

The Plagues of Egypt - Part 2 - The Plague that Saves Your Life

Sermon Title: **The Plagues of Egypt - Part 2 - The Plague that Saves Your Life**

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Nathaniel Bronner: No often God may have to limit some things that you may think is a hindrance just to save your life.

Female: You are listening to BrothersoftheWord.com. This is Part 2 of the series titled, "The Plagues of Egypt", subtitled, "The plague that Saves Your Life" by Nathaniel Bronner. This message is number 5861.

(Music Playing: 00:00:20 - 00:00:32)

Female: And now for, "The Plagues of Egypt" - Part 2 - "The Plague that Saves Your Life".

Nathaniel Bronner: Welcome to Brothers of the Word, because brother, you need the word. And right now, I am in the midst of a series called, "The Plagues of Egypt". And God even spoke about the plague today, and I'm not going to reveal the title until further down, because the title is a little twisted to understand. But today I'm going to talk about the first plague. And the first plague of Egypt, but it is not one of the common 10 Plagues of Egypt that we know.

And here with this first plague of Egypt. I'm actually going to play the audio instead of me reading the chapter. I want to play the audio from thebiblespeaker.com. And if you would, AV, if you would just play -- now this is Genesis Chapter 20. This is the story of Abraham and the king called Abimelech. It's about three minutes long to play this.

Male: Abraham traveled from there toward the land of the South, and lived between Kadesh and Shur. He lived as a foreigner in Gerar. Abraham said about Sarah his wife, "She is my sister." Abimelech king of Gerar sent, and took Sarah. But God came to Abimelech in a dream of the night, and said to him, "Behold, you are a dead man, because of the woman whom you have taken; for she is a man's wife.

Now Abimelech had not come near her. He said, "Lord, will you kill even a righteous nation? Didn't he tell me, 'She is my sister'? She, even she herself, said, 'He is my brother.' In the integrity of my heart and the innocence of my hands have I done this."

God said to him in the dream, "Yes, I know that in the integrity of your heart you have done this, and I also withheld you from sinning against me. Therefore, I didn't allow you to touch her.

Now therefore, restore the man's wife. For he is a prophet, and he will pray for you, and you will live. If you don't restore her, know for sure that you will die, you, and all who are yours."

Abimelech rose early in the morning, and called all his servants, and told all these things in their ear. The men were very scared. Then Abimelech called Abraham, and said to him, "What have you done to us? How have I sinned against you, that you have brought on me and on my kingdom a great sin? You have done deeds to me that ought not to be done!" Abimelech said to Abraham, "What did you see, that you have done this thing?"

Abraham said, "Because I thought, 'Surely the fear of God is not in this place. They will kill me for my wife's sake.' Besides, she is indeed my sister, the daughter of my father, but not the daughter of my mother; and she became my wife. When God caused me to wander from my father's house, I said to her, 'This is your kindness which you shall show to me. Everywhere that we go, say of me, "He is my brother."'

Abimelech took sheep and cattle, male servants and female servants, and gave them to Abraham, and restored Sarah, his wife, to him. Abimelech said, "Behold, my land is before you. Dwell where it pleases you." To Sarah he said, "Behold, I have given your brother a thousand pieces of silver. Behold, it is for you a covering of the eyes to all that are with you. In front of all you are vindicated."

Abraham prayed to God. God healed Abimelech and his wife, and his female servants, and they bore children. For the Lord had closed up tight all the wombs of the house of Abimelech, because of Sarah, Abraham's wife.

Nathaniel Bronner: Now this is the story of Abimelech, and Abraham and Sarah. And a couple of things I want you to just get from this. First of all, God told Abimelech in a dream, "If you touch that woman, you're a dead man." Do you know people, there are some things in life we just don't need to touch? But Abimelech said, "Look, Lord, I didn't know."

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There are some things you don't need to touch, and you don't know you don't need to touch. There are some things that God will show

you, and you may not even understand the why. Because Abraham had not told Abimelech this was his wife, he told Abimelech this was his sister. So, Abimelech was operating in earthly knowledge, but God knew a higher level. But that's not the first plague of Egypt.

I want to back up to Chapter 12 of Genesis, and this was 25 years earlier. The same man, with the same wife, with the same lie.

Do you know oftentimes -- you know people, and it's 25 years later they're the same person doing the same thing with the same lying habit. Have you ever noticed that about some? You know, we've learned in life, patterns have a tendency of repeating. And if you don't have a change of heart and spirit, folk who are lying and doing stuff 25 years ago are still doing that same lying and that same stuff 25 years later. So, this is 25 years earlier when Abraham was 75.

Now you would think, "You ought to know better at 75." But no, fool has no age limit on it. So, here in Genesis Chapter 12, go ahead and play that chapter from thebiblespeaker.

Male:

Genesis Chapter 12. Now The Lord said to Abraham, "Leave your country, and your relatives, and your father's house, and go to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation. I will bless you and make your name great. You will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you. All the families of the earth will be blessed through you."

So, Abraham went, as the Lord had told him. Lot went with him. Abraham was 75 years old when he departed from Haran. Abraham took Sarah his wife, Lot his brother's son, all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people whom they had acquired in Haran, and they went to go into the land of Canaan. They entered into the land of Canaan. Abraham passed through the land to the place of Shechem, to the oak of Moreh, the Canaanites were in the land then. The Lord appeared to Abraham and said, "I will give this land to your offspring."

He built an altar there to the Lord, who had appeared to him. He left from there to go to the mountain on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, having Bethel on the west, and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the Lord and called on the Lord's name. Abraham traveled, still going on toward the South.

There was a famine in the land. Abraham went down into Egypt to live as a foreigner there, for the famine was severe in the land. When he had come near to enter Egypt, he said to Sarah his wife, “See now, I know that you are a beautiful woman to look at. It will happen when the Egyptians see you, they will say, ‘This is his wife.’ They will kill me, but they will save you alive. Please say that you are my sister, that it may be well with me for your sake, and that my soul may live because of you.”

When Abraham had come into Egypt, Egyptians saw that the woman was very beautiful. The princes of Pharaoh saw her, and praised her to Pharaoh; and the woman was taken into Pharaoh’s house. He dealt well with Abraham for her sake. He had sheep, cattle, male donkeys, male servants, female servants, female donkeys, and camels. The Lord afflicted Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai, Abraham’s wife. Pharaoh called Abraham and said, “What is this that you have done to me? Why didn’t you tell me that she was your wife? Why did you say, ‘She is my sister,’ so that I took her to be my wife? Now therefore, see your wife, take her, and go your way.”

Pharaoh commanded men concerning him, and they escorted him away with his wife and all that he had.

Nathaniel Bronner: This was the first plague of Egypt. It was in the house of the palace of Pharaoh. It was the first time the word “plague” is even mentioned in the Bible period. So, it was first plague of the Bible period. In the palace of the king of the land of Pharaoh. And God plagued Pharaoh’s house because he had another man’s wife. But that’s not the real main point of it.

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The main point of it is God had told Abimelech dealing with that same situation 25 years later, “If you had touched this woman, you and your whole household would die.” So I’m amusing the same penalty that would come on Abimelech who didn’t know would have also come on Pharaoh. But yet God sent plagues into Pharaoh’s house. The Bible never said that God told Pharaoh the plagues were connected to Pharaoh but somehow he knew, somehow he knew.

Look, this woman has come in here. Sometimes somebody come into your world and Hell break loose because their person is coming. God has not spoken to you of this because of this person but all of a sudden you got somebody new in your life and now all kind of mess is starting to happen in your world and you can somehow relate.

See, Pharaoh were doing just fine and all of a sudden he brings this new woman here and all of the sudden -- the Bible didn't even say what kind of plagues. It did say what happened to Abimelech, all of the wounds were shut up in the house of Abimelech. So, we had wives and concubines, none of them could get pregnant and they were shut upped and they were not opened until Abraham prayed for Abimelech and then the wounds were opened and the children began to -- The Bible didn't even say what was happening to the Pharaoh. All it said was "plagues", plural. So, when just one thing -- you all just say, "One just thing".

See, usually when somebody that is not supposed to be in your world comes into your world, isn't that just one thing. They will often bring a host of things that will begin to happen and you will somehow put this thing together that my world has now started to turn upside because I've let some thing or someone into my world who was not supposed to be.

And God sent plagues into Pharaoh's house that if he had not sent the plagues, Pharaoh would have been killed. And I entitled this second part of the plagues of Egypt, "The Plague That Saves Your Life".

Sometimes, all of the things that you think are negative that come into your world, they're not negative. God has sent them into your world to save your life. God has sent them into your world as a stepping stone. God has sent them into your world to keep you from being destroyed.

I had met with a gentleman, an engineer, an audio engineer who's building a music studio out at my office and we went over everything and we kind of went through our history. He was 18 days younger than I am and he's been in the music business since he was 15 years old. I said, "You probably were in the music business, no question when we were in the music business and I pulled out all --" "Yeah, I remember that. That's you?" I said, "Yeah, that's me." And then I've told him God would not let us

succeed in that business, because if we had succeeded it would have destroyed us. And he said, "I understand that because he did begin to tell me the story of his big movies. All of you would know him if I called out the name and he said, "This is what the public said happened, but I was there. That what happened, this what happened." It destroyed them.

Sometimes, God will send what you think is a curse and a plague and it is not to destroy you, it is not to hinder, it's to save your life. If we had made it big and that music business and we had been number one, and had all this big happening. First of all, stuffs start coming at you that sometimes you're just not equipped to handle.

Now, we have our famous musical guest, Brother Jarvis William. "Brother William, you look like you can handle all that stuff." You're very spiritually matured, you're grounded, but I will tell you, I had some stuff coming at me that headed and multiplied, I'm just not sure how well pastor could have handled it then, I just not 100% sure I can handle it now. So, stuff comes at you and often God may have to limit some things that you may think is a hindrance just to save your life.

And see both Pharaoh and Abimelech after this had happened and after they saw what happened and after Pharaoh saw the plagues lifted, and after Abimelech saw the wounds open, and after Abimelech went back and reflected on his dream that he had. You see, each one of them had to have a different level of God speaking to them. Abimelech just had a dream and the dream explained it. Now, all the wounds were shut up and the house of the Pharaoh had plagues.

Some of us have to be spoken to a little bit rougher than others. Some can hear the Word of God in a whisper and we will heed it. Others had to have a slap that just knocks us flat on our face before we will listen to what God has to say to us. But I could imagine that both Abimelech and Pharaoh had to reflect and they had to look up to heaven and they had to say these words, "If I had slept with that woman."

Men, I don't want you to say anything, don't say anything. What I want you to do is just roll your eye. I want you to think in the back of your head, if I had slept with that woman. And most men know exactly who that is, but God had protected you and he kept

you out of that. And women, I want you don't say anything out loud, don't say a word. Don't say a word. I just want you to just look up, just ease up, just look up, just like this and I just want you to think to yourself, "If I had slept with that man."

And everybody, at least the vast majority somebody immediately pops into your head, but God blocked the thing and at the time you thought it was a curse, you thought a plague, you thought it was just God not giving you what you wanted, but it was the plague that saved your life. And this was the first plague that came into Egypt and it affected kings.

And you see, there's a principle in this when there's one person in your world who is not supposed to be there, it brings a plague. I've seen this in business and I can't even logically explain it. I have seen and the people in the company have seen, we've had one person there who was not supposed to be there. Their spirit just didn't match and somehow it held the company down and they were not in a position to hold the company down. They usually weren't in sales, they weren't in decision-making position, they were just in the company. It was like Jonah.

You know Jonah was not doing anything on the ship, he was just on the ship. He wasn't steering, he wasn't raising the sails, he wasn't swabbing the deck, he was just on the ship asleep. So he was doing nothing. But the wrong person in your world can bring a plague and cause barrenness, can cause death. The wrong person in your world can mess you up. And sometimes God will have to send the plague so that you understand, I need to get this person, this thing, this behavior, I need to get this out of my life and sometimes he left us in a plague, but the plague is not a curse, the plague is not negative, the plague saves your life, because if they had slept with that woman.

And see there are some of you right now and you (00:18:15) and I'll just thank God. God protected me with a lot of the things I did do, but he kept me from a whole lot more than I could have done and I just thank God, "Lord, I thank you, I didn't sleep with that woman." There's some cases of that, "I thank you, Lord."

And see there have been some things that you really wanted. You really wanted these things. When we were in the music business, we wanted that success. We worked hard for that, but God put a block in it, and had to be a prophet came into my studio one day

and he said, "God says, "You never be successful in this business with this. All this equipment is going to be used for God." And when I heard it because of the record of the prophet, I believed it and changed.

See sometimes you can get what you want and lose what you had. See, if I like gotten what I wanted, I'd lost what I had. It would have destroyed me. And what I thought it was the plague, what I thought it was a curse, what I thought it was a negative block, God was using to save my life. And there's so many of you like that right now and some of you, you've got a stay right in your world.

Something that belongs to someone else or something that simply not supposed to be there. It's either someone or something or some habit, and you got this thing in your world and God is putting a barrenness in your world until you get rid of the thing that's not supposed to be there. But you got to have a realization.

See, one thing about Abimelech and Pharaoh, they were kings, they were leaders. They were basically some pretty wise men they were well trained. Pharaoh had the sense enough to know the reason that I am being cursed, the reason that these plagues are in my house is because of this right here.

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See, the first rule of fixing anything is proper diagnosis. If you got some stuff going wrong in your world first thing you need to figure out is, "why". And usually the reason the flesh comes up with is not the real reason, because the reason the flesh comes up with always blames someone else, even the Devil.

See, the Devil (00:20:29). You got to look internally. Say, "What am I doing? What have I opened the door to? What have I allowed?" And that's the really good principle about even letting anybody or anything in your world. First thing you need to ask, "Lord, do I need to let him in my world?" But you didn't start dating about it, you need to pray about that thing.

See, if they have just asked God, God could have just told them from start, "Don't bring this woman in your house." You know, it's a whole lot easier to keep a woman out of your house than to get them out of your house. I ever understand that principle.

There's not real deep stuff but it's very true and it's very simple. It's a whole lot easier to keep a man out of your house than to get a man out of your house. And sometimes, if get too wrapped up with the wrong person, not only when you not dare to get him out of the house, they get the whole house. Do you understand what I mean?

So, you need to go to God first. Then if you want to keep the plagues out of your world, go to God first and ask God, "Lord, do I need to let this or them into my world?" And if you get a communication, God will tell you upfront. "Don't fool with them. Keep them out of your world." And you won't know why God says this because often you cannot see the real person and the real reason. You can't see it.

See, Sarah was beautiful. That's why Abraham, he said, "Wherever we go, don't tell them you're my wife because you're too pretty. You're pretty and I don't know what and these men will kill me for you." And look, Abraham was 75 which meant Sarah was 65, and she was still drop dead gorgeous. He said, "Don't tell anybody you're my wife because they will kill me just to get you."

You see the princess of Pharaoh just went in and told Pharaoh, "There's interesting woman in the country." She just, "Wooh. Man, you got to see the woman. You got to see the woman." So, when Pharaoh saw the woman, he didn't ask God because he wanted that woman.

See, sometimes when we ask God about stuff we really want, because we don't want to hear God say, "You can't have that." Really ask God. See, what we Will said, "Thank you, Lord." You didn't ask God. You're thanking God for something He never meant for you to have because you didn't even ask Him to start with. So, had Pharaoh and had Abimelech just ask God, God would have spoken, He would have told them through the prophet or a dream or however, "This is not a woman for you. Don't touch this woman."

But He sent a plague in both of their palaces that saved their lives. And some of you right now, you got plagues and you've dealt with plagues. Some of the things that you think was so, so, so negative but they really were not that you've saved your life. They have kept you from being destroyed. They have given you

strength and insight and there's so many things. I'm going to even go into some of that in the next part of this first plague, "The Plague That Saved Your Life" - Part 2.

We're struggling with some of these plagues right now, not understanding; therefore, I benefit and they're saving our lives. There's some deep revelation in the second part of this. But the first thing I want you to get out of this is just this.

Number one, there may be some things in your world that you need to get out of to open doors to blessings that God has for you. And number two, before you let things into your world, pray about it and ask God because it's a lot easier to keep it out than it is to get it out.

I thank you for joining us today at Brothers of the Word. You can go to BrothersoftheWord.com and you can listen to the entire series, "The Plagues of Egypt". Other than that go through each one of the 13 or more plagues. There are more than 10 and I will explain how they relate to our modern-day world, the spiritual principle behind each one of the plagues, because even today we're still dealing with the same plagues. It's just like Abimelech and it's just like Pharaoh, we're still dealing with other folks' wives and husbands. That has not changed.

So, the same plagues that plagued Egypt are still plaguing us today. And I want you plague-free and curse-free. Go and listen to the entire series at BrothersoftheWord.com.

00:25:00

Thank you for joining us today at Brothers of the Word, because brother, you need the word.

Female: You are listening to BrothersoftheWord.com. This was Part 2 of the series titled, "The Plagues of Egypt" subtitled "The Plague That Saves Your Life" by Nathaniel Bronner. This sermon is number 5861. That's 5861. To listen to thousands of free sermons or to send this sermon number 5861 to a friend, go to BrothersoftheWord.com.

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