

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 (שְׁחִנָּה, shechin—infamed 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

לֹא תְאַתֵּר יְהוָה אֶל מֵשֶׁה אֶל אֶת־אַחֲרֵינוּ
said And the LORD and let Moses and unto Aaron Take
H559 H3068 H413 H4872 H175 H3947

מֵל אֶל־לְכָם חַפְנִיכֶם כִּי־יְמִינְךָ מֵבָשׂ וְזַכְקָה
H0 H4393 H2651 to you handfuls of ashes of the furnace sprinkle and let Moses
H6368 H3536 H2236 H4872

בְּשֵׁם יְמָה לְעֵינֵי פְּרָעָה:
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.

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