

# Exodus 7:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Moses and Aaron did so, as the LORD commanded; and he lifted up the rod, and smote the waters that were in the river, in the sight of Pharaoh, and in the sight of his servants; and all the waters that were in the river were turned to blood.

## Analysis

---

Verse 20 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

---

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## 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

---

וַעֲשׂוּ <b>did</b> H6213	כֵּן H3651	וַאֲהֵרֹן <b>And Moses</b> H4872	וַאֲהֵרֹן <b>and Aaron</b> H175	בְּאֶשׁ רֹא H834	צִוָּה <b>commanded</b> H6680	יְהוָה <b>so as the LORD</b> H3068
וַיִּלָּחֶם <b>and he lifted up</b> H7311	בַּמֶּטֶה <b>the rod</b> H4294	וַיִּךְ <b>and smote</b> H5221	אֶת H853	הַמַּיִם <b>and all the waters</b> H4325	אֶשׁ רֹא H834	
בְּיַד רֹא <b>that were in the river</b> H2975	וּלְעֵינַי י <b>and in the sight</b> H5869	פַּרְעֹה <b>of Pharaoh</b> H6547	וּלְעֵינַי י <b>and in the sight</b> H5869	עֲבָדָיו <b>of his servants</b> H5650		
וַהֲפֹכֻ ו <b>were turned</b> H2015	כָּל H3605	הַמַּיִם <b>and all the waters</b> H4325	אֶשֶׁר H834	בְּיַד רֹא <b>that were in the river</b> H2975	לְדָם: <b>to blood</b> H1818	

### Additional Cross-References

---

**Psalms 105:29** (Blood): He turned their waters into blood, and slew their fish.

**Psalms 78:44** (Blood): And had turned their rivers into blood; and their floods, that they could not drink.