

Exodus 7:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thus saith the LORD, In this thou shalt know that I am the LORD: behold, I will smite with the rod that is in mine hand upon the waters which are in the river, and they shall be turned to blood.

Analysis

Verse 17 in the first plague narrative describes the Nile turning to blood. This targets Hapi, Egyptian god of the Nile, demonstrating YHWH's supremacy over Egypt's life source. The water that sustains Egypt becomes death, reversing the blessing.

Historical Context

The Nile was Egypt's lifeline, worshipped as divine. Hapi's annual flood determined Egypt's prosperity. The plague striking Egypt's water supply while Goshen remained unaffected (8:22-23) demonstrates selective judgment.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does this plague reveal God's sovereignty over creation and false gods?

2. What modern 'life sources' do people trust instead of God?

Interlinear Text

כִּי	תִּדְעֶ	בָּזֶה	יְהִי הָ	אָמֵר	כָּה
H3581	In this thou shalt know	H2063	that I am the LORD	H3541	Thus saith
H4294	with the rod	H595	behold I will smite	H589	that I am the LORD
H2975	which are in the river	H4325	upon the waters	H834	that is in mine hand
H1818	to blood	H5921	upon	H834	which
H2015	and they shall be turned	H3027	hand	H834	are
לְדָם:	לְנַהֲפֵךְ	בַּידִים	עַל	אֲשֶׁר	בְּרִאָה
and they shall be turned	to blood	in mine hand	upon	which	which are in the river
H1818	H5921	H3027	H4325	H834	H2975
H834	which	H834	upon	H834	which
H2975	which are in the river	H4325	waters	H834	are
H1818	to blood	H5921	hand	H834	which
H2015	and they shall be turned	H3027	in mine hand	H834	are
לְנַהֲפֵךְ	לְדָם:	בַּידִים	עַל	אֲשֶׁר	בְּרִאָה
to blood	and they shall be turned	in mine hand	upon	which	which are in the river
H1818	H2015	H3027	H4325	H834	H2975

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 4:9 (Blood): And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe also these two signs, neither hearken unto thy voice, that thou shalt take of the water of the river, and pour it upon the dry land: and the water which thou takest out of the river shall become blood upon the dry land.

Exodus 7:5 (References Lord): And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch forth mine hand upon Egypt, and bring out the children of Israel from among them.

Exodus 5:2 (References Lord): And Pharaoh said, Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go.

Psalms 9:16 (References Lord): The LORD is known by the judgment which he executeth; the wicked is snared in the work of his own hands. Higgaion. Selah.

Ezekiel 38:23 (References Lord): Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I am the LORD.

Ezekiel 39:28 (References Lord): Then shall they know that I am the LORD their God, which caused them to be led into captivity among the heathen: but I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them any more there.

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