

Exodus 9:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the magicians could not stand before Moses because of the boils; for the boil was upon the magicians, and upon all the Egyptians.

Analysis

Verse 11 introduces the plague of boils (שֶׁחִין, shechin—inflamed sores), targeting Sekhmet (goddess of healing) and Imhotep (god of medicine). The magicians themselves are afflicted and cannot stand before Moses. This plague physically marks Egypt's defeat.

Historical Context

Sekhmet was lioness goddess who both caused and healed disease. Imhotep, deified architect, became god of healing. Their inability to prevent or cure boils demonstrates YHWH's supremacy over health and disease.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. What does the magicians' personal affliction teach about false religion's impotence?
2. How does physical suffering sometimes reveal spiritual realities?

Interlinear Text

מִפְּנֵי י מֹשֶׁה ה מִפְּנֵי י לֹא עָמַד ד בְּחֶרְטֻמֹּם ׀ יָכַל ו וְלֹא
H3808 could And the magicians not stand because Moses because
H3201 H2748 H5975 H6440 H4872 H6440

וּבְכָל בְּחֶרְטֻמֹּם ׀ הִשָּׁח ין הִי ה ׀ הִשָּׁח ין
for the boil H3588 H1961 for the boil And the magicians H3605
H7822 H7822 H2748

מִצְרָיִם:
and upon all the Egyptians
H4714