

Exodus 9:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD said unto Moses and unto Aaron, Take to you handfuls of ashes of the furnace, and let Moses sprinkle it toward the heaven in the sight of Pharaoh.

Analysis

Verse 8 introduces the plague of boils (שִׁחִין, 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

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

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

וַיֹּאמֶר	יְהוָה	אֵל	מֹשֶׁה	וְאֵל	אַהֲרֹן	קַח
said	And the LORD	H413	and let Moses	H413	and unto Aaron	Take
H559	H3068		H4872		H175	H3947
לָכֶם	מָלֵא	חֲפִינֶיךָ	פֶּי יָם	כֶּבֶשׂ	וַיִּזְרֹק	מֹשֶׁה
H0	H4393	to you handfuls	of ashes	of the furnace	sprinkle	and let Moses
		H2651	H6368	H3536	H2236	H4872
הַשָּׁמַיִם	לְעֵינַי	פַּרְעֹה:				
it toward the heaven	in the sight	of Pharaoh				
H8064	H5869	H6547				

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 8:16 (References Lord): And the LORD said unto Moses, Say unto Aaron, Stretch out thy rod, and smite the dust of the land, that it may become lice throughout all the land of Egypt.
