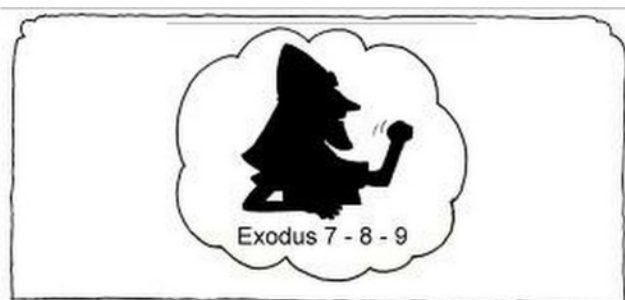


MOSES and the ten plagues - part one

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By Jill Kemp

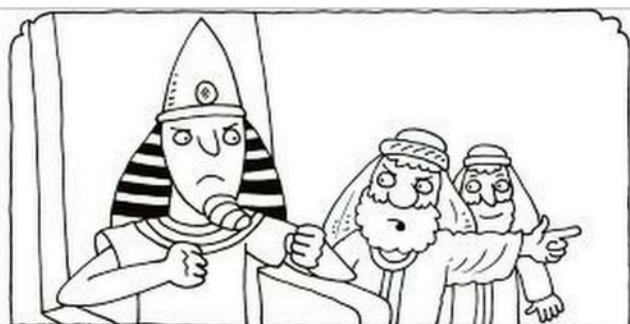
Illustrated by Richard Gunther



In Egypt the children of Israel had become the slaves of Pharaoh. When God told Moses that it was time to go home to the land He had promised them, He sent more terrible plagues until Pharaoh agreed to let them go.



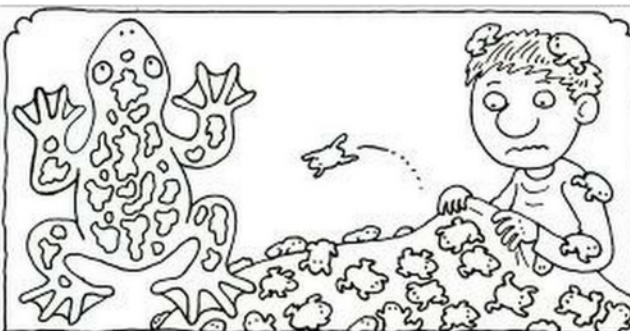
Pharaoh the king of Egypt had given Joseph's family the land of Goshen to live in, more than 400 years before. After he died the new Pharaoh treated the Israelites badly and now they were his slaves.



God sent Moses and Aaron to tell Pharaoh to let His people go home. "If you refuse," Aaron said, "God will send terrible plagues until you do." But Pharaoh was stubborn and would not listen.



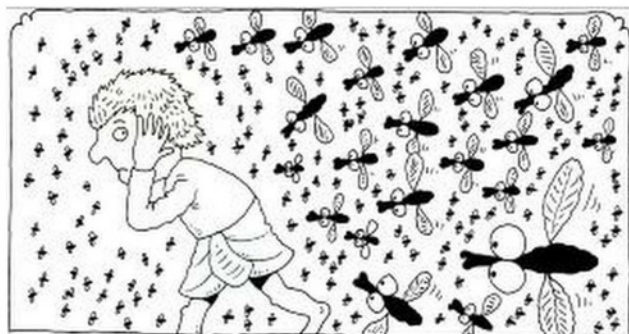
For seven long days God turned all of Egypt's rivers and drinking water into blood, so the fish died and the smell was disgusting. But Pharaoh still refused to obey God.



Again Aaron said, "Let my people go and serve God, or He will send frogs all over Egypt." The plagues of frogs were so annoying that Pharaoh nearly let them go, but then he changed his mind.



So God sent a plague of lice and everyone in Egypt was itching and scratching. Even Pharaoh's wise men said it was the work of God, but Pharaoh was still too stubborn to listen.



Then God sent swarms of flies all over Egypt, but there were no flies at all in the land of Goshen. The plague of flies was so bad that Pharaoh was forced to send for Moses and Aaron.



"You can go a little way into the countryside to worship God, but only if you ask Him to take the flies away," Pharaoh promised. But when the flies went he changed his mind again.