

Exodus 8:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then the magicians said unto Pharaoh, This is the finger of God: and Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had said.

Analysis

Verse 19 introduces the plague of lice or gnats (קַנְנִים, kinnim), targeting Geb, earth god. Aaron struck the dust of the earth, and it became lice throughout Egypt. This plague attacks Egypt's very ground, showing YHWH's power over the earth itself.

Historical Context

Geb was Egyptian god of the earth, portrayed lying beneath sky goddess Nut. The magicians could not replicate this plague, admitting 'This is the finger of God' (v.19)—recognizing power beyond human manipulation.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. What does the magicians' failure teach about the limits of human power?
2. How does this plague demonstrate God's authority over creation?

Interlinear Text

יֹאמֶר	1	קָחָרְתֶּם	מִן	אֶל	פְּרָעָה	עַ	אַצְּבָע	וְ	יְהֹוָה	יְמִ	אֲלֹהִים
said		Then the magicians		H413	and Pharaoh's		This is the finger		of God		
H559		H2748			H6547		H676		H430		
וְ	אָ	לְבָדֵד	לְבָדֵד	לְבָדֵד	לְבָדֵד	לְבָדֵד	לְבָדֵד	לְבָדֵד	לְבָדֵד	לְבָדֵד	לְבָדֵד
H1931		was hardened	heart	and Pharaoh's	H3808	and he hearkened		H8085		H413	
		H2388	H3820	H6547							
רְ	אָ	לְבָדֵד	לְבָדֵד	לְבָדֵד	לְבָדֵד	לְבָדֵד	לְבָדֵד	לְבָדֵד	לְבָדֵד	לְבָדֵד	לְבָדֵד
H834		had said	not unto them as the LORD		H3068						
		H1696									

Additional Cross-References

Luke 11:20 (References God): But if I with the finger of God cast out devils, no doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you.

Psalms 8:3 (Parallel theme): When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;

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.

Matthew 12:28 (References God): But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.