

# Psalms 78:45

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He sent divers sorts of flies among them, which devoured them; and frogs, which destroyed them.

## Analysis

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**He sent divers sorts of flies among them, which devoured them; and frogs, which destroyed them.** ‘Ārōḥ (עָרֹךְ, "divers sorts of flies") literally means "swarm" or "mixture"—possibly various biting insects. Šāḥat (שָׁחַת, "destroyed") means to ruin or corrupt. These creatures invaded homes, covered people, made life unbearable—divine invasion of personal space.

The frogs (šəpardē’îm, שְׂפָרְדֵּיִם) came from the Nile (Exodus 8:3), entering bedrooms, ovens, kneading bowls—total infiltration. Heqet, the Egyptian frog-goddess of fertility, was multiplied to plague proportions. What they worshiped became their torment, illustrating that idols eventually destroy their worshipers.

God's use of common creatures—flies and frogs—demonstrates His sovereignty over all creation. He needs no exotic instruments; ordinary creatures obey Him while Pharaoh's heart remains hardened. This anticipates Jesus' teaching that God's care extends even to sparrows (Matthew 10:29).

## Historical Context

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Frogs were sacred in Egyptian religion, associated with fertility and resurrection. Killing them was forbidden. God forced Egyptians to live with millions of rotting frogs (Exodus 8:14), creating a stench that permeated everything—another assault on Egypt's religious sensibilities.

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. What "small things" is God sovereign over that you tend to think beneath His notice?
2. How can what you value or even worship become a source of destruction when not submitted to God?
3. Why does God often use ordinary means rather than spectacular miracles to accomplish His purposes?

## Interlinear Text

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ה	בְּהֵם	עַרְבֵי	וַיֹּאכְלֵם	וַיִּפְרְדֵּם
He sent	H0	divers sorts of flies	among them which devoured	them and frogs
H7971		H6157	H398	H6854

  

וַיִּשְׁחִיתֵם:
which destroyed
H7843