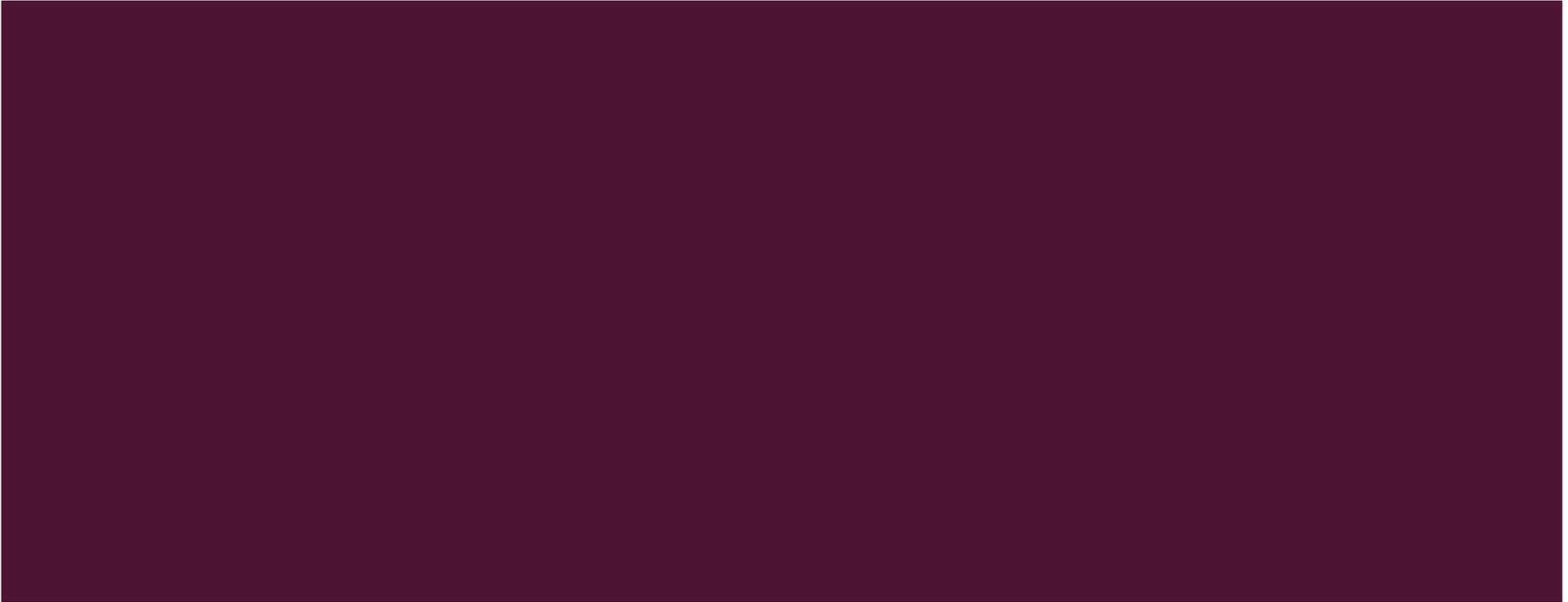


# VA'ERA

“AND I APPEARED”

EXODUS 6:2 – 9:35



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# VA'ERA

“AND I APPEARED”

EXODUS 6:2 – 9:35

MAGIC, SIGNS  
& WONDERS

## EXODUS 6:2-3

וַיְדַבֵּר אֱלֹהִים אֶל-מֹשֶׁה וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו אֲנִי יְהוָה:  
וַאֲרָא אֶל-אַבְרָהָם אֶל-יִצְחָק וְאֶל-יַעֲקֹב בְּאֵל שַׁדַּי  
וּשְׁמִי יְהוָה לֹא נֹדַעְתִּי לָהֶם:

- VaYeDaBer ELoHim El-MoShe VaYoMer ELav ANi YehoVah  
VaERa El-AvRaHam El-YitsKhak VeEl-YaAKov BeEl ShaDai  
USheMi YehoVah Lo NoDaTi LaHem
- 2 God spoke further to Moses and said to him, "I am YeHoVaH;  
3 and I appeared to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, as God Almighty, but  
by My name, YeHoVaH, I did not make Myself known to them.

## EXODUS 7:8-12

- 8 Now YHVH spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, 9 "When Pharaoh speaks to you, saying, 'Work a miracle,' then you shall say to Aaron, 'Take your staff and throw it down before Pharaoh, that it may become a serpent.'" 10 So Moses and Aaron came to Pharaoh, and thus they did just as YHVH had commanded; and Aaron threw his staff down before Pharaoh and his servants, and it became a serpent.

## EXODUS 7:8-12

- 11 Then Pharaoh also called for the **wise men** and the **sorcerers**, and they also, the **magicians** of Egypt, did the same with their **secret arts**. 12 For each one threw down his **staff** and they turned into **serpents**. But Aaron's staff swallowed up their staffs.

# QUESTIONS

- 1. What's really going on here?
- 2. How did Pharaoh's magicians "do the same?"
- 3. How does all of this apply to us?

# WHO WERE THEY?

- Wise men – *Khakahm* – wise, learned, shrewd, cunning, crafty
- Sorcerers – *Kashaf* – sorcerers, witches, enchanters
- Magicians – *Khartom* – diviners, magicians, astrologers, horoscopists, writers of occult knowledge, drawers of magic lines and circles, “soothsayer priests”
- Not necessarily all *male!* 42 goddesses, 50 gods

# STAFFS

- STAFF – *matteh* – staff, branch, shaft, tribe, rod of chastening, from root “to stretch out”
- Staffs represented Authority.



# STAFFS

- The KING's staff  
a scepter — *Shavet* —  
branch, shaft, tribe, rod
- Pharoah's scepters:
  - Shepherd, Ruler
  - Thresher, Power  
Discipline



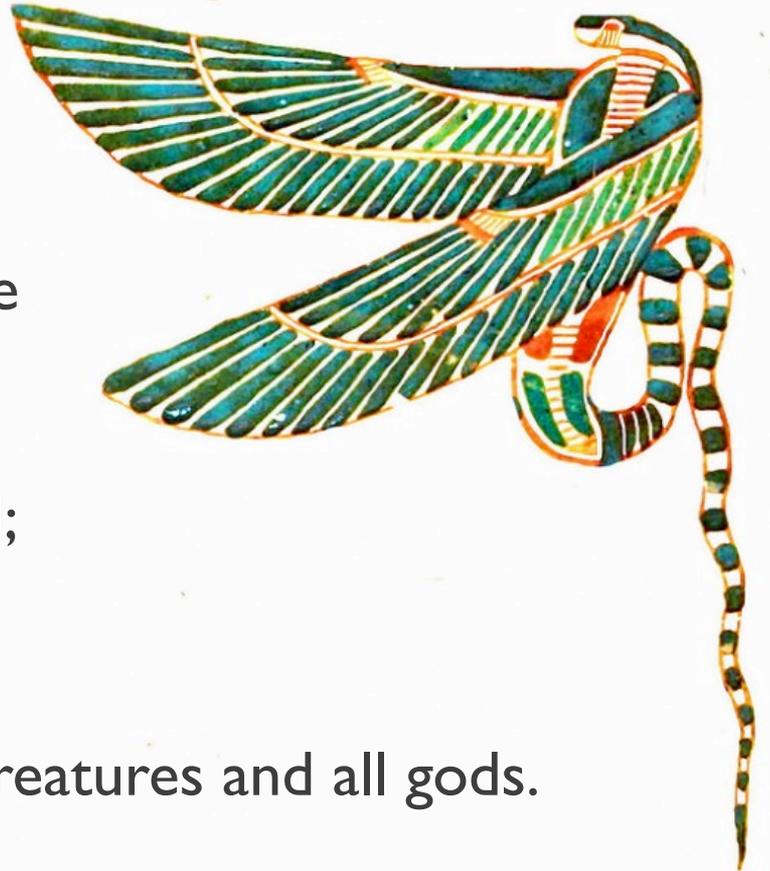
# THE SERPENT

- The serpent was the “god of the gods.” Protector of all Egypt, all gods, and the pharaohs.
- The Egyptian cobra.
- Two “serpents”
  - *Nacash* – snake, fleeing serpent, flying serpent
  - *Tanin* – sea serpent, dragon, dinosaur, whale, 1<sup>st</sup> creature created! (Gen. 1:21)



# GENESIS 1:21

- God created **the great sea monsters** (tanin) and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarmed after their kind, and every winged bird after its kind; and God saw that it was good.
- In Egypt, the serpent was over all creatures and all gods.



# WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

- Symbolism / the spiritual realm / the occult
- Reality / Life & Death
- Exodus 12:12 'For I will go through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike down **all the firstborn** in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against **all the gods** of Egypt I will execute judgments--I am YHVH.

# 10 GODS

**1<sup>st</sup> Plague:** Water to Blood ----- **Khnum** = guardian of the Nile

**2<sup>nd</sup> Plague:** Frogs ----- **Heqt** = goddess of birth

**3<sup>rd</sup> Plague:** Gnats (Sand Flies) ----- **Geb** = great god of the earth

**4<sup>th</sup> Plague:** Swarms of Flies ----- **Amon-Ra** = creator and king of gods

**5<sup>th</sup> Plague:** Livestock Diseased ----- **Hathor** = goddess of the desert

**6<sup>th</sup> Plague:** Boils ----- **Imhotep** = god of medicine

**7<sup>th</sup> Plague:** Hail ----- **Nut** = goddess of the sky

**8<sup>th</sup> Plague:** Locusts ----- **Nepri** = god of grain

**9<sup>th</sup> Plague:** Darkness ----- **Ra** = god of the sun

**10<sup>th</sup> Plague:** Death of the Firstborn son ----- **ALL** the gods of Egypt

# I. BLOOD



## Khnum

“guardian of the Nile”

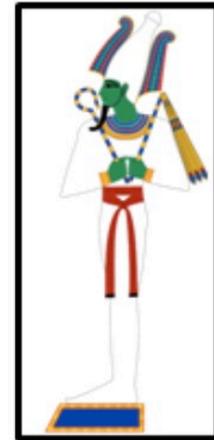
It makes sense that the 1<sup>st</sup> plague was directed at the Nile River. It was Egypt’s lifeline and the center of their religious ideas.



## Osiris

“god of the under world”

The Egyptians believed the Nile was his bloodstream



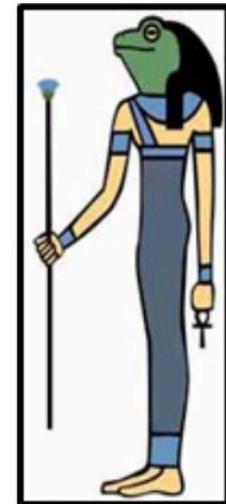
## 2. FROGS



### Heqt

“goddess of birth”

Heqt was believed to be the wife of the creator of the world and protector during child birth. The killing of a frog could have been punished by death.



Consider the fact that the frogs were in Pharaoh’s bedroom and on his bed...the very place where babies are born.

Where was Heqt?

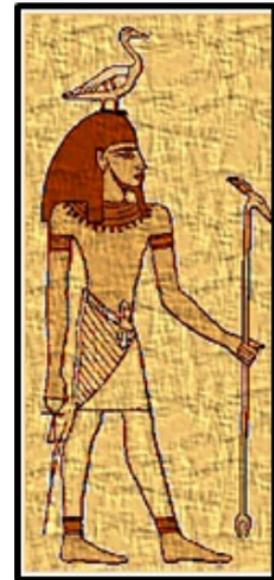
# 3. SAND FLIES



## Geb

“great god of the earth”

The Hebrew word for gnat is commonly translated as “sand flies” and comes from a root word meaning “to dig”. This relates to insects that come from the earth’s soil.



Egyptians made offerings to Geb for his care over the soil. This plague would have been an embarrassment to this god.

Where was Geb?

# 4. FLIES



## Amon-Ra

“creator and king of gods”

Amon-Ra wore the head of a beetle. Ra should have been able to eliminate this plague because of his supposed power over all creation, specifically the sun.

This is the first plague in which God made a distinction between his people and the Egyptians. The swarms stayed away from the land of Goshen where his people lived.

Where was Amon- Ra?



# 5. LIVESTOCK

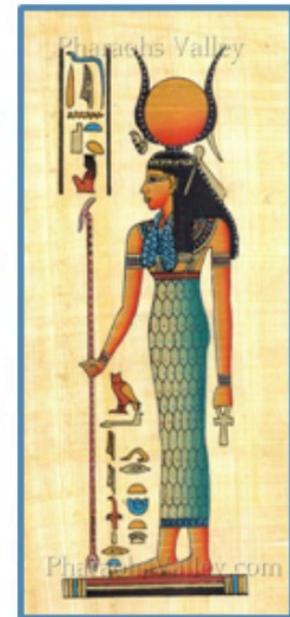


## Hathor

“goddess of the desert”

Hathor was the cow-headed goddess of the desert. She would have been the overseer of the herds that grazed within the desert

Also the symbolic mother of Pharaoh



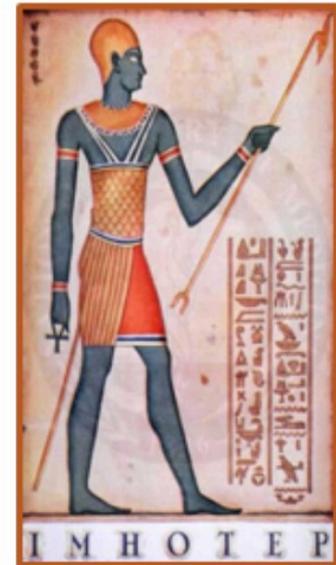
# 6. BOILS



## Imhotep

“god of medicine”

Imhotep was a  
physician,  
architect,  
and  
chief advisor  
to the King.



He was a real person that lived around  
3150 BC and was awarded divine status  
after his death.

Where was Imhotep?

# 7. HAIL



## Nut

“goddess of the sky”



This plague originated from the sky and therefore challenged the “sky goddess”

Where were they?

# 8. LOCUSTS



## Nepri

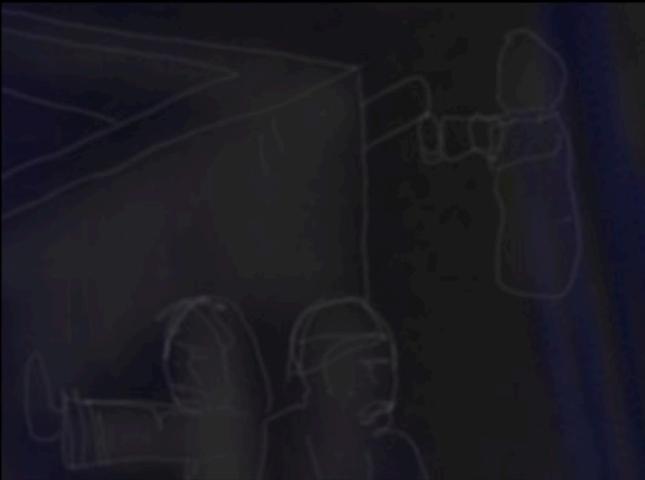
“god of grain”



Locusts could destroy an entire village's food supply in a matter of minutes. Neither Nepri nor any other Egyptian god showed up to fight or protect against YHVH's plague.

Where was Nepri?

# 9. DARKNESS



## Ra

“god of the sun”

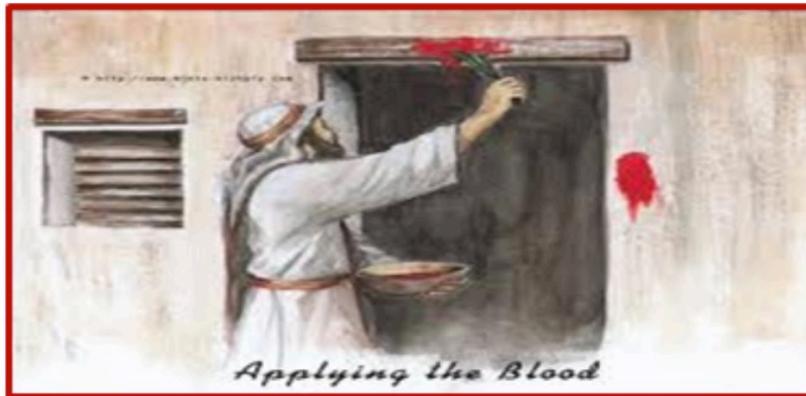
The son god Ra was worshiped as the greatest of the gods and labeled as the supreme deity.

Where was he?

Where were the moon gods?



# 10. FIRSTBORNS

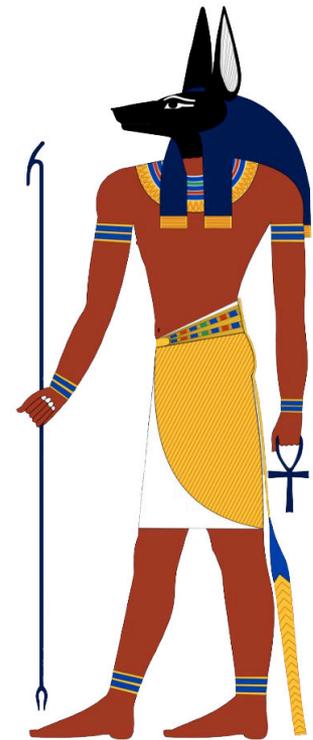


## **Anubi**

god of death,  
embalming,  
eternal  
preservation.  
Dog headed.

Ex. 11:7

But against Israel, a  
dog shall not bark,  
against man or  
beast, so that you  
know that YHVH  
makes a distinction  
between  
Egypt and Israel.



# HOW

- Possibilities:
  - Trickery, illusions
  - Really *did* it, “secret arts”  
occultic powers, ***magic***
    - the power of apparently influencing the course of events by using mysterious or supernatural forces
  - Angels/messengers among them
    - Can do miraculous things, manifesting, etc.
    - *The Serpent*, “The Dragon of Old,” himself?
    - Nephilim, “men of renown?”
  - Powers actually given by YHVH (**miracles**, signs and wonders)

# SIGNS AND WONDERS

- [Deu 13:1-3 NASB] 1 "If a prophet or a dreamer of dreams arises among you and gives you **a sign or a wonder**, 2 and the sign or the wonder comes true, concerning which he spoke to you, saying, 'Let us go after other gods (whom you have not known) and let us serve them,' 3 you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams; for **YHVH** **your God is testing you** to find out if you love YHVH your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

# SIGNS & WONDERS

- [Exo 7:3] 3 "But I will harden Pharaoh's heart that I may multiply **My signs** and **My wonders** in the land of Egypt.
- [Deu 6:22] 22 'Moreover, YHVH showed great and distressing **signs** and **wonders** before our eyes against Egypt, Pharaoh and all his household;

# TO BRING US OUT

- [Deu 7:19] 19 the great trials which your eyes saw and the **signs** and the **wonders** and the mighty hand and the outstretched arm **by which the LORD your God brought you out.** So shall YHVH your God do to all the peoples of whom you are afraid.
- [Deu 26:8] 8 and YHVH **brought us out** of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm and with great terror and **with signs and wonders;**
- Why?

# WHY BRING US OUT?

- [Deu 4:34-35] 34 "Or has a god tried to go to **take for himself a nation from within another nation by trials, by signs and wonders** and by war and by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm and by great terrors, as YHVH your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes? 35 "To you it was shown that you might know that YHVH, He is God; there *is* no other besides Him.
- The gods of Egypt (the world) are *idols* – *false* gods.

# SIGNS & WONDERS = YHVH??

- [Jhn 4:48] 48 So Yeshua said to him, "Unless you people see **signs and wonders**, you simply will not believe." (be faithful)
- [Mat 24:24] 24 "For false messiahs and false prophets will arise and will show **great signs and wonders**, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect.
- [2Th 2:9] 9 that is, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all **power** and **signs** and **false wonders**, ...?

- [2Th 2:7-12] 7 For the mystery of **lawlessness** is already at work; only he who now restrains will do so until he is taken out of the way. 8 Then **that lawless one** will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming; 9 that is, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of **Satan**, with all power and signs and false wonders, 10 and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, **because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved.** 11 For this reason **God** will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false, 12 in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness.

# QUESTIONS

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