

Sermon Notes for Young People

March 8, 2020 | Exod. 7:8-13 | Challenge to Pharaoh

I. Introduction

- A. **In what sense is this a new phase in Exodus?**
- B. **What vital truth or principle has Moses displayed for us in his battle with Pharaoh?**
- C. **What are the themes of the plagues that are foreshadowed in this encounter?**

II. Main Argument

A. **Divine Credentials (vv. 8-10)**

1. How does Moses demonstrate his authority?
2. Assault on Egypt
 - a. Into what did Aaron's staff transform?
 - b. How is this sign an attack on Pharaoh's power and Egypt's national identity?
3. The Function of Signs
 - a. Was it wrong for Pharaoh to ask for a sign?
 - b. What is the usual problem in asking for a sign?

B. **Challenge Accepted (vv. 11-12)**

1. Who are These Guys?
 - a. How did the ancients conceive of the gods?
 - b. What are some of the things Pharaoh's magicians claimed to be able to do?

- c. How would the Egyptians understand the contest between Aaron and the magicians?

2. Magicians Staffs

- a. How do the magicians transform their staffs?
- b. Why does it, initially, seem as though Aaron's "magic" is no threat to pharaoh's "magic"?
- c. Did Pharaoh's magicians actually transform their staffs or was this an illusion?
- d. **Application:** why does this provide a reason Christians should know the Scripture well?
- e. **Application:** what does this teach us about Satan's power?

3. Serpents Swallowed

- a. What is the significance of "swallowing" something in Egyptian magic and sorcery?
- b. **Application:** how does this teach us about *both* evangelism and God's warfare?

C. **Pharaoh's Heavy Heart (v. 13)**

1. What did Egyptians mean when they said someone had a heavy heart?
2. How does Christ deliver us from our hard hearts?

III. Questions: for my parents or the pastor