

Seeing what you want to see or what you need to see

Hindsight offers what present sight doesn't

God provides foresight to live right

Will we find our meaning in God's purpose

Or try to force our self-defined purpose

so that we can think our life has meaning

Why Me?

Exodus 5:3-5; 8-9

“The God of the Hebrews has met with us. Now let us take a three-day journey into the wilderness to offer sacrifices to the Lord our God, or he may strike us with plagues or with the sword.”

⁴ But the king of Egypt said, “Moses and Aaron, why are you taking the people away from their labor? Get back to your work!” ⁵ Then Pharaoh said, “Look, the people of the land are now numerous, and you are stopping them from working.”

They are lazy; that is why they are crying out, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to our God.’ ⁹ Make the work harder for the people so that they keep working and pay no attention to lies.”

If It Weren't For You !!

Exodus 5:19-23

The Israelite overseers realized they were in trouble when they were told, “You are not to reduce the number of bricks required of you for each day.”²⁰ When they left Pharaoh, they found Moses and Aaron waiting to meet them,²¹ and they said, “May the Lord look on you and judge you! You have made us obnoxious to Pharaoh and his officials and have put a sword in their hand to kill us.”

²² Moses returned to the Lord and said, “Why, Lord, why have you brought trouble on this people? Is this why you sent me?²³ Ever since I went to Pharaoh to speak in your name, he has brought trouble on this people, and you have not rescued your people at all.”

I Am, I Will, Will You

Exodus 6:6-9

‘I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment. ⁷ I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God, who brought you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. ⁸ And I will bring you to the land I swore with uplifted hand to give to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob. I will give it to you as a possession. I am the Lord.’”

⁹ Moses reported this to the Israelites, but they did not listen to him because of their discouragement and harsh labor.

“Those who have a 'why' to live, can bear with almost any 'how'.”

Viktor Frankl

The Issue Is Our Focus

Personal Gratification

VS

Personal Meaning

“Miracles are only signs for people who are ready to see them.

It is possible for a miracle not to be a sign.”

Randy Harris

1

WATER TURNED TO BLOOD



2

PLAGUE OF FROGS



3

PLAGUE OF LICE



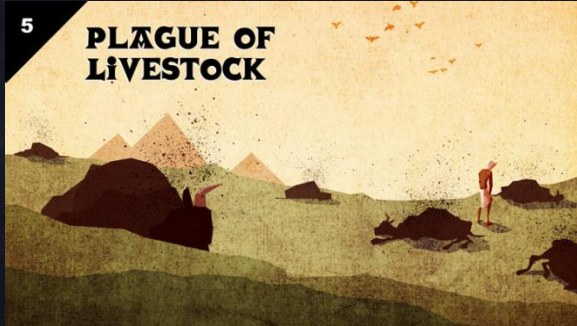
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PLAGUE OF FLIES



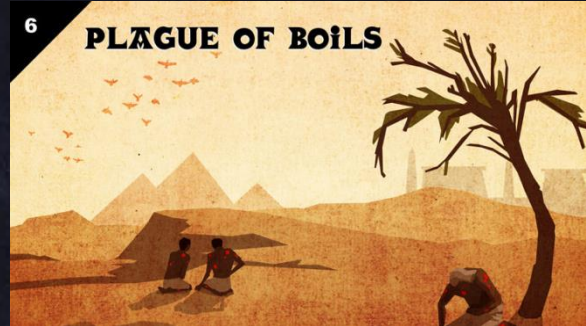
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PLAGUE OF LIVESTOCK



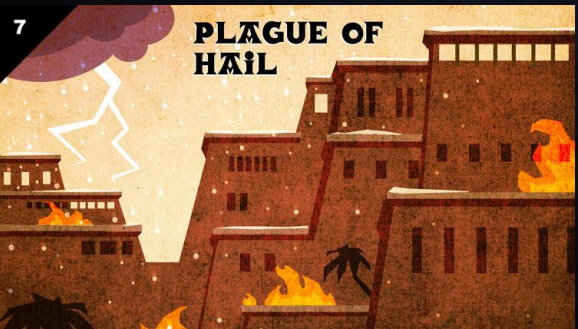
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PLAGUE OF BOILS



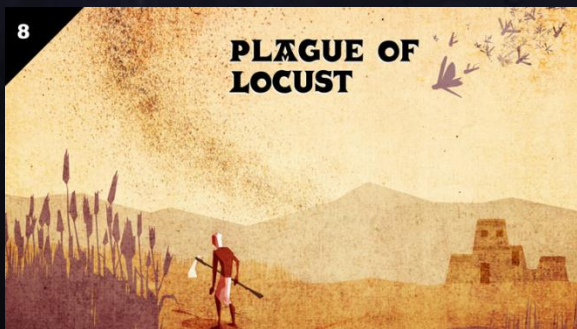
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PLAGUE OF HAIL



8

PLAGUE OF LOCUST



9

PLAGUE OF DARKNESS



We can easily be like Pharaoh
Relief Returns to Resistance

Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Why does it have to be accomplished this way?

John 2:18

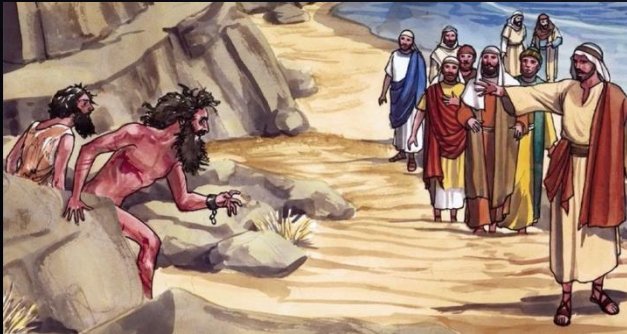
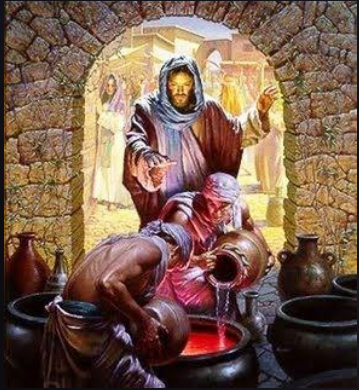
The Jews then responded to him, “What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?”

John 3:1-2

Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ² He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

John 3:19-21

¹⁹ This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. ²¹ But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.



John 10:19-21

There was again a division among the Jews because of these words. ²⁰ Many of them said, “He has a demon, and is insane; why listen to him?” ²¹ Others said, “These are not the words of one who is oppressed by a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?”

Our Why

“I will be their God,
and they will be my people.”

Jeremiah 31:33, 32:38; Ezekiel 11:20, 14:11, 37:23, 27; 1 Corinthians 6:16; Hebrews 8:10

Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.