

*<sup>15</sup>"As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them ·miracles [wonders] or plagues."*

## The Plagues of Modern Egypt

Nehemiah 9 New Living Translation (NLT)

### The People Confess Their Sins

<sup>1</sup> On October 31<sup>[a]</sup> **the people assembled again**, and this time they fasted and dressed in burlap and sprinkled dust on their heads. <sup>2</sup> **Those of Israelite descent separated themselves from all foreigners as they confessed their own sins and the sins of their ancestors.** <sup>3</sup> They remained **standing** in place **for three hours<sup>[b]</sup>** while the Book of the Law of Yah their God was read aloud to them. Then **for three more hours they confessed their sins and worshiped Yah their God.** <sup>4</sup> The Levites—Jeshua, Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani, and Kenani—stood on the stairway of the Levites and cried out to Yah their God with loud voices.

<sup>5</sup> Then the leaders of the Levites—Jeshua, Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabneiah, Sherebiah, Hodia, Shebaniah, and Pethahiah—called out to the people: **"Stand up and praise Yah your God**, for he lives from everlasting to everlasting!" Then they prayed:

"May your glorious name be praised! May it be exalted above all blessing and praise!

<sup>6</sup> "You alone are Yah. You made the skies and the heavens and all the stars. You made the earth and the seas and everything in them. You preserve them all, and the angels of heaven worship you.

<sup>7</sup> "You are Yah , who chose Abram and brought him from Ur of the Chaldeans and renamed him Abraham.<sup>8</sup> When he had proved himself faithful, you made a covenant with him to give him and his descendants the land of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Jebusites, and Girgashites. And you have done what you promised, for you are always true to your word.

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<sup>9</sup>"**You saw the misery of our ancestors in Egypt**, and you heard their cries from beside the Red Sea.<sup>[c]</sup> <sup>10</sup>**You displayed miraculous signs and wonders against Pharaoh, his officials, and all his people**, for you knew how arrogantly they were treating our ancestors. You have a glorious reputation that has never been forgotten. <sup>11</sup>You divided the sea for your people so they could walk through on dry land! And then you hurled their enemies into the depths of the sea. They sank like stones beneath the mighty waters. <sup>12</sup>You led our ancestors by a pillar of cloud during the day and a pillar of fire at night so that they could find their way.

<sup>13</sup>"You came down at Mount Sinai and spoke to them from heaven. You gave them regulations and instructions that were just, and decrees and commands that were good. <sup>14</sup>You instructed them concerning your holy Sabbath. And you commanded them, through Moses your servant, to obey all your commands, decrees, and instructions.

<sup>15</sup>"You gave them bread from heaven when they were hungry and water from the rock when they were thirsty. You commanded them to go and take possession of the land you had sworn to give them.

<sup>16</sup>"But our ancestors were proud and stubborn, and they paid no attention to your commands. <sup>17</sup>They refused to obey and did not remember the miracles you had done for them. Instead, they became stubborn and appointed a leader to take them back to their slavery in Egypt.<sup>[d]</sup> But you are a God of forgiveness, gracious and merciful, slow to become angry, and rich in unfailing love. You did not abandon them, <sup>18</sup>even when they made an idol shaped like a calf and said, 'This is your god who brought you out of Egypt!' They committed terrible blasphemies.

<sup>19</sup>"But in your great mercy you did not abandon them to die in the wilderness. The pillar of cloud still led them forward by day, and the pillar of fire showed them the way through the night. <sup>20</sup>You sent your good Spirit to instruct them, and you did not stop giving them manna from heaven or water for their thirst. <sup>21</sup>For forty years you sustained them in the wilderness, and they lacked nothing. Their clothes did not wear out, and their feet did not swell!

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<sup>22</sup>"Then you helped our ancestors conquer kingdoms and nations, and you placed your people in every corner of the land.<sup>[e]</sup> They took over the land of **King Sihon of Heshbon and the land of King Og of Bashan**.<sup>23</sup> You made their descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and brought them into the land you had promised to their ancestors.

<sup>24</sup>"They went in and took possession of the land. You subdued whole nations before them. Even the Canaanites, who inhabited the land, were powerless! Your people could deal with these nations and their kings as they pleased.<sup>25</sup> Our ancestors captured fortified cities and fertile land. They took over houses full of good things, with cisterns already dug and vineyards and olive groves and fruit trees in abundance. So they ate until they were full and grew fat (*Deuteronomy 32:15*) and enjoyed themselves in all your blessings.

<sup>26</sup>"But despite all this, they were disobedient and rebelled against you. They turned their backs on your Law, they killed your prophets who warned them to return to you, and they committed terrible blasphemies.<sup>27</sup> So you handed them over to their enemies, **who made them suffer**. **But in their time of trouble they cried to you, and you heard them from heaven**. In your great mercy, you sent them liberators who rescued them from their enemies.

<sup>28</sup>"But as soon as they were at peace, your people again committed evil in your sight, and once more you let their enemies conquer them. Yet whenever your people turned and cried to you again for help, you listened once more from heaven. In your wonderful mercy, you rescued them many times!

<sup>29</sup>"You warned them to return to your Law, but they became proud and obstinate and disobeyed your commands. They did not follow your regulations, **by which people will find life if only they obey**. They stubbornly turned their backs on you and refused to listen.<sup>30</sup> In your love, you were patient with them for many years. You sent your Spirit, who warned them through the prophets. But still they wouldn't listen! So once again you allowed the peoples of the land to conquer them.<sup>31</sup> But in your

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great mercy, you did not destroy them completely or abandon them forever. What a gracious and merciful God you are!

<sup>32</sup>"And now, our Yah, the great and mighty and awesome Yah, who keeps his covenant of unfailing love, **do not let all the hardships we have suffered seem insignificant to you.** Great trouble has come upon us and upon our kings and leaders and priests and prophets and ancestors—all of your people—from the days when the kings of Assyria first triumphed over us until now. <sup>33</sup>**Every time you punished us you were being just.** We have sinned greatly, and you gave us only what we deserved. <sup>34</sup>Our kings, leaders, priests, and ancestors did not obey your Law or listen to the warnings in your commands and laws. <sup>35</sup>Even while they had their own kingdom, they did not serve you, though you showered your goodness on them. You gave them a large, fertile land, but they refused to turn from their wickedness.

<sup>36</sup>"So now today we are slaves in the land of plenty that you gave our ancestors for their enjoyment! We are slaves here in this good land. <sup>37</sup>The lush produce of this land piles up in the hands of the kings whom you have set over us because of our sins. They have power over us and our livestock. We serve them at their pleasure, **and we are in great misery.**"

## The People Agree to Obey

<sup>38</sup> [g]The people responded, "In view of all this,<sup>[g]</sup> we are making a solemn promise and putting it in writing. On this sealed document are the names of our leaders and Levites and priests."

### Isaiah 48 The Voice (VOICE)

1 Listen closely, you descendants of Jacob who are called Israel!

*Hear this,* you who trace your ancestors back to Judah,  
Who take oaths in the name of the Eternal, and call on the God of Israel,  
**but do so dishonestly and inappropriately:**

<sup>2</sup>Your identity is wrapped up in the holy city,

<sup>15</sup> "As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
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and you *claim to* rely on the God of Israel,  
The One who is called the Eternal, Commander of *heavenly* armies.

<sup>3</sup> **Eternal One:** In times long past, I determined  
and announced the things that would come.

Then suddenly I acted, and they indeed happened.

<sup>4</sup> Long ago, I figured that you'd resist  
(after all, you are a hard-headed and stubborn lot).

<sup>5</sup> Way back then, I told you what would happen so that you  
wouldn't claim  
that some other god was responsible—that some figurine you  
crafted

From wood and molded metal commanded and accomplished it.

<sup>6</sup> You've heard what I foretold; now you've seen what has happened—  
do you agree *that I'm God?*

Well, from this moment, I am telling you *new things*,  
secrets hidden that no one has known.

<sup>7</sup> They are created now—brand new, never before announced, never  
before heard.

So you can't claim, "Look, I already knew them."

<sup>8</sup> **There's no way you could have heard or known**  
**because,** even from long ago, you have never listened.

For I've always known that you are a conniving lot;  
you've been a *troublesome* rebel from birth.

<sup>9</sup> **On account of My reputation, I hold back my anger;**  
for My own weighty grandeur, I am patient with you,  
So that I don't make an absolute break with you.

<sup>10</sup> I have refined you, but not in the way silver is refined.  
Instead, I try you in the furnace of suffering.

**For Yah, suffering is not an end in itself. Yah uses suffering and  
hardship to purge the bad and foster (*And substitute*) the good in  
His covenant people.**

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<sup>11</sup> But it is all on account of Me, *not of you*, that I act,  
that I retain honor, that My glory is Mine alone, and  
not sullied.

<sup>12</sup> Listen to Me, O Jacob, Israel whom I've *specially named*,  
*specially chosen, and not without purpose.*  
I Am the first *of all things*, and I will be the last.

<sup>13</sup> It is by *My power, My desire*, My doing that the earth was anchored.  
My hand flung the skies. *I established them*,  
And when I call, they pay the strictest attention.

<sup>14</sup> **Come and listen, all of you!** Did any of you tell in advance  
that the Eternal's beloved would press diligently  
Against Babylon's might and overcome Chaldea as He desired?

<sup>15</sup> **Eternal One:** No, only I, I the *Eternal One* knew this would happen.  
I was the one who summoned him, who led him,  
Who determined that he would have such victory.

<sup>16</sup> Come even closer, and hear: **from the beginning I spoke,**  
**not hiding away in hushed secret.** *I Am and will be;*  
I was before anything was at all.

**Yah, the Eternal, has sent me and His Spirit.**

<sup>17</sup> The Eternal One, who rescued you, the Holy One of Israel declares,  
**Eternal One:** I am the Eternal One your God. I have given you My  
instruction

for living well and right, leading you in how you should be and do.

<sup>18</sup> If only you had listened to My instruction,  
then you would have been flooded with peace;  
Your righteousness *would have risen and crested* like  
waves on the sea.

<sup>19</sup> Your people would have *multiplied to* become like the  
grains of sand,  
and your children would be like grains of wheat.

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**And they would be forever in My mind and My presence.**

<sup>20</sup>Leave Babylon; run swiftly from Chaldea! **And let it be known with a joyous shout, to the ends of the earth, That the Eternal One has rescued Jacob, His servant!**

<sup>21</sup>And though He guided them through desert places, with no water in sight, they were never thirsty.

*Just as in Moses' time, Yahweh made the rocks gush water,  
split the rock and made water pour streaming out.*

<sup>22</sup>**Eternal One:** Ah, but the *malicious and* wicked will never be at peace.

Micah 7 Expanded Bible (EXB)

**The Evil That People Do**

<sup>1</sup>·Poor [Woe to] me! I am like a hungry man,  
and all the summer fruit has been picked—  
there are no grapes left to eat,  
none of the early figs I ·love [crave].

<sup>2</sup>All of the faithful people ·are gone [·have perished from the land/earth];  
there is not one ·good [upright] person left in this country.  
Everyone ·is waiting to kill someone [·lies in wait for blood];  
everyone ·is trying to trap someone else [·hunts his brother with a net].

<sup>3</sup>With both hands they are doing evil.

Rulers ask for ·money [gifts],  
and judges' decisions are bought for a ·price [bribe].  
·Rich [Influential; Great] people ·tell what they want [make demands],  
and they get it.

<sup>4</sup>Even the best of them is like a ·thornbush [brier];  
the most ·honest [upright] of them is worse than a ·prickly plant [thorn hedge].

The day ·that your watchmen warned you about [·of your watchmen; ·the

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coming exile predicted by the prophets] has come.

Now they will be confused [<sup>c</sup>without the guidance of the prophets].

<sup>5</sup>Don't ·believe [trust] your neighbor  
or ·trust [put confidence in] a friend.

·Don't say anything [<sup>l</sup>Guard the doors of your mouth],  
even to ·your wife [<sup>l</sup>the one who lies on your bosom/chest].

<sup>6</sup>A son will not honor his father,  
a daughter will ·turn against [defy; rise up against] her mother,  
and a daughter-in-law will be against her mother-in-law;  
a person's enemies will be ·members of his own family [*or* the servants of  
his household; <sup>l</sup>the men/people of his house.

## Yah's Kindness

<sup>7</sup>Israel says, "I will look to Yah for help.  
I will wait for Yah ·to save me [my savior];  
my Yah will hear me.

<sup>8</sup>Enemy, don't ·laugh at [gloat over] me.  
I have fallen, but I will get up again.  
I sit in ·the shadow of trouble now [<sup>l</sup>darkness],  
but Yah will be a light for me.

<sup>9</sup>I sinned against Yah,  
so ·he was angry with me [<sup>l</sup>I will bear the wrath of Yah],  
but he will ·defend my case in court (Daniel 7<sup>th</sup> Chapter) [plead my case].  
He will ·bring about what is right [accomplish justice] for me.  
Then he will bring me out into the light,  
and I will see ·him set things right [his righteousness/justice/vindication].

<sup>10</sup>Then my enemies will see this,  
and they will be ·ashamed [<sup>l</sup>covered with shame],  
those who said to me,  
'Where is Yah your God?'  
I will ·look down on [gloat over] them.  
They will ·get walked on [be trampled down], like mud in the street."



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## Israel Will Return

<sup>11</sup> **The ·time** [<sup>1</sup>day] **will come when your walls will be built again,**  
**when your ·country will grow** [borders will be extended].

<sup>12</sup> ·**At that time** [<sup>1</sup>In that day] your people will **come back** to you  
from Assyria and the cities of Egypt,  
and from Egypt to the ·Euphrates River [<sup>1</sup>River],  
and from sea to sea and mountain to mountain.

<sup>13</sup> The earth will be ·ruined [desolate] ·for [or because of] the people who live  
in it  
·because [<sup>1</sup>for the fruit] of their deeds.

## A Prayer to Yah

<sup>14</sup> So shepherd your people with your ·stick [shepherd's staff];  
tend the flock of ·people who belong to you [<sup>1</sup>your inheritance/possession].

**That flock now lives alone in the forest**

in the middle of ·a garden land [pasturelands; or Carmel].

Let them ·feed [graze] **in Bashan and Gilead**  
**as in days long ago.**

<sup>15</sup> "As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them ·miracles [wonders]."

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What were those wonders or miracles?

## Exodus 8 The Voice (VOICE)

1 (Yah the) **Eternal One** (to Moses): Go visit Pharaoh and give him My  
message: "The Eternal says to you, 'Release My people, so that they may  
serve Me. <sup>2</sup>If you do not release them, **I will send an infestation of**  
**frogs across your entire land**. <sup>3</sup>The Nile will swarm **with frogs**. They will  
hop up from the river to assault your palace, make their way into your  
bedroom, and even crawl into your bed. The frogs will crowd into the

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houses of your servants and *eventually* of all your people. *They will find their way* into your ovens and kneading bowls. <sup>4</sup>*Mark My words*, these frogs will be all over you, your people, and all your servants."

<sup>5</sup>Give this message to Aaron: "Take your staff in hand and raise it over the rivers, canals, and ponds, and call forth the frogs to invade Egypt."

<sup>6</sup>Aaron reached out with his staff over all the waters of Egypt, and *countless* frogs came forth and soon covered the land. *They were everywhere*. <sup>7</sup>The *most talented* magicians in *Pharaoh's Egypt* were called to perform the same act with their incantations and they, too, called forth the frogs into Egypt.

**Pharaoh's magicians may be able to conjure up frogs, but they can't make them leave.**

<sup>8</sup>Pharaoh sent for Moses and Aaron.

**Pharaoh:** Plead with the Eternal to remove the frogs from my *land, from my house*, and from *the houses of* my people. If He does this, I will release the people so that they can go sacrifice to the Eternal One.

**Moses:** <sup>9</sup> You may have the honor of naming the time when I plead for you, your servants, and your people *and ask Yahweh* to get rid of the frogs that are plaguing you and your houses. There will be no frogs left except in the Nile.

**Pharaoh:** <sup>10</sup>Tomorrow.

**Moses:** *Then tomorrow it is*—just as you have requested—so that you will know that there is no one like the Eternal our Yah. <sup>11</sup>The frogs will leave you, your houses, your servants, and all your people. *After tomorrow*, there will be no frogs anywhere except those in the Nile.

<sup>12</sup>Moses and Aaron then left Pharaoh, and Moses pled with the Eternal about the frogs, which He had brought upon Pharaoh, *that He would rid the land of them*. <sup>13</sup>He did as Moses asked of Him, and all the frogs that had infested the houses, streets, and fields died. <sup>14</sup>**The Egyptians gathered up all the dead frogs and made great piles of them**, and **the land took on a**

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**rotten stench.** <sup>15</sup> But when Pharaoh saw *that the infestation of frogs had ended*, he was relieved; and he hardened his own heart and refused to listen to Moses and Aaron, just as the Eternal had said.

**Eternal One (to Moses):** <sup>16</sup> Give this message to Aaron: "**Raise your staff and strike the dust of the earth** and the land of Egypt will be **overrun with swarms of gnats.**"

<sup>17</sup> They did exactly as *Yah had* instructed. When Aaron reached out and struck the dust of the earth with his staff, **swarms of gnats flew up from the dust and covered the people and animals**. *It seemed as if* all the dust in the land of Egypt turned into gnats.

<sup>18</sup> The *most talented* magicians in *Pharaoh's Egypt* tried to perform this same act with their incantations, but none could do it. So the gnats continued to swarm all over the people and their animals.

**Magicians (to Pharaoh):** <sup>19</sup> This must be the finger of God.

**If Yah can do this with a finger, what must His whole hand be able to accomplish?**

But Pharaoh's heart was as hard as stone, and he refused to pay any attention to Moses and Aaron, just as the Eternal One had said.

**Eternal One (to Moses):** <sup>20</sup> **Get up early in the morning and get in Pharaoh's way as he is walking out toward the water. Stand up to him, face-to-face, and give him My message**: The Eternal says to you, "Release My people, so that they may serve Me. <sup>21</sup> **If you do not release My people, I will release swarms of flies upon you**, your servants, and your people, and into all of your houses. The houses of the Egyptians and the ground they walk on will be overrun with these swarms. <sup>22</sup> **On the day this plague begins, I will separate/protect Goshen—where My people live—from the rest of the land. It will be a safe place**, unharmed by the hordes of insects *that I release against Egypt*. **Then you will know that I am the Eternal; and I am here, right in the middle of this land.** <sup>23</sup> **I will make a distinction between My people and your people**. This sign will happen tomorrow."

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<sup>24</sup>The Eternal did just as He said. Thick swarms of insects *darkened the skies and* invaded Pharaoh's palace and his servants' houses. The land was wiped out by the swarm of insects that infested all the land of Egypt. <sup>25</sup>Pharaoh sent for Moses and Aaron.

**Pharaoh:** Go and sacrifice to your Yah. *But you must stay here in the land.*

**Moses:** <sup>26</sup>It would not be right to do what you ask, for our manner of offering sacrifices to the Eternal our God is deeply offensive to the Egyptians.

If we offend them with these sacrifices, will they not stone us? <sup>27</sup>No. **We must travel for three days into the desert** and sacrifice to the Eternal our God, just as He has asked us to do.

**Pharaoh:** <sup>28</sup>I will allow you to go *on a short journey* into the desert and sacrifice to the Eternal your God. But you must not travel too far from here—*certainly not three days away*. And *do not forget to offer prayers for me*.

**Moses:** <sup>29</sup>I am leaving you now, and I am going to offer prayers to the Eternal that the swarms of insects will leave Pharaoh, his servants, and his people by tomorrow. But, Pharaoh, do not go back on your promise to allow the people to go and sacrifice to the Eternal.

<sup>30</sup>Moses left Pharaoh and offered prayers to the Eternal. <sup>31</sup>He honored Moses' prayers and removed the swarms of insects that had plagued Pharaoh, his servants, and the people of Egypt. Not a single insect remained. <sup>32</sup>But Pharaoh hardened his stubborn heart this time as well and refused to allow the people to go.

### Exodus 9 The Voice (VOICE)

1 **Eternal One** (to Moses): *Once again*, go visit Pharaoh and give him My message: " (Yahweh)The Eternal, God of the Hebrew people, says to you, 'Release My people, so that they can serve Me. <sup>2</sup>**If you refuse to release them and strengthen your grip on them**, <sup>3</sup>then the hand of the Eternal **will come down hard on you: a terrible disease will afflict all of your livestock in the fields—horses, donkeys, camels,**

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cattle, and sheep. <sup>4</sup>**But the Eternal will distinguish between Israel's livestock and Egypt's livestock, so that not a single animal that belongs to Israel's people will die.**" <sup>5</sup>He has already determined the time *when this plague will begin*, saying: "Tomorrow He will strike the land."

### **1 Million Cattle killed in Midwest Flooding:**

## **Nebraska Gov. Pete Ricketts: Worst flooding damage in our state's history – As many as a million calves lost in Nebraska**

By [Strange Sounds](#) Mar 22, 2019



***We've got at least 400 million in livestock losses and 140 million in crop losses,*** says Ricketts.

***"There may be as many as a million calves lost in Nebraska,"*** says agriculture secretary Sonny Purdue, United States Secretary of Agriculture.

<http://strangesounds.org/2019/03/nebraska-floods-million-calves-dead-video.html> **Video**

## **100,000 Cows Freeze to Death in Freak Record-Breaking Snowstorm**

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Tens of thousands of cattle perished in a freak snowstorm during the first weekend in October in Wyoming, Montana and South Dakota. That's incredible, and yet the story is getting surprisingly little attention.

An unexpectedly early and brutal blizzard struck states from the [Northern High Plains to the Rocky Mountains](#) on October 4th and 5th, leaving up to five feet of snow on the ground. The storm's howling winds proved to be a death knell for an estimated 75,000 to 100,000 defenseless cattle.

First the poor creatures were pelted with rain, 12 hours of it, until their coats were waterlogged. Then came 48 hours of snow, 60 to 70 mph winds and freezing temperatures. Cattle wandered, cold, wet, covered with ice and confused. They huddled together at fence lines for warmth. Snow drifted to heights of 10 feet or more. Eventually, the [cattle dropped](#) where they stood, by the thousands, and the [snow buried them](#).

In the aftermath, [bodies were everywhere](#). Black hooves and legs stuck up out of the snow, grotesquely marking the spots where cows and calves finally collapsed and froze to death.

"They're in the fence line, laying alongside the roads," Martha Wierzbicki, emergency management director for Butte County, S.D., [told the Billings Gazette](#). "It's really sickening."

The unfortunate cows were ill-equipped to face this sudden snow because they [hadn't grown their winter coats yet](#). Compounding the problem, the weather's been good recently, so ranchers hadn't yet moved the cattle to their wintertime grazing locations which tend to have more gullies and trees. The cows were still in their open, flat summer pastures at this time of year, which is normally as it should be.

Heavy, sustained blizzards during the first week of October just don't happen in South Dakota and Wyoming. Only days earlier, [temperatures had been in the 80s](#). The odd weather, dubbed "[Winter Storm Atlas](#)," caught ranchers flatfooted.

It's not that they didn't want to take care of their cattle. They did — those animals are their livelihood, after all. This storm was a record-breaker, however. It defied weather predictions and hit with unexpected force and longevity. Ranchers simply didn't have time to move their cattle to more protected areas.

"It's bad. It's really bad. I'm the eternal optimist and this is really bad," 60-year-old rancher Gary Cammack [told the Associated Press](#). "The livestock loss is just catastrophic.... It's pretty unbelievable. It's the worst early season snowstorm I've seen in my lifetime."



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ICE FROM THE FLOODING WATERS BROKE THE CATTLE'S LEGS!



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I will show them *·miracles [wonders] or plagues.*"

<sup>6</sup> Then the Eternal *did exactly as He said and* sent this sign on the next day. All of the Egyptians' livestock began to die, **but not a single animal from Israel's livestock perished.** <sup>7</sup> Pharaoh sent *investigators to check Israel's livestock*, and they found that not a single one of their animals had died *or become sick*. But Pharaoh's heart was still as hard as stone, and he refused to release the people.

**Eternal One (to Moses and Aaron):** <sup>8</sup> **Reach into the furnace and grab handfuls of ashes.** Moses, throw these ashes up into the air—right in front of Pharaoh. <sup>9</sup> **It will turn into a fine dust that will cover all the land of Egypt and cause painful abscesses to break out on people and animals throughout the land of Egypt.**

<sup>10</sup> So they removed ash from the furnace and stood directly in front of Pharaoh. Moses threw the ashes up in the air, and it caused abscesses to break out on people and their animals. <sup>11</sup> Even the *most talented* magicians in *Pharaoh's Egypt* could not stand before Moses, **because the abscesses broke out on their bodies as well as the rest of the Egyptians.**

<sup>12</sup> The Eternal made Pharaoh's hard heart even harder, and Pharaoh was not moved by *the miraculous deeds and* the words of Moses and Aaron, just as the Eternal had told Moses.

**Eternal One (to Moses):** <sup>13</sup> **Get up early tomorrow morning** and stand before Pharaoh. Tell him, "The Eternal, the God of the Hebrews, has a message for you: 'Release My people, so that they may serve Me. <sup>14</sup> This time, **if you refuse, I'm going to send a series of plagues upon you yourself, your servants, and your people.** Then you will see that there is no one else *as great as I am* in all the earth. <sup>15</sup> **For by now I could have easily raised my hand and struck you and your people with a disease so lethal that you would be erased entirely from the earth.** <sup>16</sup> **But I have kept you in power for a reason, to show you My greater power and to see that My name and reputation spread through all the earth.** <sup>17</sup> **But you still try to dominate My people and refuse to release them from the land.** <sup>18</sup> **This time tomorrow, I will unleash an enormous hailstorm upon you—a storm like no other that has ever occurred in Egypt since its beginning until now.**

*<sup>15</sup>"As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them ·miracles [wonders] or plagues."*

<sup>19</sup> So gather all your livestock and anything left in your fields into a safe place. **Protect it the best you can, for every man or animal left unprotected in the field when the hailstorm arrives will die.**"

<sup>20</sup> **Some of Pharaoh's servants feared the Eternal's message, so they gathered their servants and livestock into the safety of their houses.** <sup>21</sup> But *there were others* who did not take seriously the Eternal's word, and they left their servants and livestock unprotected in the field.

**Eternal One (to Moses):** <sup>22</sup> Raise your hand up toward the heavens, **and hail will rain from the sky across the entire land of Egypt**—upon people and animals and all the crops in the field throughout the land of Egypt.

<sup>23</sup> **So Moses raised his staff up toward the heavens,** and the Eternal released *loud thunder and hail from the sky*, **and fire streaked down upon the earth**. He caused hail to rain down upon all of Egypt. <sup>24</sup> **As the hail fell, lightning pierced the darkness and lit up the sky.** The **hailstorm** was so intense that it **was like no other that had ever occurred in Egypt since its beginning.**

Nearly 1,500 pulses of lightning recorded off Southern California coast in 5 minutes

[blob:https://www.latimes.com/135d6868-cd85-43ec-9a0d-e2a02656ff50](https://www.latimes.com/135d6868-cd85-43ec-9a0d-e2a02656ff50)



<sup>15</sup> "As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them ·miracles [wonders] or plagues."





<sup>15</sup> "As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them ·miracles [wonders] or plagues."



A band of thunderstorms that stretched from southern Kern County past the Channel Islands was producing a dramatic lightning show Tuesday night in the Southern California sky.

In one five-minute stretch alone, shortly after 8 p.m., the National Weather Service recorded 1,489 pulses of lightning off the coast, 231 over Santa Barbara County and 40 in Los Angeles County, said Kathy Hoxsie, a meteorologist with the weather service in Oxnard.

#### Resuming Exodus 9:25 The Voice Translation

<sup>25</sup> The hail pounded everything *to the ground* that remained in the fields, both people and their animals; it crushed every crop, it shattered every tree. <sup>26</sup> **There was only one place the hail did not fall—Goshen—where the people of Israel lived.**

<sup>27</sup> Pharaoh then sent for Moses and Aaron.

**Pharaoh:** *I admit that this time I've gone too far. I have sinned. The Eternal is in the right; I and my people have done wrong.* <sup>28</sup> *Go back to the Eternal and plead my case. We have had enough of your God's thunder and hail. I will agree to release you—you and your people will not stay any longer.*

**Moses:** <sup>29</sup> *Watch closely.* The moment I step outside the city gates, I will lift up my hands to the Eternal, and the thunder and hail will stop. Then you will know that the earth belongs to Him. <sup>30</sup> **But I know very well that you and your servants do not yet fear the Eternal Yah.**

<sup>15</sup> "As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them *·miracles [wonders] or plagues.*"

<sup>31</sup> (The flax and barley crops were both destroyed, because the barley heads were nearly ripe and buds had formed on the flax *when the hail fell*. <sup>32</sup> But the wheat and the spelt had not yet sprouted, so these crops were spared.)

<sup>33</sup> Moses left Pharaoh and departed the city. **He lifted up his hands to the Eternal and prayed. When he did, the thunder and hail and heavy rains stopped.** <sup>34</sup> But as soon as Pharaoh saw *that the weather had changed*, and he and his servants were certain that the hail and thunder and heavy rains were no longer a threat, **they became utterly defiant and Pharaoh hardened his stubborn heart once again.** <sup>35</sup> Because his heart was as hard as stone, he refused to release the Israelites *as he promised*. This happened exactly as the Eternal One predicted through Moses.

### Exodus 10 The Voice (VOICE)

1 **Eternal One** (to Moses): Go pay Pharaoh another visit. I have made his heart and his servants' hearts as hard *as stone*, **so that I can perform My wondrous signs among them and reveal My power.** <sup>2</sup> **I have done all these things so that you can tell your children and grandchildren stories of how I treated the cruel Egyptians with contempt and performed My signs among them.** *I have done all this* so that you may believe I am the Eternal.

<sup>3</sup> So *once again* Moses and Aaron went to see Pharaoh.

**Moses and Aaron:** The Eternal, the God of the Hebrews, has a message for you: "How long do you plan to *resist Me and* refuse to **humble yourself** before Me? Release My people, so that they can *go and* serve Me *in the desert*. <sup>4</sup> If you refuse to release My people, **tomorrow I will fill your land with locusts,** <sup>5</sup> and they will blanket the ground. **There will be so many that you will not be able to see the ground!** The locusts will devour every crop the hail did not destroy, and their horde will strip every tree that grows in your fields! <sup>6</sup> They will fill *every corner of* your houses, your servants' houses, and all the Egyptians' houses. **This will be a spectacle that none of your ancestors have ever seen—never from the day that they were born until this present day.**"



<sup>15</sup>"As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them ·miracles [wonders] or plagues."

**Starvation for the majority of Egyptians is becoming a real possibility. How far they have come from Joseph's day when Egypt fed the world!**

Moses then turned and left Pharaoh.

**Servants (to Pharaoh):** <sup>7</sup>How much longer will *you let* this man trap us? Why don't you just release the people and let them go serve the Eternal their God? *Look around you!* Don't you see that Egypt is in ruins?

<sup>8</sup>Then Pharaoh had Moses and Aaron brought back to him.

**Pharaoh:** *Some of your people may go and serve this God of yours, the Eternal! But not all.* Who will be going with you?

**Moses:** <sup>9</sup>*No.* All of us must go—the young and the old. We will take our sons, daughters, flocks, and herds with us. We are all going *into the desert* to celebrate a *great* festival to the Eternal.

**Pharaoh:** <sup>10</sup>**The Eternal had better be with you if you really think I am going to let you take your little ones with you!** Look, I know you have some evil plan. *I can see it in your face.* <sup>11</sup>No! I will allow you to take only the men to go and serve the Eternal One, since that is what you have been asking for *all along*.

**Then Pharaoh had Moses and Aaron thrown out.**

**Eternal One (to Moses):** <sup>12</sup>Stretch your hand over the land of Egypt **and call forth the locusts**, so that they may invade Egypt and devour anything *that grows* from the earth and everything the hail did not destroy.

<sup>13</sup>Then Moses raised his staff over the land of Egypt, and **the Eternal directed the east wind to blow over the land all that day and night**. When the morning dawned, **the east wind brought with it a cloud of locusts**. <sup>14</sup>They *dropped from the sky and* overran the land of Egypt from one end to the other. Countless numbers of them swarmed *in the air and* crawled over the ground. Never had there been nor would there ever be again such a swarm of locusts in Egypt. <sup>15</sup>The locusts blanketed the whole

*<sup>15</sup>"As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them ·miracles [wonders] or plagues."*

land until the ground was *smothered* in darkness. They devoured every plant growing in the fields and stripped every tree of its fruit, everything the hail had not destroyed. Not one green leaf was left on any tree, not one plant was left growing in the field anywhere in the land of Egypt.

<sup>16</sup>Pharaoh immediately sent for Moses and Aaron.

**Pharaoh:** **I have sinned** against the Eternal your God and against **you**. <sup>17</sup>Now, please forgive me, just this once; and pray to the Eternal your God, and ask Him to take away this *plague of death* from me.

<sup>18</sup>Moses left Pharaoh and prayed to the Eternal *for him*.

<sup>19</sup>He caused the winds to shift, and a strong west wind blew and lifted the *cloud of locusts up into the air* and drove them out into the Red Sea.<sup>[a]</sup> Not a single locust was left in all the land of Egypt. <sup>20</sup>But He hardened Pharaoh's stubborn heart, and he refused to release the Israelites.

**Eternal One (to Moses):** <sup>21</sup>**Raise your hand up toward the heavens, and a great darkness will cover the land of Egypt**, a heavy, **oppressive** darkness.

<sup>22</sup>So Moses raised his hand up toward the heavens, **and a deep darkness settled over all the land of Egypt for three days**. <sup>23</sup>*It was so dark that people could not even see each other, and no one dared to venture out from their houses for three whole days. But all the people of Israel had light where they lived*. <sup>24</sup>Once more Pharaoh sent for Moses.

**Pharaoh:** You may go and serve the Eternal. Everyone can go—even your little ones—but leave your herds and flocks behind.

**Moses:** <sup>25</sup>You must also allow us to take *our herds and flocks as sacrifices and burnt offerings, for we must offer them to the Eternal our God*. <sup>26</sup>We need to take every single animal—not a hoof can be left behind—because we need some of them to sacrifice to Him. And until we get to where we are going, we will not know what *animals* we need to worship the Eternal.

<sup>15</sup> "As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them *·miracles [wonders] or plagues.*"

<sup>27</sup> But the Eternal hardened Pharaoh's *stubborn* heart *once again*, and he was unwilling to release the Israelites.

**Pharaoh** (to Moses): <sup>28</sup> Get out of here, and never come back! **If you ever try to see my face again, I will have you killed!**

**Moses:** <sup>29</sup> What you say is true. I will never see your face again!

### Exodus 11 The Voice (VOICE)

**1 Eternal One** (to Moses): I am going to strike Pharaoh and his Egypt one more time, **and after this final plague**, Pharaoh will release you from Egypt. When he *finally* releases you, *he will be so glad to see you go that* he will *practically* force you out of this land. <sup>2</sup> *Go now and* speak to all the people. **Have every man and every woman ask their neighbors to give them items made of silver and gold.**

<sup>3</sup> Now the Eternal caused the Egyptian people to have a favorable attitude toward His people. And Moses was already highly regarded in the land of Egypt by Pharaoh's servants and *most* Egyptians.

**Moses** (to Pharaoh): <sup>4</sup> This is the message of the Eternal: "About midnight I will move through Egypt, <sup>5</sup> **and every firstborn son** in every family in Egypt will die—from the firstborn of Pharaoh (who rules from his throne) to the firstborn of the slave girl (who grinds at the mill). **The firstborn of all your cattle and livestock will die as well.** <sup>6</sup> The air will be heavy with loud wailing throughout the land of Egypt, *a deep and dismal mourning* unlike any that has been or will ever be again in the land. <sup>7</sup> **But among the people of Israel not even a dog's bark will disturb the night. Then you will know that the Eternal makes a sharp distinction between Egypt and Israel.**"

<sup>8</sup> All those who are servants to you, *Pharaoh*, will come down to me and humbly bow before me and beg, "Please go! You and all those who follow you! *Leave now!*" That is when I will go.

**Then Moses, who was boiling with anger, left Pharaoh's presence.**

**Eternal One** (to Moses): <sup>9</sup> Pharaoh will not pay attention to what you say. As a result, My wonders will increase in all the land of Egypt.

<sup>15</sup> "As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them *·miracles [wonders] or plagues.*"

**Pharaoh's stubbornness never frustrates the divine plan. Yah turns it and uses it to demonstrate to all that He is the one True God.**

<sup>10</sup> Moses and Aaron performed all of these wonders in the presence of Pharaoh. But the Eternal hardened Pharaoh's *stubborn* heart, and Pharaoh refused to release the Israelites from his land.

### Exodus 12 The Voice (VOICE)

Perhaps the best way to look at the confrontation between Moses and Pharaoh is as a contest to see who truly is God. In Egypt Pharaoh is considered a god. He has certain powers and abilities, and the might of Egypt resides with him. When Moses and Aaron appear before him to demand the release of the Hebrew slaves, each refusal becomes an occasion for the True God to demonstrate His superiority over Pharaoh and all the other gods of Egypt. Each successive miracle attacks deeper into the heart of Pharaoh's power and politics. Slowly but surely, Pharaoh's power is subverted until Yah breaks Pharaoh's grip on the people of Israel completely. With the final miracle everything begins to unravel: the death of the firstborn is personal for Pharaoh.

<sup>1</sup> **Eternal One** (to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt): <sup>1-2</sup> [Mark this month as the first month of all months for you](#)—**the first month of your year.**

<sup>3</sup> Declare this message to the entire community of Israel: "[When the tenth day of this month arrives, every family is to select a lamb, one for each household.](#) <sup>4</sup> If there aren't enough people in the family to eat an entire lamb, then they should share a lamb with their nearest neighbor according to how many people are in the neighbor's family. Divide the portions of the lamb so that each person has enough to eat. <sup>5</sup> [Choose a one-year-old male that is intact and free of blemishes](#); you can take it from the sheep or the goats. <sup>6</sup> **[Keep this chosen lamb safe until the fourteenth day of the month,](#)** then the entire community of Israel will slaughter their lambs together **at twilight.**

<sup>7</sup> They are to take some of **its blood** and smear it across the top and down the two sides of the doorframe of the houses **where they plan to eat.** <sup>8</sup> That night, have them roast the lamb over a fire and [feast on it](#)

<sup>15</sup> "As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them *·miracles [wonders] or plagues.*"

along with bitter herbs and bread made without yeast. <sup>9</sup>Do not eat any meat raw or boil it in water; only eat the meat after the *entire* animal has been roasted over a fire with its head, legs, and intestines attached. <sup>10</sup>*Eat whatever you can*, but don't leave any of it until morning; whatever is left over in the morning burn in the fire. <sup>11</sup>Here is how *I want you* to eat this meal: **Be sure you are dressed and ready to go at a moment's notice—with sandals on your feet and a walking stick in your hand. Eat quickly because this is My Passover.**

<sup>12</sup> **I am going to pass through the land of Egypt during the night and put to death all their firstborn children and animals.**

**I will also execute My judgments against all the gods of the Egyptians, for I am the Eternal One!** <sup>13</sup> **The blood on the doorframes of your houses will be a sign of where you are.** When I *pass by* and **see the blood**, I will pass over you. This plague will not afflict you when I strike the land of Egypt *with death*.

<sup>14</sup> This will be a day for you to always remember. I want you and all generations after you to commemorate this day with a festival to Me. Celebrate this feast as a perpetual ordinance, *a permanent part of your life together*.

<sup>15</sup> **You are to eat bread made without yeast for seven days.** On the first day get rid of any yeast *you find* in your house. Anyone who eats bread made with yeast during the seven *festival* days **must be cut off from the rest of Israel**. <sup>16</sup> **On the first day of the festival and again on the seventh**, gather the community together for a time of sacred worship. **No one may work on those two days except to prepare what every person needs to eat.** <sup>17</sup> Celebrate the Feast of Unleavened Bread because it commemorates the day that I led your forces out of Egypt. Honor and celebrate this day throughout all your generations as a perpetual ordinance, *a permanent part of your life together*. <sup>18</sup> **From the evening of the fourteenth day of that first month to the evening of the twenty-first day of that month**, eat bread made without yeast. <sup>19</sup>

<sup>20</sup> No yeast is to be found in any of your houses during the seven *festival* days. Whoever eats anything that has yeast in it must be

<sup>15</sup> "As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them *·miracles [wonders] or plagues.*"

cut off from the community of Israel. It doesn't matter whether he is a foreigner or a native; *the same standards apply. During the seven festival days, do not eat anything made with yeast; **wherever you live and gather together***, be sure you eat only unleavened bread.

<sup>21</sup> Then Moses called all of Israel's elders together and gave them instructions.

**Moses:** Go and pick out lambs for each of your families, and then slaughter *your family's* Passover lamb. <sup>22</sup> **Take a handful of hyssop branches**, dip them down into the **bowl of blood** you drained from the sacrifice, and **mark the top of the doorway and the two doorposts with blood from the bowl. After you do this, no one should go out that door until the next morning.**

<sup>23</sup> The Eternal will pass through *the land during the night* and bring death to the Egyptians. But when **He sees the blood-markings across the tops of your doorways and down your two doorposts**, He will pass over your houses **and not allow His messenger of death to enter into your houses and strike you down.** <sup>24</sup> You and all your descendants are obligated to keep these instructions for all time. <sup>25</sup> Even after you arrive in the land the Eternal has promised you—*the land flowing with milk and honey*—you must keep *these instructions and perform this ritual.* <sup>26</sup> **When your children ask you, "What does this ritual mean to you?"** <sup>27</sup> **you will answer them, "It is the Passover sacrifice to the Eternal, for He passed over the houses of the Israelites when we were slaves in Egypt.** And although He struck the Egyptians, He spared *our lives and our houses.*"

**The name of this festival, "Passover," comes from the fact that Yah "passes over" those houses where the Israelites gather and eat the sacrifice.**

*When Moses finished these instructions, the people bowed down and worshiped.*

<sup>28</sup> The Israelites went and did as they were instructed; they were obedient to what the Eternal had commanded Moses and Aaron.

<sup>15</sup> "As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them ·miracles [wonders] or plagues."

<sup>29</sup> **Now this is what happened: at midnight**, He struck down all the firstborn sons in Egypt—from the firstborn son of Pharaoh, who sat on his throne, to the firstborn *son* of the prisoners *locked* in the dungeon, and even the firstborn of all the livestock in the land. <sup>30</sup> Pharaoh woke up during the night. *He wasn't the only one.* His servants, as well as all of the Egyptians *in the land*, had awoken. **A great scream shattered the night in Egypt**, for there was not a single *Egyptian* house where someone was not dead.

<sup>31</sup> Pharaoh sent for Moses and Aaron before the night was over.

**Pharaoh** (*to Moses and Aaron*): Get up and get out. Leave my people *right now*—you and *all the rest of* the Israelites. Go and worship *this god of yours*, the Eternal One, just as you have said. <sup>32</sup> Take your flocks and your herds as well with you—just as you said—and go! **But bless me on your way out!**

**Pharaoh hates to admit he has been beaten by Moses and his God. After losing his firstborn son—destined to be the next Pharaoh—he has little choice.**

<sup>33</sup> The Egyptians *frantically* urged the people of Israel to hurry and leave their land.

**Egyptians** (*imploring*): **If you do not leave soon, we will all be dead.**

<sup>34</sup> *So the Israelites hurried.* They took their *bread* dough before any yeast had been added, packed up their kneading bowls, wrapped them in *some of* their clothing, and carried them on their shoulders.

<sup>35</sup> The people of Israel also did what Moses had told them to do; **they asked the Egyptians for items made of silver and gold**, and they asked for *extra* clothing as well. <sup>36</sup> The Eternal caused the Egyptians to have a favorable attitude toward *His* people, so the Egyptians fulfilled these requests *and gave the people what they asked for.* **This is how the Israelites stripped the Egyptians of their valued possessions.**

<sup>15</sup> "As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them *·miracles [wonders] or plagues.*"

For many years the Egyptians stripped the people of Israel of their lives, labor, and dignity. **Yah's justice demands that Israel be paid for all they lost.**

<sup>37</sup> The Israelites *left and* traveled from Rameses to Succoth. There were about 600,000 men, plus all the *women and children*. <sup>38</sup> Another crowd, made up of various and **sundry peoples**, accompanied them, as well as herds, flocks, and a great number of livestock. <sup>39</sup> They baked flat bread *along the way* from the dough without yeast which they carried with them from Egypt. The dough had no yeast because the people had been rushed out of Egypt, and they did not have enough time to gather food supplies for themselves.

<sup>40-41</sup> **The Israelites had lived in the land of Egypt for a total of 430 years. On the last day of their 430th year,** all the forces belonging to the Eternal left the land of Egypt. <sup>42</sup> This was the night when the Eternal kept watch over His people and brought them *safely* out of the land of Egypt; now this night is to be kept by His people, to be celebrated by all of the people of Israel throughout all generations.

Eternal One (to Moses and Aaron): <sup>43</sup> **This is the requirement for Passover: no foreigner or outsider should eat this meal.** <sup>44</sup> But every slave bought with money may participate in this celebration if he has been initiated into the community by circumcision.

<sup>45</sup> **No temporary residents or paid servants may share in it.** <sup>46</sup> **The meal must be eaten in only one house.** Don't take any of the meat outside. **Not one of the lamb's bones shall be broken.** <sup>[a]</sup> <sup>47</sup> **The entire community of Israel must celebrate it.** <sup>48</sup> If you have outsiders living among you and they want to celebrate the Passover to the Eternal with you, **then all the men must agree to be circumcised. Only after circumcision may they join in and celebrate with you;** then you must treat them as if they were native-born. But make sure no uncircumcised male eats *any part* of the *sacred* meal. <sup>49</sup> The same instruction applies to *everyone equally—without distinction*—the native as well as the outsider who is living among you.



*<sup>15</sup>"As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them ·miracles [wonders] or plagues."*

<sup>50</sup>Then all of the Israelites did exactly as the Eternal had instructed Moses and Aaron to do. <sup>51</sup>On that same day, **He led the Israelites as they marched out of the land of Egypt like an army.**

Ezekiel 37:10

So I did what Yah told me to do: I prophesied *to the breath*. As I was speaking, breath invaded the lifeless. The bodies came alive and stood on their feet. **I realized then I was looking at a great army.**

Joel 2:26 Expanded bible

Then you will have plenty to eat and be ·full [satisfied]. You will praise the name of Yah your God, who has ·done **miracles** [*or acted wondrously/marvelously*] for you. My people will never again be shamed.

Joel 2:30 Expanded bible

I will show ·**miracles** [wonders; portents (*Signs*)] in the ·sky [heavens] and on the earth: **blood, fire**, and ·thick [columns/billows of] smoke.

\*\*\*\*\*

Resuming Micah 7: 16-

<sup>16</sup>When the nations see those miracles,  
they will ·no longer brag [be ashamed/disappointed] about their power.  
They will put their hands over their mouths,  
·refusing to listen [and their ears will be deaf].

<sup>17</sup>They will ·crawl in the [<sup>1</sup>lick] dust like a snake,  
like ·insects crawling [*or serpents; <sup>1</sup>crawling things*] on the ground.  
They will come trembling from their ·holes [*or strongholds*] to Yah our God  
and will turn in fear before you.

<sup>18</sup>There is no God like you.  
You forgive those who are guilty of sin;  
you ·don't look at the sins [pass over the transgressions] of ·your people  
who are left alive [<sup>1</sup>the remnant of your inheritance].  
You will not stay angry forever,  
because you ·enjoy [delight in] ·being kind [mercy; lovingkindness].

<sup>19</sup>You will have ·mercy [compassion] on us again;  
you will conquer our sins.

<sup>15</sup>"As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them ·miracles [wonders] or plagues."

You will ·throw away [hurl; cast] all our sins  
into the ·deepest part [depths] of the sea.

<sup>20</sup>You will be ·true [faithful] to ·the people of Jacob [<sup>1</sup>Jacob],  
and you will ·be kind [show mercy/lovingkindness] to ·the people of  
Abraham [<sup>1</sup>Abraham]  
as you promised to our ·ancestors [fathers] long ago.

## Joel 2 The Voice (VOICE)

**1 Eternal One:** Blow the trumpet in Zion;

signal the alarm from My holy mountain!

**It is almost here.** Let all who live in the land tremble  
because the day of the Eternal One is coming.

<sup>2</sup> *Judgment will come on* a black and fearful day;  
a thick cloud of darkness *will loom over everything.*

**A great and mighty army advances (Jeremiah 51)**

like dawn spreading across the mountains.

Never has the world seen anything like it before,  
nor will future generations ever see anything like it again.

<sup>3</sup> **The army is like a fire**, consuming *everything* in its path—  
a *scorching* flame burning *everything* behind them.

The land before them is *sweet* like the garden of Eden.

The land following—only a lonely desert; nothing is spared *in judgment*.

<sup>4</sup> They look like horses *arrayed for battle*;  
they charge ahead like warhorses.

<sup>5</sup> **They sound like clattering chariots racing over mountaintops,**

like a crackling fire engulfing stubble,

Like a mighty army maneuvering for battle.

<sup>6</sup> Seeing the result of *Yah's judgment looming*, the  
nations writhe in anguish;  
each face grows as pale *as a ghost*.

<sup>7</sup> They run like champions *into the fight*.

Like *skilled* soldiers, they scale *city* walls;

**Every man marches in formation, never leaving his rank.**

<sup>8</sup> *Organized*—no soldier crowds another.

*Independent*—each man marches straight ahead.

*<sup>15</sup>"As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them ·miracles [wonders] or plagues."*

*Together—they are unstoppable as they break through the defenses  
and do not break off the attack.*

<sup>9</sup>They charge the city, scurry along its wall.

*They swarm through windows into houses, like common thieves.*

<sup>10</sup>Before them the earth trembles and the heavens shake.

*The sun and the moon become a void of darkness.*

*The stars lose their radiance too.*

<sup>11</sup>The Eternal One shouts commands from the front line of His army;

*His forces are vast—uncountable mighty soldiers obey His command.*

*The day of the Eternal One is great, fearsome indeed.*

*Who can survive?*

<sup>12</sup>**Eternal One: Even now, turn back your heart and rededicate  
yourselves to Me;**

***Show Me your repentance by fasting, weeping, and mourning.***

<sup>13</sup>*Rip the wickedness out of your hearts; don't just tear your clothing.*

*Now return to the Eternal, your True God.*

*You already know He is gracious and compassionate.*

*He does not anger easily and maintains faithful love.*

*He is willing to relent and not harm you.*

<sup>14</sup>***Who knows? Perhaps He will turn and relieve you of this  
threat,***

***and leave behind some blessing as He goes—***

*Maybe enough grain and wine to offer*

*to the Eternal, your True God?*

<sup>15</sup>Blow the trumpet in Zion; set apart a time for fasting;

*tell everyone to be still and stop working.*

<sup>16</sup>Assemble the people. Consecrate the congregation.

*Gather the elders and other leaders,*

*The young children, and even the nursing babies.*

*Let the bride and groom leave their chambers on their wedding night.*

<sup>17</sup>Let the priests, the Eternal's servants, stand between the porch and the altar

*and weep as they intercede. Let them say,*

<sup>15</sup> "As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them *·miracles [wonders] or plagues.*"

**Priests:** Have pity on Your people, O Eternal One!

And do not let Your legacy—*Your covenant people*—  
Be taunted and mocked by the nations,  
who ask, "Where is their God?"

<sup>18</sup> *But wait*—the Eternal One has become possessive of His land;  
*He will restore us* in compassion, His people!

<sup>19</sup> **In response to our prayers**, the Eternal will answer:

**Eternal One:** Listen! I am sending you *a great harvest of grain, wine, and oil.*

You will be completely satisfied and no longer  
Will I make you a people held in contempt by the nations.

<sup>20</sup> I will remove *My armies who attack* from the north far from your *borders*,  
driving them into a parched and lonely desert.

*Then I will separate them:* the front line to the Dead Sea,  
the rear guard into the Mediterranean Sea  
with the vile stench *of their rotting corpses* rising up.

Surely the Eternal One has done great things!

<sup>21</sup> **Do not fear**, O land. *You have been revived.*

**Celebrate and rejoice, for the Eternal One has done great things!**

<sup>22</sup> Do not fear, you wild beasts: *You will eat again*,  
for the desert pastures are green again!

*And so will we:* the trees bear their fruit;  
the fig trees and the vines produce their bounty *once again*.

<sup>23</sup> People of Zion, *shout with joy*  
and happiness in the Eternal, your God;

**The drought is over**; He has sent the early *autumn* rain as a *sign of His* faithfulness.

He has poured down *heavy* rain, autumn and spring, as before.

<sup>24</sup> The threshing floors will be covered in grain;  
the vats will spill over with new wine and fresh oil.

<sup>25</sup> **Eternal One: I will compensate you for the years**

**that the locusts have eaten—the swarming locusts,**  
The **creeping locusts**, the **stripping locusts**, and the **cutting locusts**—

[a]

My great army that I unleashed against you.

<sup>15</sup> "As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them *·miracles [wonders] or plagues.*"

<sup>26</sup> **In that day**, you will eat plenty of food **and always** have enough,  
so you will praise My name,  
The Eternal One, your God who is merciful to you.

**Never again will My people be shamed among the nations.**

<sup>27</sup> **Return to Me** and you will know that **I live among My people Israel**  
and that I, the Eternal One, am your God **and there is no other.**

**Never again will My people be shamed among the nations.**

<sup>28</sup> **Then in those days** I will pour My Spirit to all humanity;  
your children will *boldly and* prophetically speak *the word of Yah.*  
Your elders will dream dreams;  
your young warriors will see visions.

<sup>29</sup> **No one will be left out.** **In those days** I will offer My spirit  
to all servants, both male and female.

<sup>30</sup> In the heaven *above* and on the earth *below*,  
**I will give signs of My intervention**: blood, fire, and clouds of  
smoke.

<sup>31</sup> The sun will become a **void of darkness**, and **the moon will become  
blood**  
**just before the great and dreadful day of the Eternal One  
arrives.**

**Was the day of the Eternal One wonderful** to long for or **horrific** to  
dread? For Joel, it is both. Each of the five times this day is mentioned, he  
expresses a different expectation. In [Joel 1:15](#) the prophet signals  
distressing locust invasions, in [Joel 2:1](#) the day is filled with human invaders  
against Jerusalem, and in [Joel 2:11](#) it is a stunning event. But in [Joel](#)  
[2:31](#) the outlook begins to change. Not only is the earth transformed with  
the heavenly rains and Spirit of Yah, but also the celestial bodies cease to  
carry out their functions of giving light and setting seasons for the earth.  
Both in [verse 31](#) and in [Joel 3:14](#), **the day of the Eternal is positive for  
Israel but ominous for all other nations.** **Now the tables have been  
turned**, and Zion is not a mountain devoured by locusts and human armies.  
It is a wonderful garden where the Eternal One meets constantly with His  
people, surrounded by abundant and perennial (*Plentiful, replenished*)  
agriculture.

*<sup>15</sup>"As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them ·miracles [wonders] or plagues."*

<sup>32</sup>**Then everyone who calls on the name** of the Eternal One **will be  
liberated.**<sup>[b]</sup>

**Mount Zion and Jerusalem will shelter those who survive exile,**  
Just as the Eternal says, "**Among those who survived, He will call  
them.**"

ONLY AFTER WE DROP THE IDOLS/gods, LOOK WHAT HAPPENS!

### Isaiah 65 The Voice (VOICE)

**1 Eternal One:** I was ready and willing to help before anyone even asked.

I was found by people who did not seek Me;

I *showed My face and* said, "Here I am! I am right here!"

to a nation which did not call on Me.<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>2</sup> I *kept extending Myself to a people who don't care a whit.*

All day long I opened my hands to those who constantly work against  
Me,

**Those busy pursuing their own rotten path, inspired by their  
own rotten schemes.**<sup>[b]</sup>

<sup>3</sup> **These people continue to insult Me, right to My face,**  
pursuing other gods, sacrificing in gardens  
And offering incense on altars **made of bricks.**

<sup>4</sup> They sit among the graves (***Easter Sunrise Service***) and **spend their  
nights in secret rituals; (*Masonic Lodge*)(*Moon Worship*)**  
Baking cakes of the Queen of Heaven (Jeremiah)

### **Jeremiah 7:18**

The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead  
their dough, to make (Raisin) cakes to the **queen of heaven**, and to pour out  
drink **offerings** unto other gods, that they may provoke me (Yah) to anger.

<sup>15</sup> "As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them *·miracles [wonders] or plagues.*"

#### **Jeremiah 44:17**

But we will certainly do whatsoever thing goes forth out **of** our own mouth, to burn incense unto the **queen of heaven**, and to pour out drink **offerings** unto her, as we have done, we, and our fathers, our kings, and our princes, in the cities **of** Judah, and in the streets **of** Jerusalem: for then had we plenty **of** victuals, and were well, and saw no evil.

#### **Jeremiah 44:18**

But since we left **off** to burn incense to the **queen of heaven**, and to pour out drink **offerings** unto her, we have wanted all things, and have been consumed by the sword and by the famine.

#### **Jeremiah 44:19**

And when we burned incense to the **queen of heaven**, and poured out drink **offerings** unto her, did we make her cakes to worship her, and pour out drink **offerings** unto her, without our men?

#### **Jeremiah 44:25**

Thus says Yah **of** hosts, the God **of** Israel, saying; Ye and your wives have both spoken with your mouths, and fulfilled with your hand, saying, We will surely perform our vows that we have vowed, to burn incense to the **queen of heaven**, and to pour out drink **offerings** unto her: you will surely accomplish your vows, and surely perform your vows.

they eat the flesh of pigs (Pork) and pollute their pots with unclean meats.

<sup>5</sup> They *have the gall to say*, "Oooh, not so close! I am holier than you!"

These *unholy* people are smoke in My nostrils,  
A fire that burns and burns all day.

<sup>6</sup> **Look and see what stands written before Me:**

**"I will not remain silent and watch this disgrace:**

**But I will pay them back for what they have done.**

I will pour their pay directly into their laps.

<sup>15</sup> "As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them *·miracles [wonders] or plagues.*"

<sup>7</sup> They will pay for their sins and the sins of their parents too.  
For they *turned to other gods*, burned incense on the mountains  
And insulted Me on the hillsides.  
I will bring everything they deserve back to them, to their very core."

<sup>8</sup> **This is what the Eternal has to say:**

**Eternal One:** It's like *noticing* the promise of new wine in a cluster of grapes.

(**The way we see our people today may seem to us as hopeless, but**)

One will say, "**Don't destroy them all**"; some of them are bound to be good."

So for the sake of My servants,  
I won't destroy absolutely everyone.

<sup>9</sup> But I will bring up children from Jacob's line *to inherit this land*.  
To *Jacob's son* Judah I will give My mountains.

These, My chosen ones, will inherit it;  
these, **My servants, will live there and call it home**.

<sup>10</sup> From *the plains of* Sharon to the valley of Achor,  
**My people—who look to Me and no other**—

Will have pasture for their sheep  
and safe places for their herds.

<sup>11</sup> But those of you who ignore *Me*, the Eternal One—  
who *turn away from My sanctuaries*

And reject My holy mountain  
to chase *Lady Luck* and cater to *Destiny*—

<sup>12</sup> Will find *yourselves a bit unlucky* and your destiny an early death.  
You'll bow down *and be killed like sheep brought* to the slaughter

**Because when I called you, you did not answer**;  
when I spoke, you refused to listen.

**Instead you did all the wrong things and made terrible choices—  
what I expressly said that I hate.**

<sup>13</sup> So this is what Yah, the Eternal, has to say:



<sup>15</sup> "As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them *·miracles [wonders] or plagues.*"

**Eternal One:** My servants will eat *and eat well*, while you go hungry;  
My servants will drink *and be satisfied*, while you are *parched* with  
thirst;

My servants will celebrate with joy, while you are put to shame.

<sup>14</sup> My servants will sing with gladness in their hearts,  
While you cry out in anguish *and despair* and bemoan your brokenness.

<sup>15</sup> And when you are gone, your name will become a curse—  
*a repugnant byword*—to My chosen people;

The Eternal God will put you to death  
and call His servants by a new name altogether.

<sup>16</sup> Whoever speaks a blessing in this *special* land  
will invoke the God of truth;

Whoever takes a vow in the land *of promise*  
will make his pledge by *Yah* the God of truth.

For the *bitterness and* pain of earlier times **will nevermore come to mind**;  
they'll be hidden even from My eyes, *Yah* says.

<sup>17</sup> **Eternal One:** Now look here!

I am creating new heavens and a new earth.

**The weary and painful past will be as if it never happened.**

**No one will talk or even think about it anymore.**

<sup>18</sup> So take joy and celebrate with unending gladness  
on account of what I am creating.

Look carefully! I am making *this place I've chosen, this* Jerusalem, a city  
of joy.

I'm making her citizens, *My people*, a people of gladness.

<sup>19</sup> This Jerusalem, My *pride and* joy, and her people will be a delight to Me.

**Though you listen at every corner,**

**You will never hear crying, never hear despair or grief.**

<sup>20</sup> Never again will a person not live a full life,  
for the young will live to be a hundred  
And any who die earlier will be considered cursed.

<sup>21</sup> People will *confidently* build houses and make them their homes;  
they will plant vineyards and enjoy their fruit *for years to come*.

<sup>22</sup> They won't worry that someone else will *come along, drive them out,*  
*and* take it all away.

<sup>15</sup>"As in the days when I brought you out of Egypt,  
I will show them ·miracles [wonders] or plagues."

For My people will live as long as these age-old trees;  
My chosen will use up and wear out whatever they make.

<sup>23</sup> They will not work hard for what others take away;  
they will not lose children to sudden terror and death.  
For they are the offspring of those blessed by the Eternal;  
they and their descendants *will enjoy Yah's blessings*.

<sup>24</sup> I'll anticipate their prayers and respond before they know it;  
even as they speak, I will hear.

### King James Version

<sup>24</sup> And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.

### Expanded Bible Version

I will ·provide for their needs [·answer] before they ·ask [call],  
and I will ·help them [·hear] while they are still ·asking for help  
[·speaking].

### Isaiah 65:24 New Living Translation (NLT)

<sup>24</sup> I will answer them before they even call to me.  
While they are still talking about their needs,  
I will go ahead and answer their prayers!

### Resuming The Voice Translation at verse 25

<sup>25</sup> But they'll all eat together *like friends*—wolf and lamb, lion and ox,  
and the *biting* snake will feed on dust.  
When that day arrives, **there will be no evil, no violence, no hurt or  
wrong**  
**in all My sacred mountain.**