



PARSHA



וְאֶרְאָה

3 Sources

Even though Moshe was the leader of Bnei Yisrael, and Hashem's emissary to speak to Pharoah, the Torah is very specific as to who carried out the first three plagues.

Shemot 7:19/8:2/8:12

And God said to Moses, "Say to Aaron: Take your rod and hold out your arm over the waters of Egypt—its rivers, its canals, its ponds, all its bodies of water—that they may turn to blood; there shall be blood throughout the land of Egypt, even in vessels of wood and stone."

Aaron held out his arm over the waters of Egypt, and the frogs came up and covered the land of Egypt.

Then God said to Moses, "Say to Aaron: Hold out your rod and strike the dust of the earth, and it shall turn to lice throughout the land of Egypt."

וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֲלֵ־מֹשֶׁה אָמַר אֶל־אַהֲרֹן קֹחַ מִטְּחָה וְנִטְּהַר־זֶה עַל־מִימִינֵי מִצְרָיִם מִצְרָיִם עַל־נְהָרֹתֶם וְעַל־יָמָרִים וְעַל־כָּל־מִקְוָה מִימִינֵךְ וְיְהִוָּצֵם וְבַקְשֵׁתֶךָ וְבַקְשֵׁתֶךָ זֶם בְּכָל־אָרֶץ מִצְרָיִם וְבָעָזִים וְבָאָבָנִים: וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֲלֵ־מֹשֶׁה אָמַר אֶל־אַהֲרֹן וְתַה אֶת־מִטְּחָה וְתַכְסֵס אֶת־אָרֶץ מִצְרָיִם: וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֲלֵ־מֹשֶׁה אָמַר אֶל־אַהֲרֹן וְתַה אֶת־מִטְּחָה וְפָדֵךְ אֶת־עַפְרָה הָאָרֶץ וְהַיָּה לְכָנָם בְּכָל־אָרֶץ מִצְרָיִם:

Rashi explains the reason that these three plagues had to be performed by Aharon, and not Moshe, is because it would be inappropriate for Moshe to strike the Nile or the dirt because both had saved his life at different points.

Rashi on Shemot 7:19

SAY UNTO AARON — Because the river had protected Moses when he was cast into it, therefore it was not smitten by him neither at the plague of blood nor at that of frogs, but it was smitten by Aaron (Exodus Rabbah 9:10).

רַשְׁיָה עַל שְׁמוֹת זָהָב
אָמַר אֶל אַהֲרֹן. לְפִי שָׁגַן הַיּוֹרֵעַ עַל
מִשְׁׁה כְּשֶׁגַּשֵּׁלֵךְ לְתוּכוֹ, לְפִיכָּךְ לֹא לְקַה
עַל יְדֶךָ לֹא בָּקָם וְלֹא בְּצָפְרָעִים, וְלֹא
עַל יָדֵי אַהֲרֹן (שְׁמוֹת רְבָה):

Rashi on Shemot 8:12

SAY UNTO AARON — The dust did not deserve to be smitten by Moses because it had protected him when he slew the Egyptian, for "he hid him in the sand"; and it was therefore smitten by Aaron (Exodus Rabbah 10:7).

רַשְׁיָה עַל שְׁמוֹת חָבִיב
אָמַר אֶל אַהֲרֹן. לֹא בָּקָה הַעֲפָר כִּזְאֵי
לְלִקְוֹת עַזְיָה מֹשֶׁה, לְפִי שָׁגַן עַל־יְהִוָּצֵם
כְּשֶׁהָרַג אֶת הַמִּצְרָיִם וַיַּטְמֵנֵה בְּחֹל,
וְלֹא בָּקָם יָדֵי אַהֲרֹן (שְׁמוֹת רְבָה):

If Moshe had to express gratitude towards inanimate objects (the water and dirt), how much more so should we be careful to show gratitude to the people in our lives who have helped us

2 Quotes

"We must find time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives."

-John F. Kennedy

"Piglet noticed that even though he had a Very Small Heart, it could hold a rather large amount of Gratitude." -A.A. Milne, Winnie-the-Pooh

1 Question

If you had to call three people (besides your parents) to thank them for something, who would you call?