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# Tsiyon News

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## Harbinger of Doom

Exodus 6+7

## Harbinger of Doom



**"Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh and before his servants, and it became a monster."** Exodus 7:10

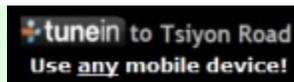
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## Listener Q&A

### Listener Question: *Were Magicians Really Important in Ancient Egypt?*

A friend of mine recently said that the magicians of Pharaoh's court in the Exodus story are just a literary device to make Moses and Aaron look good. What do I say to my friend?

**Tsiyon Answer:** You might tell your friend that the Exodus story is real history, and as such it portrays ancient Egypt very accurately. Magicians were of high status in ancient Egypt, just as the Exodus story suggests. For example, see the news article confirming this by a recent find of an ancient Egyptian tomb of a "Priest of Magic" reprinted below.

## Secret tomb belonging to an Ancient Egyptian 'Priest of Magic' discovered 4,500 years after it was sealed off from the world

- Archaeologists at Abusir Archaeological Cemetery at Giza have found the tomb of Shepseskaf 'ankh
- The vast tomb belonged to the Head of Physicians of Upper and Lower Egypt in the Fifth Dynasty of the Old Kingdom - 4,500 years ago
- A large door covered in hieroglyphs revealed that its occupant was the 'Priest of Khnum,' or 'Priest of Magic'

By Sarah Griffiths, MailOnline

**ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED:** 08:35 EST, 24 October 2013 | **UPDATED:** 15:48 EST, 24 October 2013

A 'huge' limestone tomb belonging to an important Egyptian physician has been discovered.

Archaeologists at Abusir Archaeological Cemetery at Giza have unearthed the final resting place of Shepseskaf 'ankh that has been undisturbed for 4,500 years.

The generous size of the tomb, which is 69 by 45 feet long and 13 feet high, indicates the importance of the ancient medical professional, who was Head of Physicians of Upper and Lower Egypt in the Fifth Dynasty of the Old Kingdom.



Archaeologists at Abusir Archaeological Cemetery at Giza have unearthed the final resting place of Shepseskaf 'ankh that has been undiscovered for 4,500 years. The generous size of the tomb indicates the importance of the ancient medical professional.

Vice head of the Ancient Egyptian sector, Ali ALasfar, said a large door covered in hieroglyphs revealed that its occupant is the 'Priest of Khnum,' or 'Priest of Magic'.

The false door with the name, title and images of its owner is located inside a chapel where the tomb itself was found, Fox News reported.

The door in the eastern part of the tomb also says that the medicine man was one of the most important royal physicians in Ancient Egypt at the time.



The large door covered in hieroglyphs and Images of Shepseskaf 'ankh himself

It is the third tomb of a physician discovered in Abusir Cemetery, which is an enormous necropolis close to modern Cairo and served as an elite burial place for the Ancient Egyptian capital of Memphis.

Antiquities Minister Ibrahim Ali, said: 'This discovery is important because this is the tomb of one of the greatest doctors from the time of the pyramid builders; one of the doctors closely tied to the king.'

The necropolis where the tomb was found is part of a vast pyramid field that stretches from north Giza to Saqqara and was designed to supplement Giza, which was already filled up with funeral monuments of the 5th Dynasty pharaohs, Heritage Daily reported.

The physician's tomb makes up part of a 21 by 14 metre plot surrounded by walls four metres tall that is thought to belong to a family.

The archaeologists must have been relieved to find the tomb and highly-carved door intact, as parts of the site, along with Saqqara and Dahshur was damaged by looters during the Egyptian protests in 2011.

Ancient Egyptian physicians used numerous methods to heal patients but many of their techniques were also based on religious beliefs and most physicians were also priests.

It was common for different priests to act as specialist medics, as they believed that different gods governed different parts of the human body.

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Much of what is known about the priests and doctors comes from ancient papyrus manuscripts that reveal the cures they used as well as how they performed operations and

used surgical implements to remove cysts and tumours.

Some of the 'cures' composed of 600 drugs and 800 procedures, developed by the ancient physicians - such as applying direct pressure to cuts - are still used today.



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It is the third tomb of a physician discovered in Abusir Cemetery (excavations are pictured, which is an enormous necropolis close to modern Cairo and served as one of the most elite burial places for the Ancient Egyptian capital of Memphis.

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### From Eliyahu

Inadequate means: not adequate, not capable, deficient, insufficient, lacking, not able. Moses felt inadequate to the task when YHWH called him to lead Israel out of bondage, and Moses said as much to YHWH - Who addressed Moses' concerns, but also sent him out despite Moses feelings of inadequacy. When Moses went before Pharaoh for the first time the results seemed decidedly negative to the Hebrews, and to Moses as well. They and he thought it was his fault. This seemed to confirm Moses original feelings of inadequacy.

How about you? Have you ever tried and failed, causing you to hesitate when called to step up, because of feelings of inadequacy like Moses? If this has happened to you then you might still be wondering how its possible to overcome such powerful feelings, to rise to a higher level.

Here's the good news: YHWH taught Moses the answer to that problem, and Moses finally got it. After Moses second visit on Pharaoh we do not find Moses falling back into the trap of feelings of inadequacy again. Learn the secret in our latest Midrash.

Blessings and Shalom!

Eliyahu ben David  
[www.tsiyon.org](http://www.tsiyon.org)

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