

# The Plagues of Egypt - Part 12 - The Plague of Boils the Death of Intimacy

Sermon Title: **The Plagues of Egypt - Part 12 - The Plague of Boils the Death of Intimacy**

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Speaker: **Nathaniel Bronner**

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Nathaniel Bronner: You need to feel the warm embrace of another human being even if it's only a smile from six feet away.

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(Music Playing: 00:00:21 - 00:00:33)

And now for the "Plagues of Egypt," Part 12, "The Plague of Boils the Death of Intimacy."

Nathaniel Bronner: Welcome to Brothers of the Word, because brother you need the word.

Now I want to remind you, that all of the sermons from the very beginning up until the last sermon even today, you're able to go to BrothersoftheWord.com, you can download share these sermons with friends absolutely free, and this sermon will be available immediately after I get through preaching it. You go to BrothersoftheWord.com, listen to it all over again.

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Second thing, I want us to go ahead and take our offering. This is something that God has told me to do and He's giving me very specific instructions. All we're going to do is, bow our heads for 10 seconds and ask God, "Lord what shall we give?" You go to IWantToGive.com. You can give in a multitude of ways, all of them are on the website of how you can give, but the church still goes on. We still have expenses. We still have things to support. The other thing about it is we're live in the church. So, we're in church and we're having church every Thursday and every Sunday in-person and we've got top medical precautions. You can go to BrothersoftheWord.com and you can see our precautions. Just click the, "What we're doing for the virus?"

and you'll be able to see all of the seven things that we do to keep you protected.

My goal is to make sure you're safer in the House of God than you are in the grocery store. God over groceries. You're going to be safer in the House of God, than you will in the grocery store. So right now we are getting ready just to bow our heads for 10 seconds, "Lord, what shall I give?" Amen, amen.

Right now we're dealing with the "Plague of Boils".

Male: The Lord said to Moses and to Aaron, "Take to you handfuls of Ashes of the furnace and let Moses sprinkle it toward the sky and cite the Pharaoh. It shall become small dust over all the land of Egypt and shall be a boil breaking out with boils of man and on animal throughout all the land of Egypt."

They took ashes of the furnace and stood before Pharaoh, and Moses sprinkled it up towards the sky and it became a boil breaking out with boils on man and on animal. The magicians couldn't stand before Moses because of the boils, for the boils were on the magicians and on all the Egyptians. The Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh, and he didn't listen to them as the Lord had spoken to Moses.

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Nathaniel Bronner: As you see the Plague of Boils which begins in the 9th Chapter of the Book of Exodus in the 8th Verse, "And here God tells Moses and Aaron. He tells Moses to look, 'Go get some ashes from the furnace and I want you to take these ashes and throw them up in the air.'" The ashes became fine dust and they went all over Egypt, and all of the Egyptians, and all of their animals got these festering boils or sores, and they went all over their bodies.

So, what is the significance of the boils? What does this mean? How does this related, correlate to us today? What has that Plague of Egypt? And this is the plague no. 6 out of their traditional 10. I've actually dealt with more plagues than that because there were actually more things that happened other than just those 10. What we're dealing right now with no. 6 of the Traditional 10 Plagues of Egypt. And here boils went over everybody from head to toe. It even got so bad that it says that,

“The magicians themselves,” they were covered with boils and they were so covered with boils. They could not stand before Moses.

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Now these are the people who have been criticizing Yahweh, had been criticizing the God of Israel, had been criticizing The One and Only God, and here they had to acknowledge it and they even acknowledged before this is the finger of God. Well, the finger of God was now all over them and they could not even stand before Moses. So, here the magician’s had to fall down, had to run away, and it doesn’t particularly say why they couldn’t stand, but it does say the boils covered their bodies.

So, if you were covered in festering boils, and a boil is kind of like a bubble that pops up on the skin, but it doesn’t just pop up on the skin, it kind of breaks and festering meat and it oozes. So, this is some nasty stuff, and it’s not just nasty looking, it’s not just nasty smelling, but it’s painful. So, here boils all over their body and I can imagine there were boils on their feet, and perhaps boils under the bottom of the feet. So, when it says, they could not stand before Moses, it most likely literally meant they couldn’t stand up because the boils on their feet were hurting so bad, they couldn’t even stand up.

So, here was a plague that came on the Egyptians. And the other thing about it is this. It says that it came on the Egyptians and their animals. But when I read that, I said, “Wait a minute.” In the last plague and I preach the last plague called “Death of the Stock” and that was death of the livestock. When God says He’s going to kill all of the Egyptians’ livestock and I related that to livestock was their money. In the modern times we’re having the death of our money, death of the stock market. But in the last plague, it says, God killed all of their livestock, all of the animals. But here in the next plague, it says that, “God put the Plague of Boils on the Egyptians and their animals.” I said, “Wait a minute. There weren’t supposed to be any animals because God kill all the livestock.” So, how can a plague be on the animals, and animals were dead. But as I began to think about this thing, and I began to research it, they don’t have an answer for this.

One speculation is, there is no indication in the Bible of how much time each plague lasted and the gap of time between each plague. Because this one, when you look at Verse number 8 in that 9th Chapter of Exodus, that's right after Verse number 7 when He just got me talking about killing all of the livestock. Right then He says, "The plague went over all of the Egyptians and all of the animals." So, it doesn't say how long of a time period, we just assume it's the next day. No, it could have been the next decade because the Bible doesn't say how long. We don't know how long these plagues in these series of plagues went on. See even right now and the thing that we're in the middle of, we don't know how long this thing is going on. My guess is what we're dealing with right now will forever change the face of America. It's not going to be over next week, it's not going to be over next year. It will forever change the face of America. We don't know how long those plagues went on. All we know is the sequence of which one came behind the other, but we don't know how long they enduring and we don't know how long it was between each subsequent plagues.

So, here God says, "He put the boils on the Egyptians and the animals," and the animals or the livestock was supposed to be dead in the last plague, which means either they had some more animals or there was such a time gap, they had time enough to replenish and get some more animals, more livestock from somewhere else. So, the new livestock that they got, God put boils over all of that livestock.

So there are some things that we simply don't know and one of those things that we do not know from biblical sources, we don't know the time between or the duration of each plague. My guess is, that stuff went on for a long time just as what we're dealing with right now will likely persist in its effects and behavioral changes for a very long time. But what is the significance about the Plague of Boils? And I want to entitle this, The beginning of social separation."

This plague, the Plague of Boils was the beginning of social separation, but it wasn't just the beginning of social separation. It was the death of intimacy. And that may be a better title for this, plague no. 6 was "The Death of intimacy". What do you mean "The Death of Intimacy"? How can that be?

First of all, we don't know how long these plagues and do it. We don't know how long these boils were on the Egyptians, but one thing about it if the magicians could not stand because their bodies were covered with these boils, and it's not the first time there have been forces that have put boils that covered someone from head to toe.

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The oldest book of the Bible, the Book of Job in it Satan when he touched Jobs body caused festering sores from his head to his toe. That's why Job was sitting there, he was taking a pot scrapings and just scraping the boils because they were so numerous and they covered his body. Job was afflicted with the same thing and it had Job feeling so bad. He said look I wish I had never been born.

So, these things can be rough. They're all over you. And when you are covered in boils, when people cannot touch you, you are forced into social separation, you have social separation for two reasons. First., it was by the Hebraic law, in particular, if you had a sore, you have to distance yourself, like says, social distancing is nothing new. Not only that you have to distance yourself, you were place outside of the camp. The most common skin infection was leprosy, and when you showed sign of leprosy or any kind of running sore on your body, and leprosy was a really sores all over the body, when you had leprosy you were place outside of the camp. You had to wash up all this kind of stuff. You had extreme social distances, you did not have six feet. You are place outside the city. A whole different ball game, it wasn't six feet. It may have been six miles.

So, here we had first of all social distancing that when you're covered with these boils, nobody going to come close to you and you're covered with boils. Can you imagine seeing a person and he's just covered all over with oozing boils? You don't need the government to tell you to get back from that, you will get back from that automatically, you will back up as far as you can go. You will give that person a wide berth. If you see somebody coming at you and their skin is just all covered with boils. Your first reaction is going to be, "Don't get close to me and definitely don't touch me." So, that's number one. You had a situation where people automatically were repulsed by the very sight of

all of these boils that are oozing, covering the Egyptians from head to toe. And second the boils were painful, it hurts.

So, if you hurt every time somebody touched you, number one, and I'm not going to want to touch you, and number two, you're not going to want them to touch you because it hurts if they touch you. Can you imagine what this did for couples? It totally eliminated all of their intimate life, and we don't know how long this went on. So, here the people are covered with boils, and you couldn't hug your wife, a wife couldn't hug her husband, they couldn't hug their children. So, if they couldn't hug, you couldn't kiss, because it was on you from head to toe, your body have boils and spots all over on your lip, so you couldn't even kiss anybody.

So, here you are totally isolated from human contact. It was extreme social separation. See, now with our social separation rules when you get home, as long as you're in the same household, you can hug husband and wife, can sleep together, they keep doing the same intimate things they've been doing, because that social separation applies to people who are outside of your household unless someone has been diagnosed with the virus, or has symptoms of the virus, and they would have to isolate in the home. But generally speaking a symptomatic people don't isolate within the same household. But here with these boils, covering you from head to toe, you couldn't touch each other and having any kind of intimate sexual relationship was just absolutely out of the question because you couldn't stand to be touched. So, can you imagine what this deed for Egyptian intimate and romantic life? God says, "Not only will you be in pain, I'm going to cut out all your pleasure. I'm going to cut out all of your intimate togetherness and you will not be able to produce any children because you will not be able to come together during this time, and we don't know how long this thing went on.

So, here is the curse of really the "Death of Intimacy". And sometimes that's a curse that's on our society right now and it doesn't even requiring boils. There are a lot of husbands and wives, and their bedroom is cold as ice and there has been no intimate relationship at all for a very long, long time. And when that happens, that thing produces other curses that comes from that.

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See, usually even when you look at the curses of Egypt and when you look at these Plagues of Egypt, usually you can biologically trace one plague rooting out of another plague. When you had the river and the water that was turned into blood and that blood stank, then out of that came frogs. It comes out of an environment that's out of balance biologically. And then after the frogs, here comes the flies. And after the flies, here comes the pestilence that killed the livestock because flies carry pestilence.

So, each one of these things roots out of another. So, all of the livestock get sick, here comes the next thing, the humans get sick. See, right now, we're dealing with a virus and whether or not it is true, I don't know, but they say the thing came from animals hopped on the human. So, you had the pestilence that killed the livestock. Next thing, you know, you got the humans covered with stuff. It comes from the animals straight to the human. So, it follows a biologically logical progression, but here we have in our society even before the virus, and so many of our relationships we have "The death of intimacy," which is a plague and it is a curse. Out of that thing comes other stuff that comes because of that, and usually you can always trace a curse to a cause.

The Bible says, the curse does not cause this, there's usually a curse that has a cause, and you can trace that thing, but here rooted in these bodies, covered in all of these sores, and all of these postulating, pulsating, dripping, oozing, all kind of miss sores. Who can be intimate in a situation like that? It stopped their romantic love. It stopped their intimacy. It stopped their child production.

So, this thing had ramifications that went beyond skin deep. And in our society right now, we are being forced to part in social separation. Humans need other humans to be whole. We just do. You have some people who can really go off and isolate themselves for years at a time and just be just them, isolated out from a mountain, in the woods. You can do that, but very few people can hold up and remain sane under that kind of situation. Do you know if you're in prison, or even if you're prisoner of war, and they really want to torture you, if they want to punish you, what do they do? They put you in a place called

isolation. And when you're in isolation, some people literally go crazy in isolation. So, the isolation it causes the problem and here the Egyptians covered in all these boils, they became isolated and we're traveling down the same path. Even when we come to church, one of my rules is, "You got to stay six feet apart." Some people needed that hug at church because sometimes, just to only hug, they got all weak was when they could hug somebody at church, and they could feel the genuine love.

So, I want to just talk to those of you in the sanctuary right now, you can't hug people because we are going to follow medically-wise and medically-given guidelines. You can't hug people, you can't touch people, you can't shake their hand, but you can look at them and smile. What you got to do is look at folks and smile, and you got to let them be able to feel the love because sometimes you can really feel it. Touch is important.

Do you know that of all of the senses of man, do you know the first one to come and the last one to go is the sense of touch? No matter how old the person is person is. First, would be 100 years old, eyes are shut, can't hear, taste buds are dull, all this kind of stuff, but the one thing that is still sharp, is the sense of touch. You can brush ever so lightly on a person who is a 100 years old, and they can be in a wheelchair, can't walk, can half hear, can half see, can half taste, can half smell, but you can take your finger and lightly brush it on their hand and they feel it.

The sense of touch is the first one to come with a child in the womb and it's the last one to go before we leave this earth. It's the most enduring of senses, but during this curse, the Egyptians were isolated. What this virus is trying to do right now is trying to isolate the children of God, and you got to reach out and touch some kind of way, if you can't do it physically you got to do this thing emotionally and psychologically to reach out and touch, because the curse is here, the plague is here, but in order for it not to adversely affect the children of God, we've got to first recognize its nature and do something about it.

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So, if you can't touch folks, look at them. And those of you sitting in the same, just look at the person, just give him a

smile. A smile does so much, and nod your head. And sometimes just when people just look at you, nodding and said, "I know, I understand, I believe in you, I got faith in you." You're great. It does wonders.

So, let's not focus on what we can't do. Let's focus on what we can do and understand the nature of the thing that comes to destroy us. The boils covering the Egyptians isolated them, and they couldn't hug, they couldn't shake, they couldn't do anything that required a loving touch, and it isolated and separated, and isolated and separated, you are vulnerable to all of the forces of Satan.

Now joined together with the wrong person you're vulnerable to all the forces of Satan too. That's another whole sermon, but isolated and separated, you are vulnerable to all of the forces of Satan. Even in marriage, there are two big problems, there are two big things that cause most divorces. Number one, is money, number two is sex. This plague affects sex because the people couldn't have sex, because they were covered in boils. And when that happens it automatically causes husband and wife to drift apart.

Now if you're 90 years old as a different story, but this stuff is happening to the people in the 30s and the 40s and the 50s and 60s and the 70s. So it's happening and it's causing a curse because of social and intimate separation. They couldn't touch each other or they didn't want to touch each other, like MC Hammer.

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"Can't touch this," and sometimes we in relationship we some -- "Can't touch this" and when that happens, you got a whole host of other plagues that stemmed from that very thing. So, when we understand the nature of what is going on, we're being separated, and when you separate, it's a lot easier to conquer. It's hard to conquer a unified anything, but once they become separated it's easy to conquer.

Here the Egyptians were separated from each other because they could not come together because they were covered with all of these boils and they needed a healing balm of Gilead, but they didn't believe in the healing balm and that caused a whole

different set of problems. So, people as we go through this, as we walk through this plague, walk with your head high, your faith intact and a smile on your face. Yes, I know it's going to be rough on some things but God has got us and God is with us, and we're not covered with boils. We have been socially separated in a lot of instances, but do what you can do and reach out and touch with what you can reach out and touch with. Don't let the demonic and the pestilence stuff stop you from connecting with other Christians, and you connect however, you need to connect. If you're on LinkedIn, LinkedIn causes your number of connections.

Now social media to be honest about it is not true connection, absolutely not, not true friends, in LinkedIn, there's not true connections, not at all. You need some true friends and you need some true connections. And just sometimes maybe you just even need to get together with some friends and just spend some time because this thing has us separated so much, and when you separated you're in isolation and that isolation cell has never been healthy. You need to feel the warm embrace of another human being even if it's only a smile from six feet away. It does help. It does make a difference and it will get us through this.

This is Pastor Nathaniel with Brothers of the word on the plague of isolation. From The Plague of Boils, however, you want to call it, it was real in that day and we've got some real plagues that we're dealing with in this state. It hasn't ended, but neither has these series ended.

Stay tuned next week as we deal with the next one of "The Plagues of Egypt" and those same things are happening here in America in this time right. Remember you can go to BrothersoftheWord.com and listen or share this sermon with a friend absolutely free of charge. Thank you for joining us today at Brothers of the word, because brother you need the word.

Female:

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