

1. Review -

- THREE different Hebrew words are translated into “Hard/harden.”
- Who acts on the heart? Pharaoh or God?
- Plagues 1 – 5:

	Pharaoh (Heart)	God
<i>CHZQ</i> (strong, strengthen)	3 x	
<i>KVD</i> (to make heavy)	2x	

- Plagues 6 – 10:

	Pharaoh (Heart)	God
<i>CHZQ</i> (strong, strengthen)		4 x
<i>KVD</i> (to make heavy)	1 x	1 x (Ex. 10:1)*

* This verse seems to be a general statement of what God has done rather than a specific action upon Pharaoh’s heart. Ultimately, God is Pharaoh’s judge, and God will weigh Pharaoh’s heart (Pr. 21:2 & 24:12). The next plague is for the Israelites.

- When Pharaoh acts on his own heart, it is *KVD* – to make Heavy

2. Weighing of the Heart Ceremony:

- The goal for Egyptians was to obtain paradise in the afterlife.
- Dependent upon the weight of one’s heart vs. the feather of truth (*Ma’at*).
- *Ma’at* was the goddess of “balance, order, harmony, justice, and truth.”
- *Anubis* – the god of the afterlife. Leads the deceased through the process.
- *Thoth* – the god of writing is the scribe.
- *Ammi* – devourer of the dead—a combination Lion-hippo-crocodile deity who would devour the heart if it was found heavier than truth.

3. Pharaoh’s “heavy” heart and the Egyptian context of sin:¹

- Plague of Hail - Exodus 9:13-35 - is a turning point for Pharaoh.
- Ex. 9:14 – “the full force of my plagues against **your heart**” (see the KJV and NKJV).
- Ex. 9:27 – this is the first mention of sin and Pharaoh.
- Ex. 9:34 – Pharaoh “sinned again” and then “heavied (*KVD*)” his heart.

¹ Johnathan Sacks. Times of Israel blog - <https://blogs.timesofisrael.com/the-weighing-of-the-heart-vaera-covenant-conversation-5780/>

4. Pharaoh's (and officials) responses:

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| 1. Staff/Snake and Blood: | Pharaoh's magicians can replicate.
Pharaoh "strengthens" his heart. |
| 2. Frogs: | Magicians can replicate.
God introduces the element of time.
Pharaoh "heavies" his heart. |
| 3. Lice (Gnats) | Magicians CAN NOT replicate.
Ex. 8:19 – "finger of God."
Magicians recognize a greater power. |
| 4. Flies | Ex. 8:28 – Pharaoh tells Moses that he will let him go.
But that he won't let him go too far. |
| 5. Livestock | Pharaoh heavies his heart. |
| 6. Boils | Ex. 9:11
Magicians cannot stand in front of Moses. |
| 7. Hail | The turning point.
Ex. 9:27 – Pharaoh admits his sin .

Ex. 9:34 – Pharaoh sins again and heavies his heart. |
| 8. Locust | Ex. 10:7

Pharaoh's officials – "let them go."
"don't you see you are ruining Egypt?"

Pharaoh tells Moses to go worship the LORD but only the men. |

Exodus 10:16-17:

Pharaoh quickly summoned Moses and Aaron and said, "**I have sinned against the Lord your God** and against you. Now **forgive my sin** once more and pray to the Lord your God to take this deadly plague away from me."

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| 9. Darkness | Ex. 10:24
Go worship the Lord – even women and children but no flocks. |
| 10. Firstborn | Ex. 12:31-32
Final Exodus |