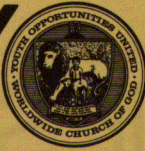


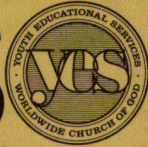
YOUTH



LEVEL 2

BIBLE

LESSONS



LESSON 11



God Sends Plagues Upon Egypt

GOD SENDS PLAGUES UPON EGYPT

Pharaoh, king of Egypt, was angered after Moses and Aaron had left the palace. He gave orders to his taskmasters to make the Israelites work harder than before. Only this time the Israelites had to gather their own straw to make bricks. This made them very unhappy.

After this, God again told Moses and Aaron to go and see Pharaoh. “Now you will see what I will do to Pharaoh,” God said to Moses. “After I have brought many plagues upon Pharaoh and his people, they will let you leave Egypt.”

Moses and Aaron then went to see Pharaoh. This time Pharaoh wanted to see a sign of God’s power. So Aaron threw his rod to the floor and it became a large, wiggling snake. Pharaoh’s **magicians** also threw their rods to the floor and they became snakes. However, Pharaoh and his magicians were surprised when the snake from Aaron’s rod began eating up all the other snakes.

Pharaoh was angered by this and would not let the Israelites leave Egypt.

The next morning, Moses and Aaron went to the river

Parents: Explain the meaning of the **boldface** words.

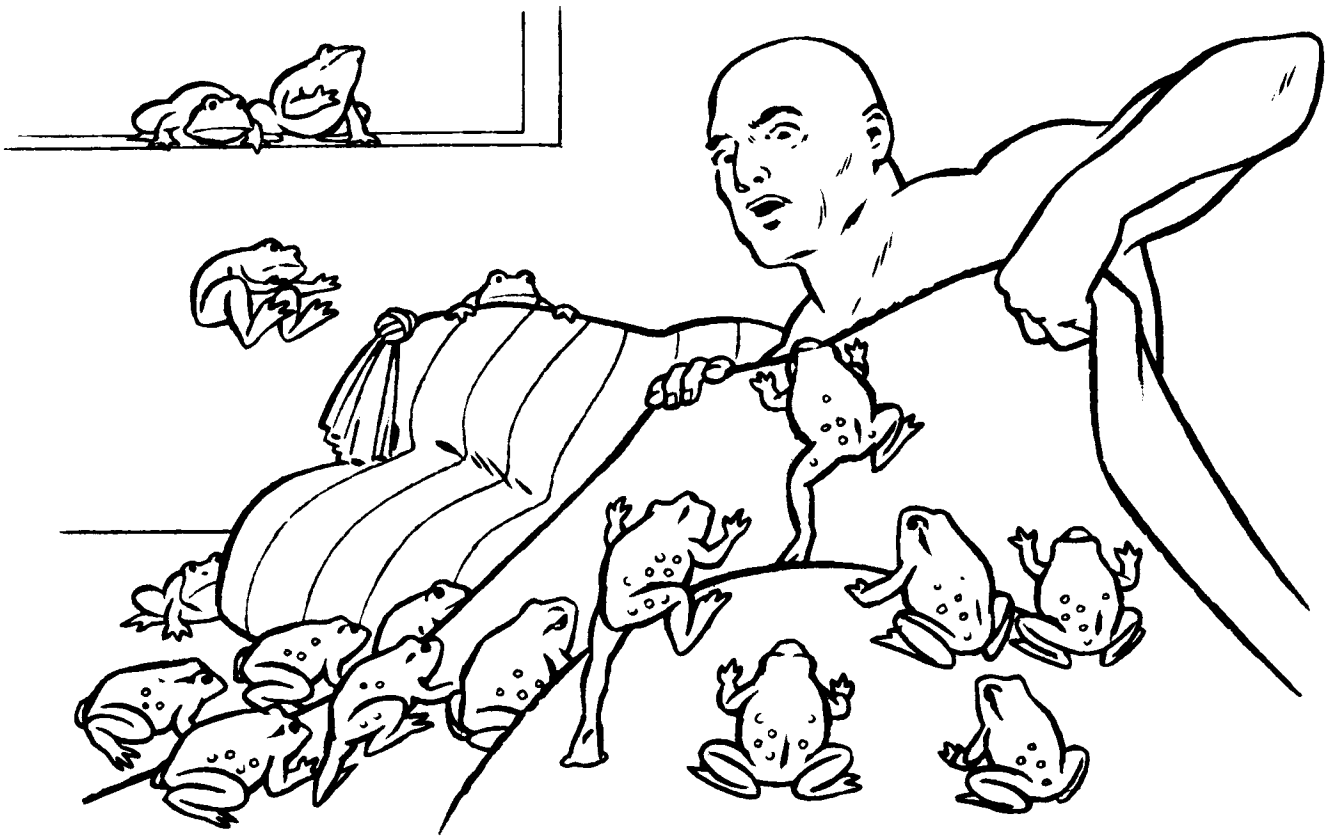


where Pharaoh was taking a bath. God had told Moses and Aaron the night before to again ask Pharaoh to free the Israelites.

“Our God has sent us to ask you to free the Israelites,” they said to Pharaoh. “If you do not, God will turn your waters into blood.”

“I will not free your people!” Pharaoh scoffed at Moses. “Let us see if your God can turn the waters into blood.”

Aaron then raised his rod high above his head and brought it quickly down into the water. Suddenly the water began to change color. It began to turn red. Soon all the water in the rivers, streams and ponds of Egypt became blood.



At the end of seven days, Moses and Aaron went to see Pharaoh. By now the people of Egypt had suffered greatly from the lack of fresh water.

Moses and Aaron asked Pharaoh to free the Israelites. But Pharaoh would not let them go.

Now God sent a plague of frogs from out of the waters of Egypt. Once again Aaron held his rod out over the waters as God had commanded. When he did, **millions** of frogs began coming from the river. They also came from the streams and ponds. They were all over the land of Egypt. Pharaoh was surprised to awake the next morning and find frogs in his bed.

Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron to quickly come to the palace. He asked them to stop the plague of frogs and he would let the Israelites go. But when the plague had ended, Pharaoh would not free the Israelites.



God would now show Pharaoh more of his power. God commanded Moses and Aaron to strike the ground with the rod. “Tell Aaron to strike the ground with his rod,” God said to Moses. “The dust will then become lice all over the land of Egypt.”

When Aaron hit the ground, the dust became lice. Soon, all the Egyptians and their animals were itching from the lice. Still, Pharaoh would not free the Israelites from slavery in Egypt.

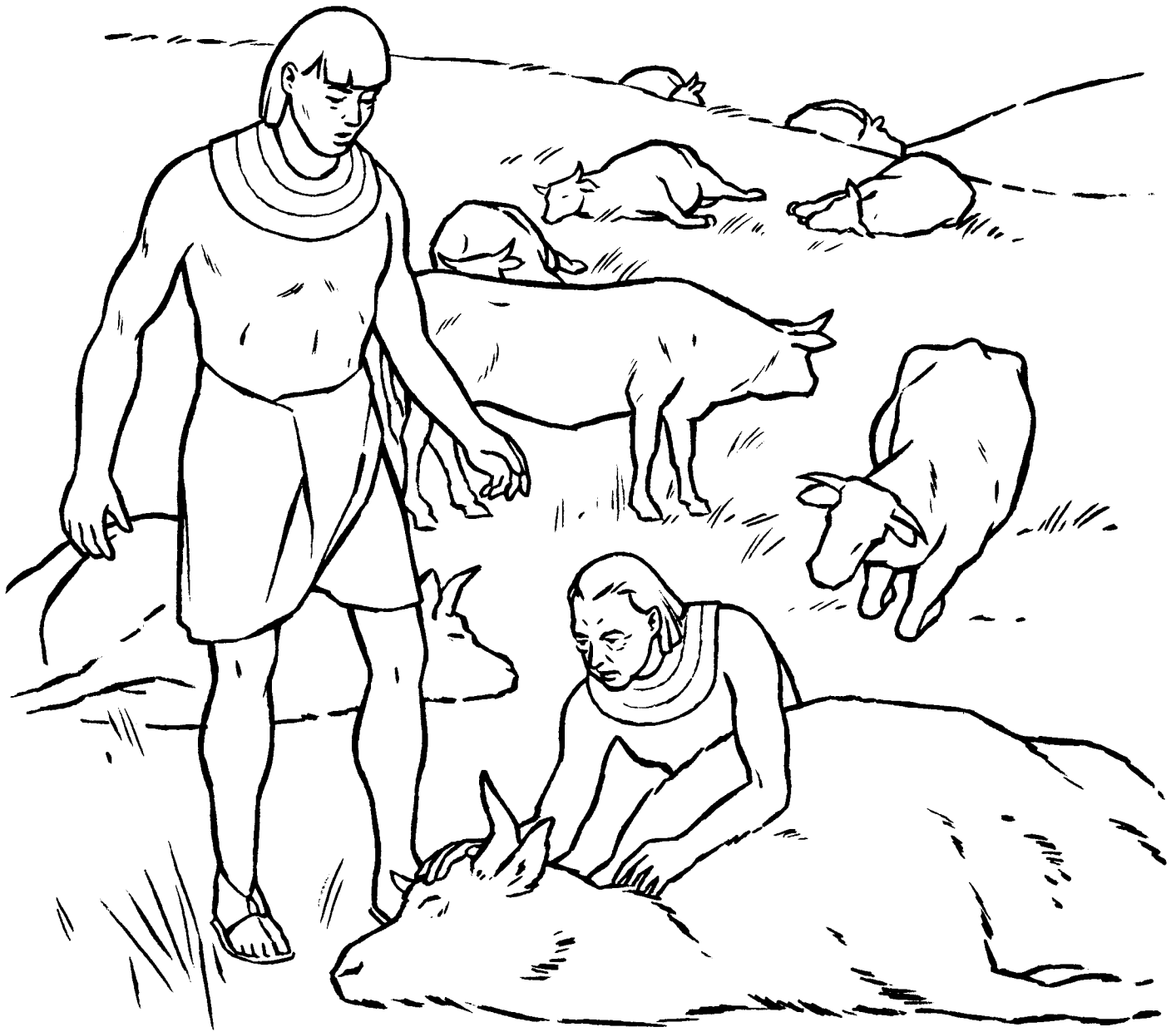


Because Pharaoh again **refused** to let the people go, God sent a fourth plague. This time God sent **swarms** of biting flies.

God also performed another miracle. He did not allow the flies to come near the land of Goshen. That is where the Israelites lived.

Pharaoh again asked Moses to stop the plague and promised to free the Israelites. "Ask your God to take away the flies," Pharaoh pleaded. "I will let your people go to sacrifice in the wilderness. Only do not go very far."

So Moses prayed to God and God took away the flies. And, when the flies were gone, Pharaoh changed his mind and would not free the Israelites.



Moses and Aaron then warned Pharaoh and the Egyptians that many of the animals in Egypt would die of **disease** the next day. Moses and Aaron also said that none of the Israelites' animals would be hurt.

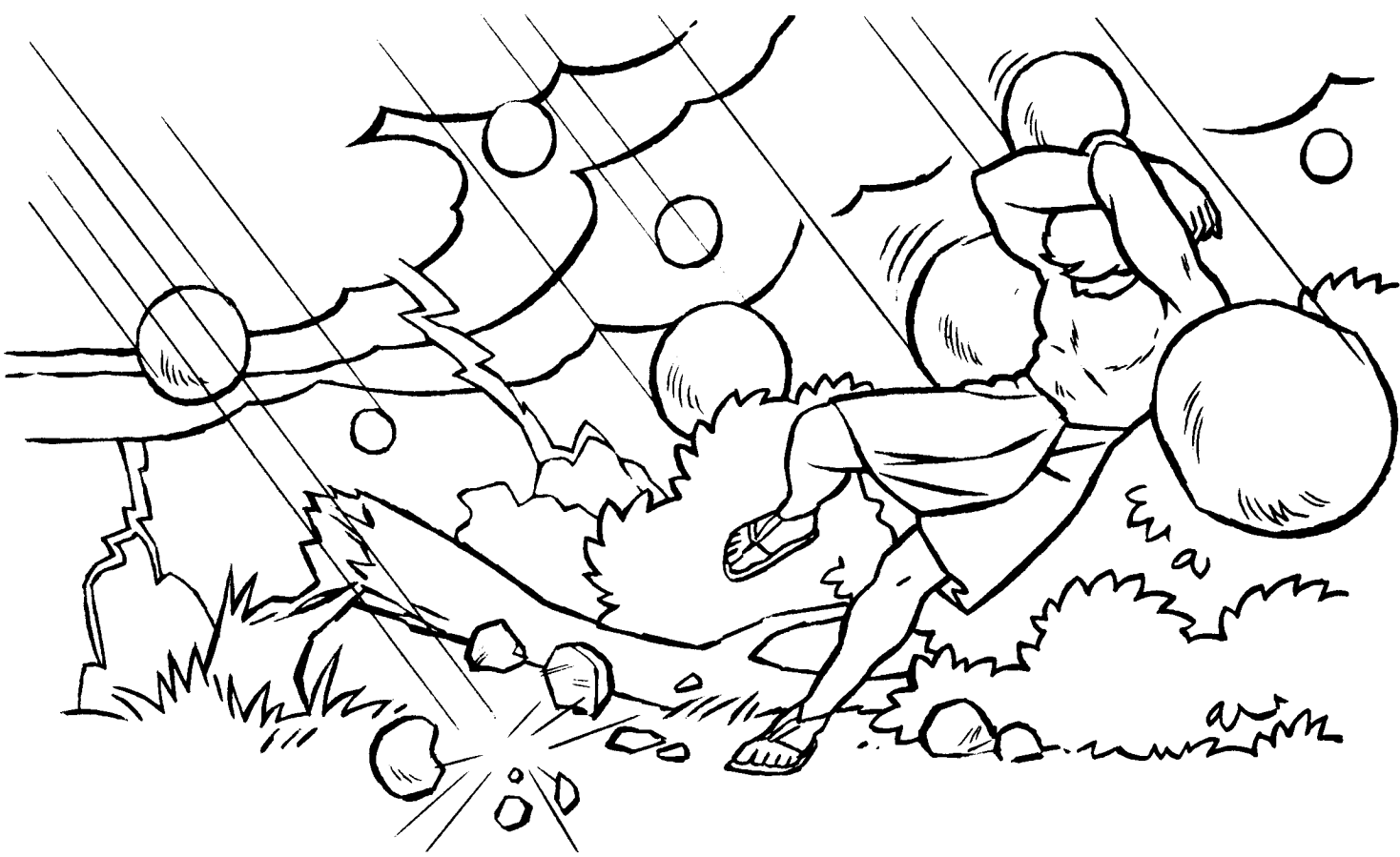
The next day, many of the Egyptians' cattle, camels, sheep and other animals died. But all the Israelites' animals in Goshen were safe.

Pharaoh was angry because many of the animals had died, and would not let the Israelites go.



As Moses and Aaron stood before Pharaoh, Moses threw handfuls of **ashes** from a **furnace** into the air. Later, as the ashes touched the Egyptians' skin, the Egyptians broke out in painful **boils**. Many of the Egyptians could not walk or stand because of them.

But even these painful boils were not enough to make Pharaoh give in to the God of Israel and let His people go free to worship Him.



Pharaoh and his magicians were still healing from their boils when the warning of the next plague came. “About this time tomorrow,” Moses said, “there will be a terrible hailstorm and lightning!

“Bring your cattle and other animals into shelter or they will be killed,” Moses continued.

Some of the Egyptians believed Moses and Aaron and stayed inside. All of those who did not listen to the warning were killed. Many of the **crops** were also smashed by the large **hailstones** that fell from the sky. But in the land of Goshen the Israelites were safe from the storm.

“Ask your God to stop this storm,” Pharaoh pleaded with Moses. “I will let your people go.” Moses then went outside the city and asked God to stop the storm and God caused the storm to end. Afterwards, Pharaoh again changed his mind.



Not much remained of the trees and crops after the hailstorm. Only the tiny roots of flax and barley which were still in the ground were safe. But since Pharaoh again refused to let the people go, God sent locusts to eat what little remained. The locusts ate all of the green plants, flowers and fruit trees in the land of Egypt.

Pharaoh hurriedly ordered his servants to bring Moses and Aaron to the palace. When they arrived, Pharaoh ran up to meet them. "I have been wrong!" Pharaoh exclaimed. "Please ask your God to take away the locusts."

Moses asked God to remove the locusts from the land, and God caused a strong wind to blow them into the Red Sea.

Now that the locusts were gone, Pharaoh would not free the Israelites.



Moses and Aaron knew that much more would be needed before Pharaoh would let the Israelites go. Now God instructed Moses and Aaron to hold the rod toward the sky. As Aaron held his rod over his head, the sky started to become dark. It became so dark that the Egyptians could not see to walk about. They could not see each other. Even lighted **torches** did not help. The darkness lasted for three days.

Pharaoh again asked Moses to take away the plague and promised to let the people go.

After the plague of darkness was gone, Pharaoh told Moses that he would not free the Israelites. He also told Moses that he did not want to see him again. So Moses and Aaron left the palace for the last time.

In our next lesson we will learn about the last plague God sent on Egypt and what happened to the Israelites as they journeyed to Mount Sinai.

FOUNDER: HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG (1892-1986)

PASTOR GENERAL: JOSEPH W. TKACH

Published by the Worldwide Church of God and
produced in cooperation with Imperial Schools.
Copyright © 1987. All rights reserved.

BIBLE MEMORY

Exodus 20:1-7

Ten Commandments

NUMBER THE PLAGUES

In the circles below each picture,
fill in the correct number showing the order
in which God sent the plagues on Egypt.

