

symmetric literary structure

not random - naturally occurring disasters

		1st triad		2nd triad		3rd triad					
		Aaron is the effective agent				Moses is the effective agent					
forewarned	Pharaoh informed in the morning; Moses "stations" himself before the king	1	Water into blood (דָּם) for one week	Sep/Oct height of flooding	4	Mixture of wild animals or swarms of insects - flies (עָרוֹב)	not in Goshen; dog/stable fly	7	Hail and thunder (בָּרָד) Feb; not in Goshen; flattened flax & barley	10	Death of firstborn (מִכַּת בְּכוֹרוֹת) personally affected; cattle included - venerated; religious calendar - first month - Aviv
forewarned	Moses told to "come in before Pharaoh" to confront him in the palace	2	Frogs (צִפְרֹדִיעַ)	beginning of receding water; frogs onto land of Egypt earlier than usual; putrefying fish	5	Pestilence (דָּבָר)	not in Goshen; soil contaminated by rotting frogs - a breeding ground of anthrax	8	Locusts (אֲרָבָה) devoured remaining flax & barley, & grasses, fruit on trees, & wheat (emmer)		
unannounced		3	Vermin (בְּנֵי־אִם)	Oct/Nov; land of Egypt; insects, mosquitoes	6	Boils (שִׁחִין)	not in Goshen; first plague to imperil human life	9	Darkness (חֹשֶׁךְ) for three days	Mar	

Nile River flooding
frog-headed goddess
sun's diurnal rising triumph over demon

Hapi
Osiris
Heqet
Apophis

god of the annual flooding of the Nile (lord of the fish and birds of the marshes & lord of the river bringing vegetation)
god of life, death, the flooding of the Nile, & the afterlife
goddess of childbirth & fertility
deity who embodied chaos and was the opponent of light and order/truth (deity Ra); appears in art as a giant serpent

Psalm 78:43-51
Psalm 105:27-36

no mention of lice, boils, & darkness
ignores boils & pestilence