

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

יְהִי הָרָא	צִוָּה הַ	כִּאָשֶׁר	רְאֵה וְאַפָּרֶךְ	מִשְׁתַּחַת הַ	כִּי	יְנַשֵּׁה	did
H3068	H6680	H834	H175	H4872	H3651	H6213	And Moses
אֲשֶׁר רַ	פְּנֵם יָמָם	אֶת	וְיָמָם	בְּמִטְהָה	וְאֶת	יְרֵם	and he lifted up
H834	H4325	H853	H5221	H4294	H7311	H2975	the rod
עֲבָדָיו יְ	וְלֹעֲגִינִּים	פְּרָעָה	וְבֵיאָה	וְלֹעֲגִינִּים	פְּרָעָה	בֵּיאָה	that were in the river
H5650	H5869	H6547	H2975	H5869	H6547	H2975	and in the sight
לְדִםָּה	בֵּיאָה רְ	אֲשֶׁר	פְּנֵם יָמָם	כָּל	וְתַפְגַּכְתָּ	וְתַפְגַּכְתָּ	were turned
H1818	H2975	H834	H4325	H3605	H2015	H2015	and all the waters

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.

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