

Chapter 8

The fecond plague is of frogges. 7. The enchanters make the like. 8. Pharao promifeth to let the Ifraelites goe and facrifce, fo the frogges be taken away. 13. Which being donne he breaketh promife. 16. The third plague is of fciniphes, 18. which the enchanters can not make. 21. The fourth is of flies. 29. Pharao againe promifeth to difmiffe the people of God, but doth it not.

Our Lord alfo faid to Moyfes: Goe in to Pharao, and thou shalt fay vnto him: This faith the Lord: Difmiffe my people, for to facrifce vnto me. ² But ^aif thou wilt not difmiffe them, behold I wil ftrike al thy coaftes with frogges. ³ And the riuier shal bubble with frogges: which shal come vp, and enter into thy houle, and thy bed chamber, and vpon thy bedde, and into the houfes of thy feruantes, and vnto thy people, and into thy ouens, and into the remaines of thy meates: ⁴ and vnto thee, & to thy people, and to al thy feruantes shal the frogges enter. ⁵ And our Lord faid to Moyfes: Say vnto Aaron: Stretch forth thy hand vpon the floudes, and vpon the riuers and the pooles, and bring forth frogges vpon the Land of Ægypt. ⁶ And Aaron ftretched forth his hand vpon the waters of Ægypt, and the frogges came vp, and couered the Land of Ægypt. ⁷ And the enchanters alfo by their enchantments did in like maner, and they brought forth frogges vpon the Land of Ægypt. ⁸ And Pharao called Moyfes & Aaron, and faid to them: ^bPray ye to the Lord to take away the frogges from me & from my people: and I wil difmiffe the people to facrifce vnto the Lord. ⁹ And Moyfes faid to Pharao: Appoint me when I shal pray for thee, and for thy feruantes, and for thy

The 2. plague.
Multitude of
frogges.

^a If Pharao had not freewil threatning of punifhmēt were vniuft. *Origen. li. 3. Periar. c. de lib. arbit.* He that can not do otherwise doth not finne, as both lerned and vnlerned cōfeffe. *S. Aug. de vera Relig. c. 14.*

^b The Enchāters could bring more frogges, but not take thefe away.

people, that the frogges may be driuen away from thee and from thy houle, and from thy feruantes, and from thy people: and may remaine only in the riuer. ¹⁰ Who answered: To morow. But he faid: According to thy word wil I doe: that thou maift know that there is not the like to the Lord our God. ¹¹ And the frogges fhall depart from thee, and from thy houle, and from thy feruantes, and from thy people: and fhall remaine only in the riuer. ¹² And Moyfes and Aaron went forth from Pharaos: and Moyfes cried to our Lord for the promife, concerning the frogges, which he had agreed to Pharaos. ¹³ And our Lord did according to the word of Moyfes: and the frogges dyed out of the houfes, and out of the villages, and out of the fieldes: ¹⁴ and they gathered them together into huge heapes, and the earth did rotte. ¹⁵ And Pharaos feing that reft was geuen ^a)he hardned his owne hart; and heard them not, as our Lord had commanded. ¹⁶ And our Lord faid to Moyfes: Speake to Aaron: Stretch forth thy rodde, and ftrike the duft of the earth: and be there Sciniphes in the whole Land of Ægypt. ¹⁷ And they did fo. And Aaron ftretched forth his hand, holding the rodde: and he ftroke the duft of the earth, and there were made fciniphes on men and on beaftes: al the duft of the earth was turned into fciniphes through the whole Land of Ægypt. ¹⁸ And the enchaunters with their enchauntmentes practifed in like maner, to bring forth fciniphes, and ^b)they could not: and there were fciniphes as wel on men as on beaftes. ¹⁹ And the enchaunters faid to Pharaos: ^c)This is the finger of God. And Pharaos hart was indurate, and he heard them not as our Lord had commanded. ²⁰ Our Lord alfo faid to Moyfes: Arife early, and ftand before Pharaos: for he wil goe forth to the waters: and thou

The 3. plague.
Sciniphes, female
flying beaftes,
efpecially
molefting mens
eyes. *Philo.*
l. 1. de vita
Moyfi.

^a Pharaos induration afcribed to himfelf.

^b The diuels powre limited by God. *Iob. 1. 2.*

^c The enchanters conuincd in their vnderftanding, confeffed the powre of God, but not changed in affection, perfifted in malice againft the truth.

fhalt fay to him: This faith our Lord: Difmiffe my people to facrifice vnto me. ²¹ And if thou wilt not difmiffe them, behold I wil fend in vpon thee, and vpon thy feruantes, and vpon thy people, and vpon thy houfes al kind of flies: and the houfes of Ægypt fhall be filled with flies of diuers kindes, and the whole land wherein they fhall be. ²² And I wil make the Land of Geffen merueilous in that day, wherein my people is, fo that flies fhall not be there: and thou fhalt know that I am the Lord in the middes of the earth. ²³ And I wil put a diuifion betwene my people & thy people: to morow fhall this figne be. ²⁴ And our Lord did fo. And there came a very greuious flie into the houfes of Pharaos and of his feruantes, and into al the Land of Ægypt: and the Land was corrupted by fuch kind of flies. ²⁵ And Pharaos called Moyfes and Aaron, and faid to them: Goe and facrifice to your God in this land. ²⁶ And Moyfes faid: It can not fo be done: for if we fhall offer the abominations of the Ægyptians to the Lord our God: and ^a)we kil thofe thinges which the Ægyptians doe worfhippe before them: they wil beate vs downe with ftones. ²⁷ We wil goe forth three dayes iourney into the wildernes: and we wil facrifice vnto the Lord our God, as he hath commanded vs. ²⁸ And Pharaos faid: I wil difmiffe you to facrifice to the Lord your God in the defert: but goe noe farder: pray for me. ²⁹ And Moyfes faid: Being gone forth from thee, I wil pray to our Lord: and the flie fhall depart from Pharaos, and from his feruantes, and from his people to morow: but deceiue no more fo, that thou wilt not difmiffe the people to facrifice vnto our Lord. ³⁰ And Moyfes being gone forth from Pharaos, prayed our Lord. ³¹ Who did according to his word: and he tooke away the flies from Pharaos, and from his feruants, and from his people: there was left not fo much as one. ³² And Pharaos hart ^b)was hardned, fo that neither this time would he difmiffe the people.

The 4. plague.
Abundance of
al fortes of flies.

^a Ægyptians worshipping beafts thought it intolerable abomination to kil, or eate, or burne them in facrifice. *Gen. 43. v. 32. 46. v. 34.*

^b In the Hebrew: *Pharaos hardned his ovrne hart, alfo this time.*