.



BIBLE MEMORY: Exodus 8:1

WORD SEARCH

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**BOILS
BLOOD
HAIL
LICE
FLIES
FROGS
LOCUSTS
DARKNESS
CATTLE DIE
DEATH
EGYPT
MOSES
AARON
PHAROAH**