

STRANGER GOD



THE GOD OF EXODUS



THE BIBLE LAB session five

yes&no

1. I need a lot of evidence before I'm comfortable forming an opinion.

2. I'm a fairly stubborn person.

3. I get frustrated when people take a long time to make up their mind.

4. I find that I change my mind frequently, especially as I receive more information.

5. I am highly skeptical of many things that people claim to be miracles.

info-doodles

EXAMPLE:



I AM STUBBORN.



I AM SKEPTICAL.



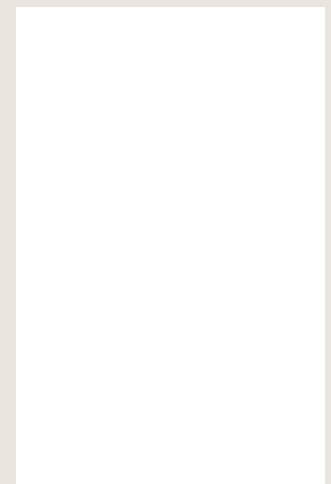
I CHANGE MY MIND OFTEN.



INDECISIVE PEOPLE FRUSTRATE ME.



DRAW A HIEROGLYPH THAT REPRESENTS THE SPIRITUAL AREA IN MY LIFE THAT I STILL HOLD ON TO.



dig deep

GOD'S SHIFTING TARGET:

- Plagues five and six (livestock & boils) once again only affect the Egyptians. What do you see that is different about the focus of these plagues, compared to the previous two (gnats & flies)?

- Who or what was targeted in the plagues of livestock and boils?

A NEW TARGET:

•READ Exodus 9:13-14.

- What is God's new target?
- What do you think this means?

- In **Exodus 9:14**, God says He's going to do something special, "so you [Pharaoh] may know that there is no one like me in all the earth."

-What do you think He means here? What's so special about a big hail storm? How would that prove something different from what the other plagues of nature have demonstrated?

- The NKJV translates **Exodus 9:24** as, "So there was hail, and fire mingled with the hail, so very heavy that there was none like it in all the land of Egypt since it became a nation."

- What have you heard that this means, "fire mingled with the hail"?

WHAT DID THE BIBLE SAY?

- Some commentators, like Spence-Jones, say that translating the word fire as lightning is not accurate. They translate as, "There was hail, and in the midst of the hail a fire infolding itself." The expression used is the same which occurs in **Ezek. 1:4**. It seems to mean a fire that was not a mere flash, but collected itself into a mass and was seen for some considerable time.

Spence-Jones, H. D. M. (Ed.). (1909). Exodus (Vol. 1, p. 208). London; New York: Funk & Wagnalls Company.

- Jewish Rabbis such as Saadiah Ga'on and also the translation of Exodus Rabbah 12:4 interpret the text as, "And there was hail--and fire encased inside the hail."
 - If the Egyptians believed in a god of fire and a god of ice, how might their combined presence be the ultimate convincer of Yahweh's power?
- READ Exodus 9:27.
 - What is Pharaoh's response to these unprecedented qualities of the hail?
- READ Exodus 9:16.
 - What part of God's character and purpose do we find in the plague of hail?

embrace life**TALK WITH GOD THIS WEEK ABOUT THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:**

1. What areas of my life do I still stubbornly cling to?
2. What spiritual matters do I need to give over to God and allow Him to set free?
3. Why am I still here? What revelation of God does He need to unfold in my sphere of influence?