

# JOURNEY THROUGH THE BIBLE



**EXPLORING**  
**THROUGH**  
**EXODUS**



# EXODUS

*I AM THE LORD  
YOUR GOD  
WHO BROUGHT  
YOU OUT OF  
Egypt*

## EXODUS OVERVIEW

**NAME:** Shemot “names”

**AUTHOR:** Priestly / Elohists

**DATE:** 6/5c BCE (in Exile)

**THEMES:** Covenant, Salvation,  
Justice, God’s Power

**YHWH:** I AM THAT I AM

Written for exiled Jews in the 6c  
BCE and been used through history  
for people experiencing oppression

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# EXODUS OUTLINE

**1-5 Shemot/Names:** Affliction in Egypt, discovery of baby Moses, Pharaoh

**6-9 Va'eira/And I appeared:** Plagues 1 to 7 of Egypt

**10-13 Bo/Come:** Last plagues of Egypt, first Passover

**13-17 Beshalach/When He Sent Out:** Parting the Sea, water, manna, Amalek

**18-20 Yitro/Jethro:** Jethro's advice, The Decalogue

**21-24 Mishpatim/Laws:** The Covenant Code

**25-27 Terumah/Donation:** God's instructions on the Tabernacle and furnishings

**27-30 Tetzaveh/You Shall Command:** God's instructions on the first priests

**30-34 Ki Tissa/When You Count:** Census, anointing oil, golden calf, stone tablets, Moses radiant

**35-38 Vayakhel/And He Assembled:** Israelites collect gifts, make the Tabernacle and furnishings

**38-40 Pekudei/Accountings:** Setting up and filling of The Tabernacle

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# EXODUS OUTLINE

## TWO PARTS

### Part 1

#### Chapters 1-18

Bondage of the Hebrews  
Rise of Moses  
Moses in Midian  
Ten Plagues  
Passover  
Exodus from Egypt  
Red Sea  
Journey to Mt Sanai

### Part 2

#### Chapters 19-40

Mt Sinai  
Covenant  
Decalogue  
52 Laws for Living/Worship  
Tabernacle  
Golden Calf  
Radiant Moses  
Tabernacle

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# EXODUS OUTLINE

## THREE PARTS

### Part I: Israel in and out of Egypt (1.1–15.21):

- a. God Sees (1-2)
- b. Rise of Moses (3.1-7.7)
- c. Ten Plagues (7.7-13.16)
- d. Exodus (13.17-15.21)

### Part II: Sinai and covenant (15.22–24.18):

- a. Wilderness (15.22-18.27)
- b. Sinai Theophany (19 & 24)
- c. Covenant (20-23)
- d. Sinai Theophany (19 & 24)

### Part III: Sanctuary and new covenant (25:1–40:34):

- a. Covenant Renewal (25-31)
- b. Golden Calf/Tablets (32-34)
- c. Tabernacle Construction (25-40)

# EXODUS

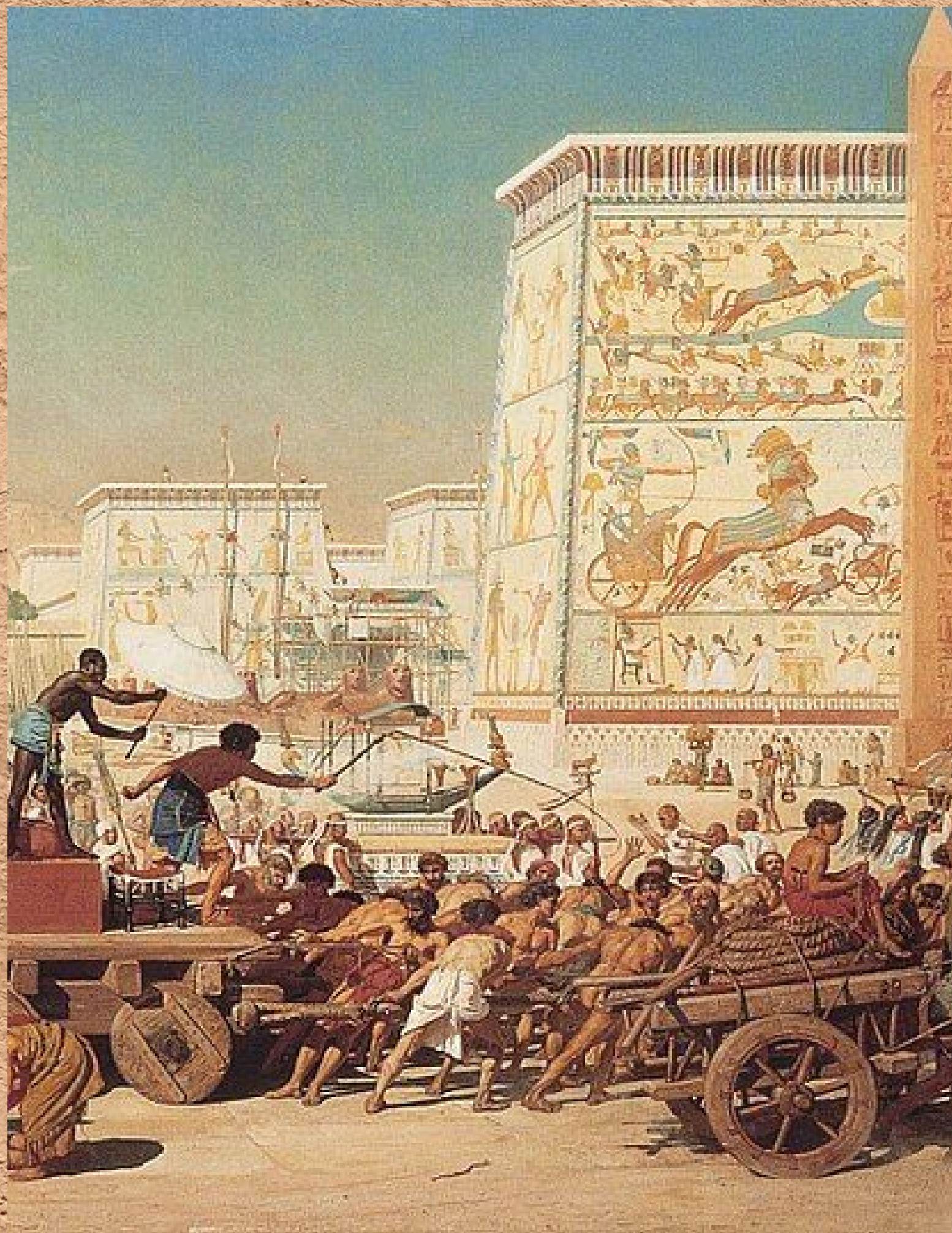
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## EXODUS 1-5 Shemot

This is the assigned reading in a Jewish Lectionary.

Covers: Israelites' affliction in Egypt, the hiding and rescuing of the infant Moses, Moses in Midian, the calling of Moses, circumcision on the way, meeting the elders, and Moses before Pharaoh.

# EXODUS 1



- The story begins with a list of Jacob's descendants who came to Egypt with him.
- The Israelites grew in number and became a threat to the Egyptians.
- The Egyptians enslaved the Israelites and forced them into hard labor.
- Pharaoh orders the killing of Israelite baby boys.



# EXODUS 2



- A Levite couple gives birth to a son, Moses, and hides him from Pharaoh's decree.
- Moses is discovered by Pharaoh's daughter, who raises him as her own.
- Moses kills an Egyptian who was mistreating an Israelite and flees to Midian.
- In Midian, Moses marries Zipporah, the daughter of a priest named Jethro.

# EXODUS 3



- God appears to Moses in a burning bush and calls him to lead the Israelites out of Egypt.
- God reveals His name as "I AM WHO I AM."
- Moses is given a sign to prove his authority to the Israelites.
- Moses is instructed to go to Pharaoh and demand the release of the Israelites.
- Mt Sinai
- Will revisit this episode....

# EXODUS 4

- Moses raises concerns about his ability to speak effectively.
- God gives Moses miraculous signs, including turning his staff into a snake and his hand becoming leprous.
- Moses' brother Aaron is chosen as his spokesperson.
- Moses and Aaron return to Egypt with God's message.



# EXODUS 3-4



- Moses presented as a Prophet
- Similar call story to “Here I am Lord”
- We are all called by God as part of this covenant to become the Blessings for the World
- 4 Problems Moses Brings to God
  - Unworthiness
  - God’s Name
  - People won’t listen
  - Moses Can’t speak

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**What “problems” do you bring to God?**



# EXODUS 5



- **Moses and Aaron go before Pharaoh and request a three-day journey into the wilderness to worship God.**
- **Pharaoh refuses and increases the Israelites' workload, making their labor even more difficult.**
- **The Israelite foremen complain to Pharaoh, but he dismisses their concerns.**
- **The Israelites blame Moses and Aaron for their increased suffering.**



**Lets Read Exodus 6:1-13**





# EXODUS 6-7.7

- God reaffirms the Promise to Moses
- God's Promise of Deliverance
- Israelites Broken Spirit
- Moses's Broken Spirit
- Genealogy of Moses and Aaron
- Moses and Aaron's Commission

**Key themes: God's Faithfulness, Divine Commission, Broken Spirits and the Genealogy**

# EXODUS 7 Part 1

- **Proclamation of God's Authority**
  - **Moses and Aaron's Commission 2**
  - **Pharaohs Hard Heart**
  - **Signs in Egypt and Exodus**
- **Display of God's Authority**
  - **Aarons's staff turns into a snake**
  - **Moses snake eats others snakes**

**Themes: God's Power, Battle of the Gods through Pharaoh and Moses.**





**Waters Turn to Blood**  
Exodus 7:14-25



**Amphibians (Frogs)**  
Exodus 7:26-8:11



**Gnats (Lice)**  
Exodus 8:12-15



**Flies**  
Exodus 8:16-28



**Disease on Livestock**  
Exodus 9:1-7

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# The Ten Plagues of Egypt

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**Unhealable Boils**  
Exodus 9:8-12



**Hail and Fire**  
Exodus 9:13-35



**Locusts**  
Exodus 10:1-20



**Darkness**  
Exodus 10:21-29



**Death of First-Born**  
Exodus 11:1-12:36

# 10 Plagues

Earlier texts in Scripture have 7 plagues and in a different order.

You can read the earlier references/versions in Deuteronomy 7:15/28:60 and Psalm 78/105.

The 3rd, 6th and 9th are added to make 3 triads. The ten plagues are also “uncreation” from Genesis, working backwards. It is highly ordered and poetic displaying God’s Power.



## Ten plagues of Egypt

1-Blood



2-Frogs



3-Lice



4-Flies



5-Livestock



6-Boils



7-Hail



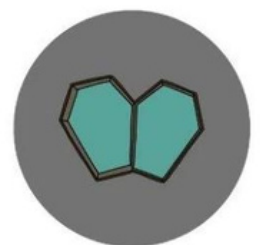
8-Locusts



9-Darkness



10-Firstborn



# 10 Plagues

QUESTIONS ABOUT PLAGUES?!?!?!?



## Ten plagues of Egypt

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# 10 Plagues



## Ten plagues of Egypt

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2-Frogs



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4-Flies



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6-Boils



7-Hail



8-Locusts



9-Darkness



10-Firstborn



First set -

(Aaron Staff)

Show Power (repeatable)

Second set-

God Directly Works

Show YHWH as a source of power  
(unrepeatable)

Third Set-

Moses Hand

No more Egyptian Priest (unclean)

Show YHWH as unmatched in power

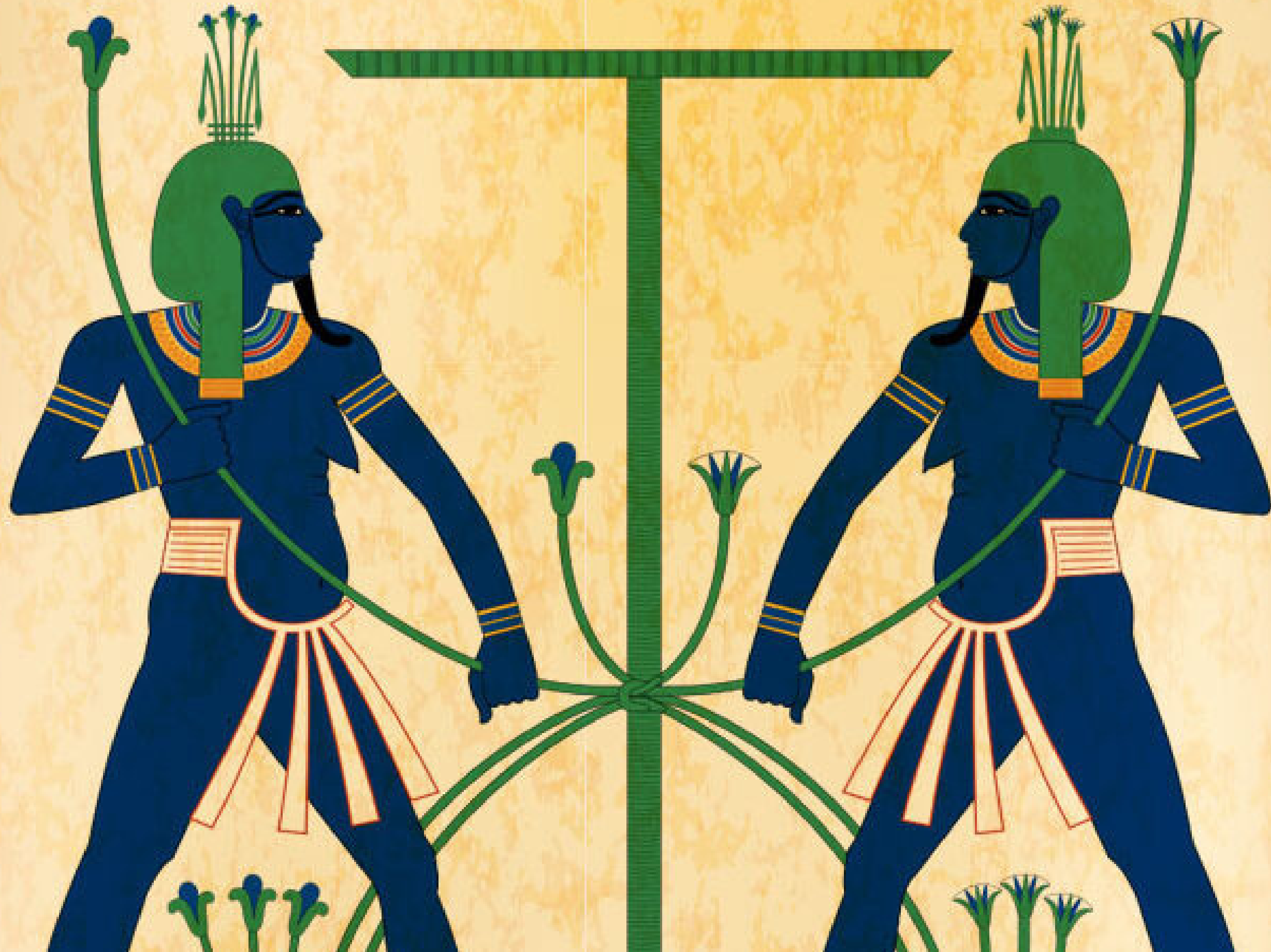


# EXODUS 7 Part 2

## Plague One: Nile River Water into Blood

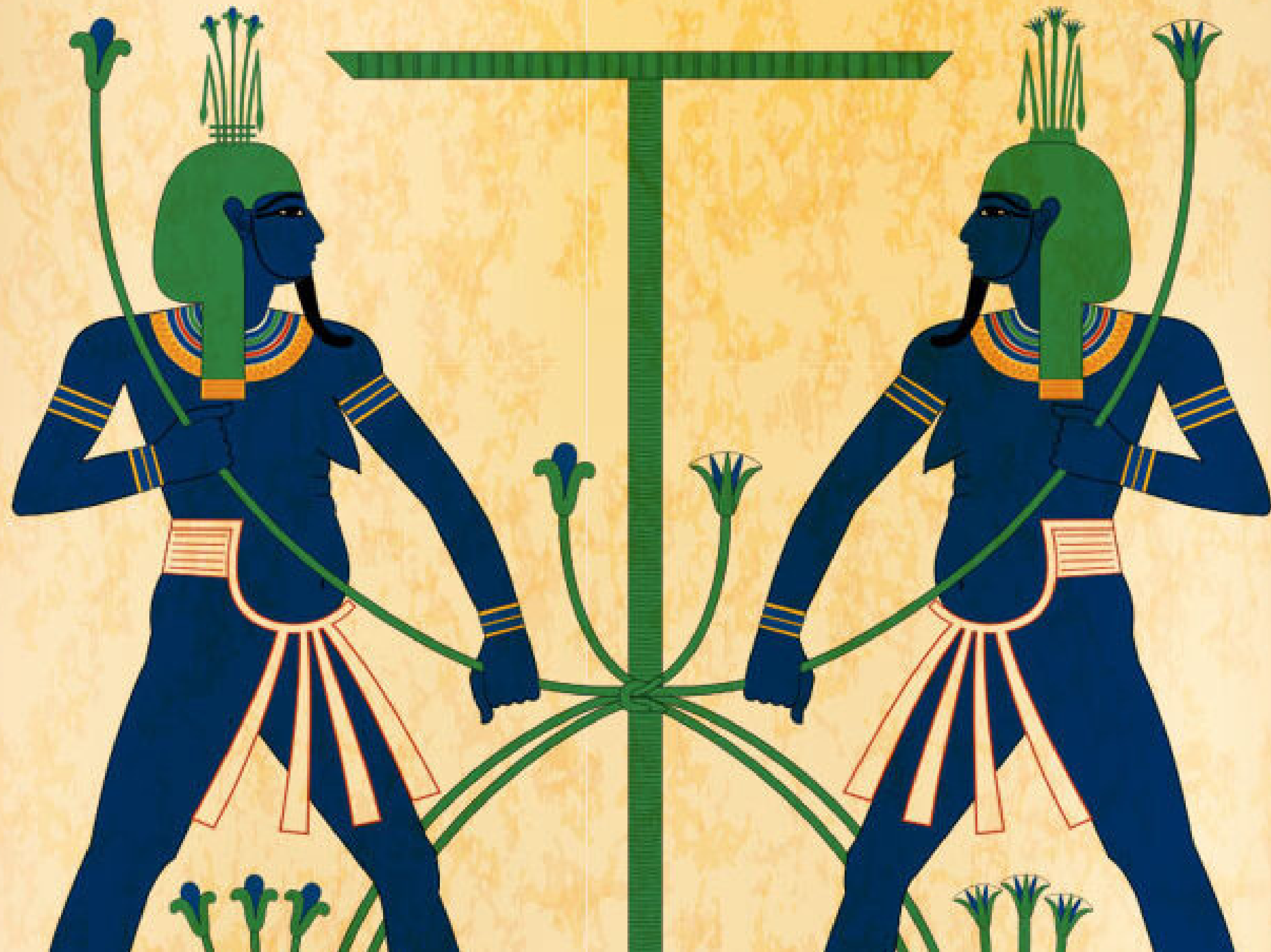
- Fish in the river die
- Rive stinks
- People can't drink from it
- Blood in other vessels of water as well
- The Nile, as the lifeline of Egypt, was considered a deity controlled by Pharoah.
- Call back to the blood of the Israelite boys who were killed in the river.
- Shows Yahweh's power of nature and spiritual realities.

# Hapi- Egyptian God of the Nile





# Hapi- Egyptian God of the Nile



# EXODUS 8 Part 1

## Plague Two: Frogs in the Land

- **FROGS EVERYWHERE**
- **Affects Pharoah, his officials and his people.**
- **Pharoah relents and says he will let the Hebrews go worship, so it stops but he changes his mind.**
- **Pharoah wants it to stop tomorrow.**
- **This is an undoing of the first act of Creation in Genesis 1 when God separates the waters and the land**





**Heket-  
Egyptian Goddess of  
Fertility, Water,  
Renewal**

**Had the Head  
of a Frog**

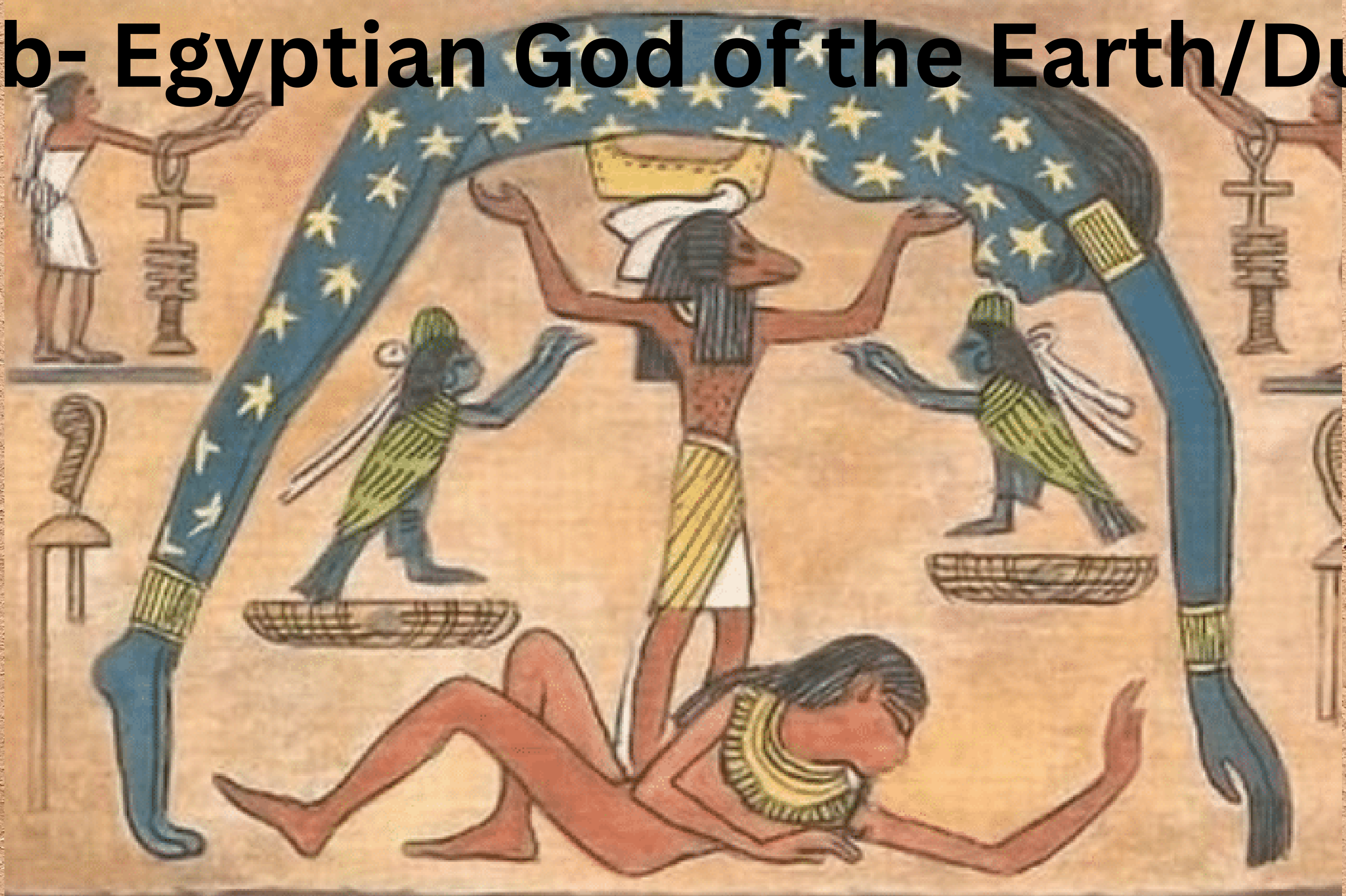
# EXODUS 8 Part 2

## Plague Three: Gnats from Dust

- **GNATS EVERYWHERE**
- **Aaron strikes the dust and it turns into gnats....they go everywhere**
- **The priest cannot repeat this task and acknowledge YHWH**
  
- **This is an undoing of the final act of creation when God makes humans out of dust. How the dust turns to gnats and covers humans representing death.**
- **God is “giving over” creation to the chaos.**



# Geb- Egyptian God of the Earth/Dust



# EXODUS 8 Part 3

## Plague Four: Flies

- Flies EVERYWHERE
  - This time YHWH acts alone in causing the plague
  - Doesn't affect Hebrews for the first time
  - Moses prays for it to stop when Pharaoh lets them go...but he won't let the people leave Egypt to make sacrifices
- 
- Yet again, an undoing of creation in the mandate to fill the earth. Now flies fill the earth





**Khepri-  
Egyptian God of  
creation, movement  
of the Sun, rebirth**

**Had the Head  
of a Fly**

# EXODUS 9 Part 1

## Plague Five: Livestock

- Livestock die of the Egyptians
- Again, this was caused by YHWH alone
- Not Hebrew
- Same patterns...
- Livestock affects transportation and the economy as well as the food supply
- Plague has a one day gap “tomorrow” ready for repentance
- Repeats language in Genesis 1-2 with creation



La quinze fu murue de bestes.





**Hathor-  
Egyptian Goddess of  
Love and Protection**

**Head head of a cow**

# EXODUS 9 Part 2

## Plague six: Boils

- The first one to affect people directly
  - Take dust from “furnace of affliction” and scatter it in the air
  - Makes ALL EGYPT ceremonially unclean (therefore the priest can't be in the presence of Pharaoh anymore nor perform rituals)
  - God HARDENS Pharaoh's heart
  - Says this is given so he will know YHWH
- 
- A further undoing of God's good creation





**Isis-**  
**Egyptian Goddess of**  
**Medicine and Peace**

**One of the**  
**main deities**

# EXODUS 9 Part 3

Plague seven: hail.

- God warns Pharaoh of this plague since it includes death and gives them a way out. Some listen to YHWH
- Thunder and hail kill all who it hits
- Pharaoh admits his “sin” and Moses stops the plague
- Pharaoh yet again won’t them go after saying he would
- The plants killed were for clothes and potions NOT food. It disrupted life but didn’t devastate the population



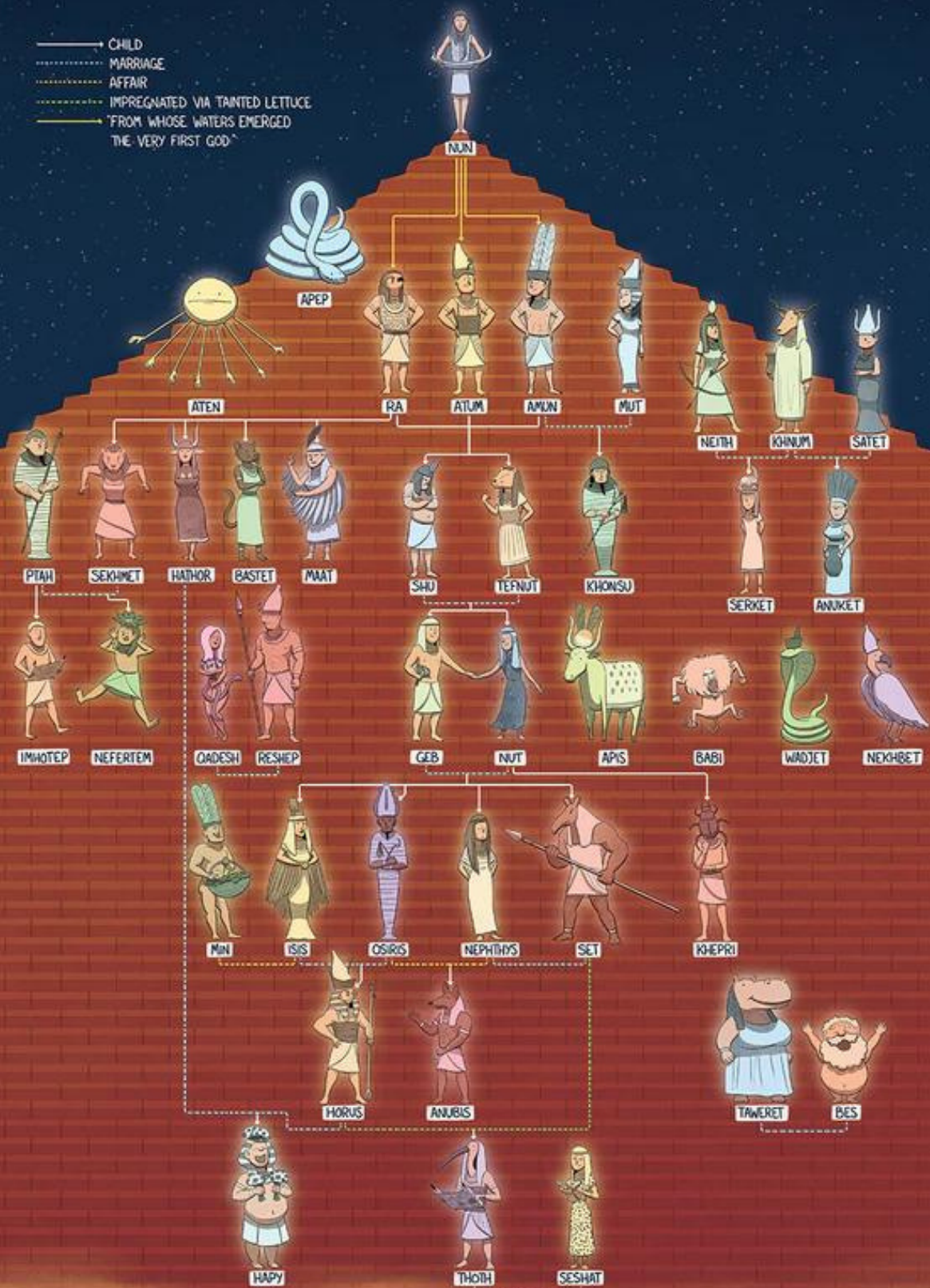




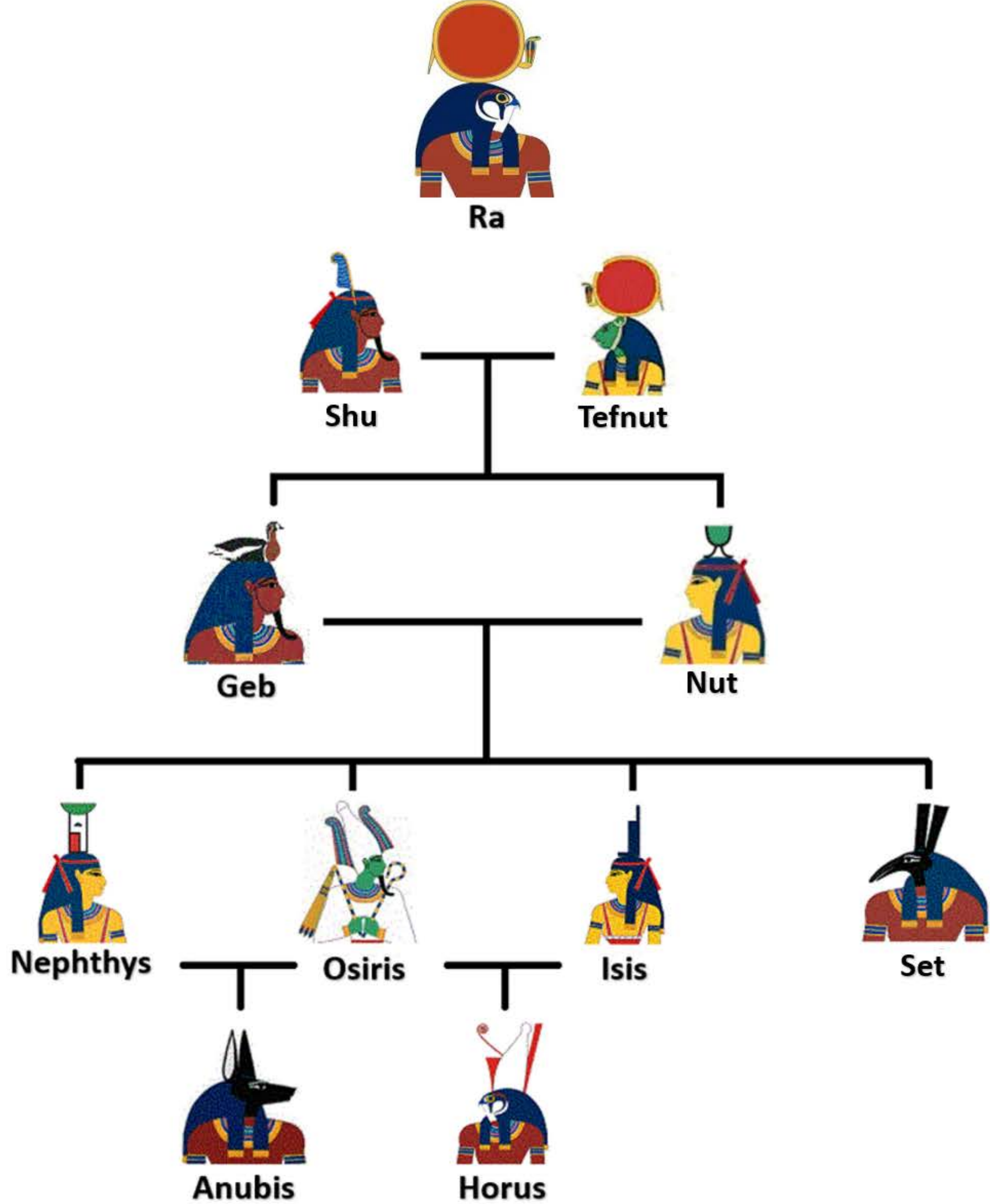
**Nut-**  
**Egyptian Goddess of the Sky**

AN ALMOST-HISTORICAL\*  
EGYPTIAN GOD FAMILY TREE

\*MEANING, IN THIS CASE, SEVERAL THOUSAND YEARS' WORTH OF DIFFERING BELIEFS PILED INTO ONE TIDY-LOOKING HEAP.



NOTE: IF NO ANCESTORS ARE LISTED ASSUME NUN SELF-CONCEPTION AND/OR THEY JUST SORT OF SHOWED UP.  
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**The plagues are actually about Yahweh's display of power and *mercy* to the Egyptians by working slowly and showing power with caution and giving space for repentance.**





What was the meaning and purpose of the ten plagues of Egypt?

Share

# What was the meaning and purpose of the ten plagues of Egypt?

Got Questions.org

Animated Series



**Questions on  
6-9 Va'eira/And I appeared?**

**Next Week Read  
Chapters 10-13  
Bo/Come:**