



2. Frogs (Exodus 7:25-29, 8:1-11)

The Egyptian goddess Heka (the toad goddess and the goddess of resurrection and procreative power)

Frogs were sacred to the Egyptians, and killing one was punishable by death. So this plague is like God saying, "You like frogs, I'll give you frogs!" You could not even walk around without stepping on one. The only way to get rid of them was to kill them, which God did, thus shaming Heka.

3. Gnats (Exodus 8:12-15)

The Egyptian god Geb (the god of the earth or vegetation)

This was the first plague that Pharaoh's magicians could not replicate with their powers. Pharaoh's heart, though, remained hardened. The gnats came out of the ground, out of the dust, thus placing blame on Geb.

4. Flies (Exodus 8:16-28)

The Egyptian god Khephi (the god of insects)

The insects were out of control during this plague, and Khephi could not stop them. The Egyptians thought their god had been defeated or was dead.

5. Livestock (Exodus 9:1-7)

The Egyptian god Apis or Menvis (the bull god) and Hathor (the cow goddess)

The Egyptians worshiped many animals, but especially the ram, the ox, and the bull. The soul of their god Osiris was said to reside in the body of the bull. The death of these animals was seen as a defeat of these Egyptian gods.

6. Boils (Exodus 9:8-12)

The Egyptian god Thoth (the god of medicine, intelligence, and wisdom)

The Egyptians had several medical gods, and they sacrificed humans to these gods by burning them alive on a high altar and scattering their ashes into the air. It was believed that with every scattered ash, a blessing would descend upon the people. So Moses took ashes from the furnace and scattered them into air, but anyone the ashes touched broke out in boils.

7. Hail (Exodus 9:13-35)

The Egyptian god Nut (the sky goddess) and Seth (the protector of crops)

The hail attacked the fields during the time of harvest, destroying all the crops. Nut was blamed for the hail, and Seth was shown to be unable to protect the crops.

8. Locusts (Exodus 10:1-20)

The Egyptian god Anubis (the god of the fields) and Isis (the protector against locusts)

Whatever was not destroyed by the hail was finished off by the locusts. Locusts were so feared by the Egyptians that they actually had a god, Isis, to protect them from these vile insects. Isis was shamed, and Anubis was overcome by the plague of the locusts.