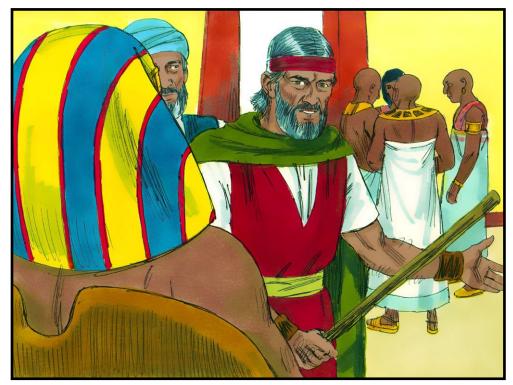




After the plague of hail, the LORD said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh, for I have made his heart hard. When all of this is over, everyone will tell the story of how I performed these miraculous signs in Egypt."

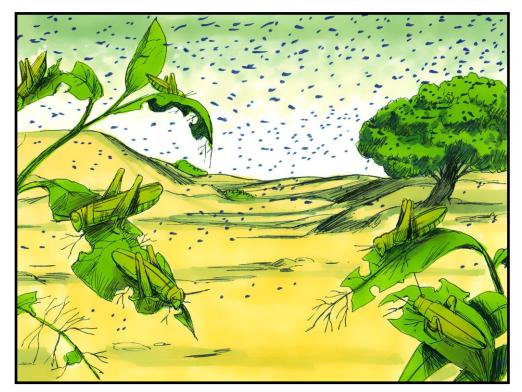
So Moses and Aaron went to see Pharaoh and said, "God wants to know how long it will take for you to humble yourself and let the people go."



"If you do not let the people go," Moses said, "The LORD will bring locusts upon the land. They will be everywhere and will eat every plant that has survived the hailstorm."

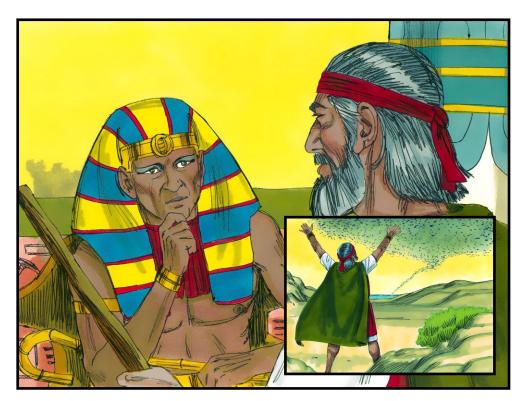
Pharaoh's officials said to him, "How long will Moses keep coming to you? Just let the people go. There may be nothing left of Egypt if you don't."

So Pharaoh told Moses, "You may go. But only take the men to worship in the wilderness." Then he sent Moses and Aaron away.



Because Pharaoh would not let the women and children go to worship in the wilderness, God brought the locusts upon the land.

Moses raised his staff, and God sent an east wind that brought the locusts to Egypt that next day. There were so many locusts that they covered the ground and made it look black. They ate the plants in the field and the fruit on the trees until there was nothing left.

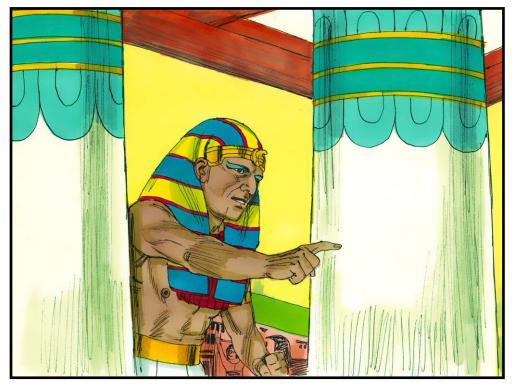


Pharaoh immediately sent for Moses and said, "I have sinned against the LORD your God and against you. Please forgive me one more time and pray to the LORD to take away this deadly plague."

When Moses left Pharaoh, he prayed and the LORD sent a strong west wind that blew the locusts into the Red Sea. There wasn't even one left in the land of Egypt.



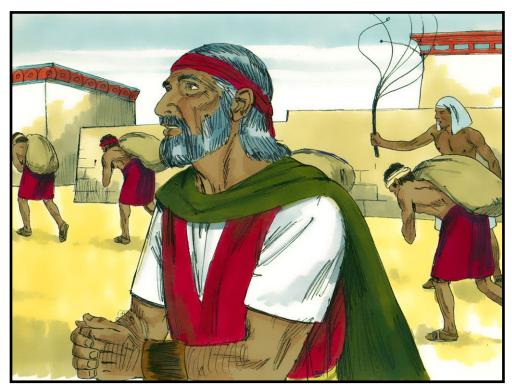
The LORD spoke to Moses saying, "Reach out your hand towards the sky, and I will bring darkness over the land of Egypt for three days. It will be a darkness that's so thick that the Egyptians will feel it. I will make it so that they won't even be able to see each other. However, all the Israelites will have light in the land where they live."



Then, Pharaoh sent for Moses again and said to him, "Go! Go worship the LORD. Even your wives and children may go with you. Just leave behind all your animals—your flocks and herds."

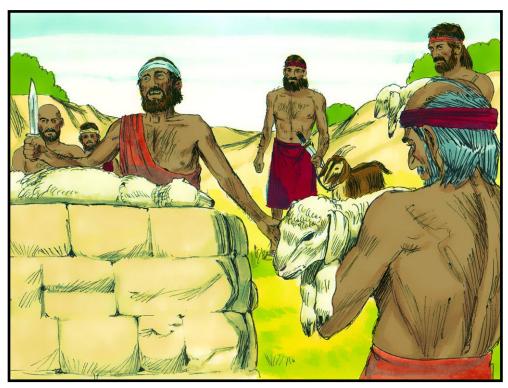
Moses replied, "You must allow us to take our animals. We need them to offer our sacrifices and burnt offerings to the LORD."

Pharaoh exclaimed. "Then, I will *not* let the people go! Now leave. And if you ever come back to me again, you will die."



The LORD spoke to Moses saying, "I will bring one last plague on Pharaoh and the land of Egypt. After that, Pharaoh will force you to leave. When he does, the Israelites must ask the Egyptians for things made of gold and silver."

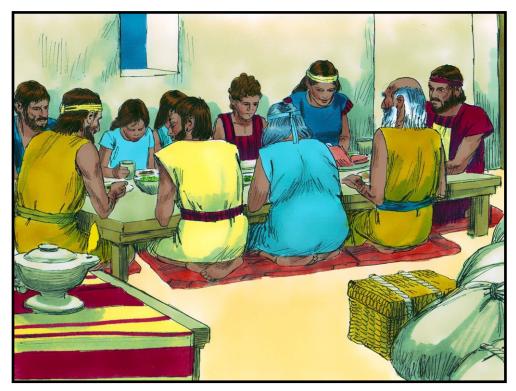
The LORD continued, "About midnight, I will go through the land of Egypt. Every first-born son of every family will die—no matter how rich or poor. And there will be loud crying all throughout Egypt."



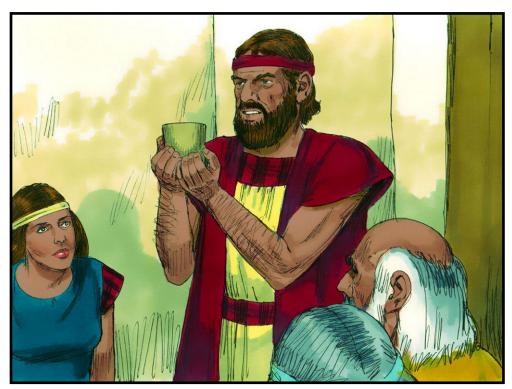
The LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron saying, "However, I will provide a way for the firstborn of the Israelites to be saved. Each family is to choose a year-old lamb or goat. It cannot have any flaws. On the 14th day of the first Jewish month, the whole community must kill it when the sun goes down."



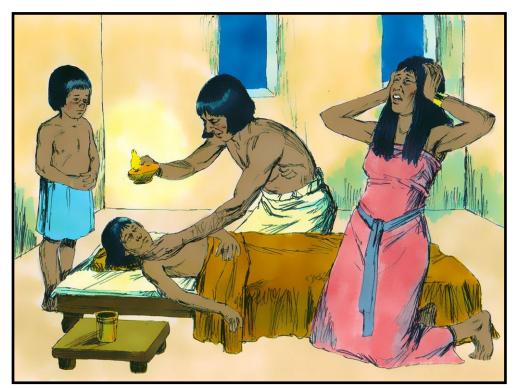
"Each family is to take the branch of a hyssop plant and dip it into the bowl filled with the blood of their animal. They must put it on the top and sides of the door leading into their home."



"That same night, you must eat the meat of your lamb or goat by cooking it over a fire. Do not boil it in water. Also, eat bitter herbs and bread that has been made without yeast."



"Do not leave any food until morning. If any food is left over, you must burn it up. Make sure to eat quickly—with your coat tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet, and your walking stick in your hand. This ceremony will be called the 'LORD's Passover' for generations to come."

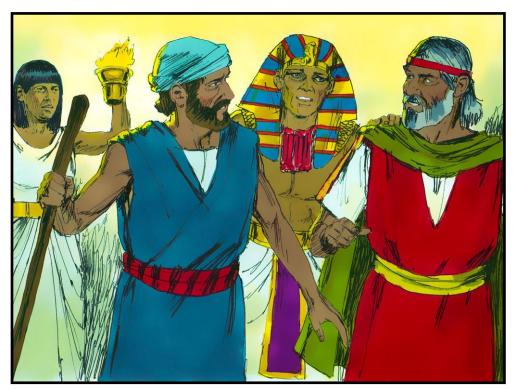


The LORD said, "Tonight, I am going to judge all the false gods of Egypt, but the blood on *your* houses will be a sign. When I see the blood on a door, I will pass over that house. The plague will not destroy anyone in that home."

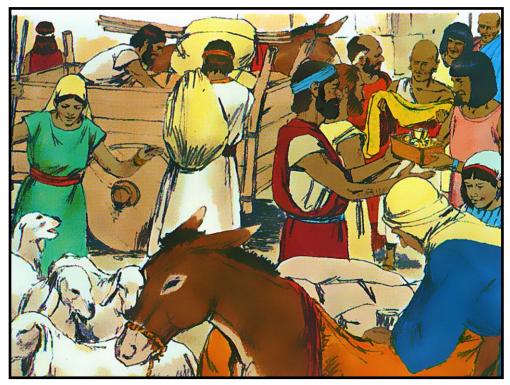
So that night the LORD went through every house striking down the first born son of those who did not have the blood on their doorpost. He struck down both people and animals.



All the families of the Egyptians were awakened in the middle of the night, and there was a loud cry all throughout the land of Egypt in every home where someone had died.

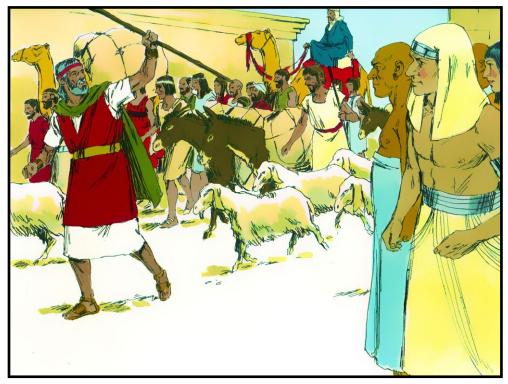


Pharaoh sent for Moses and Aaron. He exclaimed, "Go! Get out of here—both you and the Israelites! Go worship the LORD in the wilderness. Take your flocks and herds. I don't care anymore. Just give me your blessing."



The Egyptians begged the Israelites to leave the country. They said, "If you don't leave now, we might all die!"

All the Israelites did just as Moses told them to do. They asked the Egyptians for things made of gold and silver. They also asked for clothing. So God made the Israelites very rich as they were leaving.



After the Israelites plundered the Egyptians, they marched out of the country like a giant army. They had been in the land of Egypt for 430 years before the LORD set them free.

kids wants to thank American illustrator
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