

THE PLAGUES OF EGYPT

August 3, 1913

Psalm 105 : 23-36—Memory Verses, 26, 27.

Golden Text—Whosoever shall exalt himself shall be humbled ; and whosoever shall humble himself shall be exalted.—Matthew 23 : 12.



- 23 Is'rael also came into E'gypt ; and Ja'cob sojourned in the land of Ham.
 24 And he increased his people greatly ; and made them stronger than their enemies.
 25 He turned their heart to hate his people, to deal subtilly with his servants.
 26 He sent Mo'ses his servant ; and Aa'ron whom he had chosen.
 27 They shewed his signs among them, and wonders in the land of Ham.
 28 He sent darkness, and made it dark ; and they rebelled not against his word.
 29 He turned their waters into blood, and slew their fish.
 30 Their land brought forth frogs in abundance, in the chambers of their kings.
 31 He spake, and there came divers sorts of flies, and lice in all their coasts.
 32 He gave them hail for rain, and flaming fire in their land.
 33 He smote their vines also and their fig trees ; and brake the trees of their coasts.
 34 He spake, and the locusts came, and caterpillars, and that without number,
 35 And did eat up all the herbs in their land, and devoured the fruit of their ground.
 36 He smote also all the firstborn in their land, the chief of all their strength.

THE LESSON RETOLD

When, in spite of God's message, Pharaoh would not let the children of Israel go, God sent upon the Egyptians ten dreadful plagues, one after the other, to show them that He was stronger than Pharaoh and was able to make him do whatever He commanded. The first plague happened when God told Aaron to strike the waters of the river with his rod, and immediately the river and all the streams and wells in the land were turned into blood. For seven days this lasted and although the people were dying of thirst, Pharaoh would not let the Israelites go. So again Aaron stretched out his rod over the waters of Egypt and frogs by hundreds and thousands came and covered the land. They went into people's houses, they got into their food, and their beds, even into Pharaoh's palace and his bed. This so troubled the king that at last he called for Moses and Aaron and asked them to pray to God to take the frogs away, and he would let the children of Israel go. So Moses prayed to the Lord and all the frogs that

were in the land died. But when Pharaoh saw that they were gone, he was sorry for his promise and would not let the people go.

A plague of small stinging insects followed this, then a plague of flies, and again Pharaoh called Moses and Aaron to him and begged them to pray to God once more to take away the flies and he would let Israel go and sacrifice to Him in the wilderness. Moses promised to do this, but he warned Pharaoh not to deceive them any more. However, on the morrow when God answered Moses' prayer and took away the flies so that not one was left, Pharaoh did as he had done before and refused to keep his promise.

Then God told Moses to warn Pharaoh of yet another plague that would come upon Egypt. The next day he would send a sickness upon the cattle that would destroy them all except the cattle that belonged to the children of Israel, for God sent none of these plagues upon His own people. Pharaoh would not listen to Moses, however, so next day the Lord sent the sickness and most of