

TORAH THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

PARSHAS BO

Copied from AISH HATORAH

“Different Strokes for Different Folks”

“And so that you may relate in the ears of your son and your son's son that I made mockery of Egypt and my signs that I placed among them - that you may know that I am Hashem.” (Ex. 10:2)

G-d sent 10 plagues to the Egyptians. If the purpose of the plagues was to compel Pharaoh to send the Jews from Egypt, why couldn't one massive plague suffice?

When one makes food for his own consumption, he knows exactly what he wants. He knows the type of food, the quantity and the spices that he likes. However, when one makes food to sell he doesn't know everyone's taste so he needs to make a variety of dishes to ensure that there will be something for everyone.

The purpose of the plagues was to teach the children of Israel, as well as all future generations, that G-d is not a distant, uninterested Creator - rather, He is the master and sustainer of the universe day by day. The people were to relate all the miracles to their children, and their children to their children and so on. Since different people are impressed and amazed by different things, G-d performed a variety of miracles to ensure that everyone would be impressed and pass it down to the next generation.(1)

Every person has his own personality and own way of looking at things. Some children have a more creative mind while others have an easier time remembering information. Every child is fascinated by something else. Hence, every child needs to be raised accordingly. We should not expect to fit them all in to a standard "cookie cutter," - we should rather tailor their education to suit their individual needs.

NOTE

1. Dubno Maagid