

Question: Why did God cause Moses' hand to become leprous as a sign to the Israelites?

Answer: Let us refer to the Scriptures...

*Exodus 4:6-7 (ESV)*

*6 Again, the Lord said to him, "Put your hand inside your cloak." And he put his hand inside his cloak, and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous like snow.*

*7 Then God said, "Put your hand back inside your cloak." So he put his hand back inside his cloak, and when he took it out, behold, it was restored like the rest of his flesh.*

*Exodus 4:8 (ESV)*

*"If they will not believe you," God said, "or listen to the first sign, they may believe the latter sign."*

The main reason Yahweh (the Lord God) caused Moses' hand to become leprous and then healed it was to demonstrate His divine power to heal a critical message to the Israelites who were suffering under slavery in Egypt. This sign was not only a demonstration of divine power but also a prophetic revelation: that God is the One who has power over sickness, suffering, and all human affliction.

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By showing that He could inflict and immediately heal a disease like leprosy a disease that was incurable and highly stigmatized in ancient times God was revealing Himself as “Jehovah Rapha,” the Lord who heals you.

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This same truth is reinforced later in Exodus 15:

*Exodus 15:22-26 (ESV, excerpts)*

*23 When they came to Marah, they could not drink the water because it was bitter...*

*25 And he cried to the Lord, and the Lord showed him a log, and he threw it into the water, and the water became sweet...*

*26 saying, “If you will diligently listen to the voice of the Lord your God, and do that which is right in his eyes... I will put none of the diseases on you that I put on the Egyptians, for I am the Lord, your healer [Hebrew: Yahweh Rapha].”*

This miracle of Moses' leprous hand symbolized more than physical healing; it was a sign of God's power to restore physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Just as God could turn bitter waters into sweet and a diseased hand into healthy flesh, He can also turn suffering into joy, slavery into freedom, and sin into righteousness.

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Even today, God remains unchanging in His nature. He is still Jehovah Rapha the Lord who heals (Malachi 3:6). He desires to heal His people, if they will hear and obey His voice.

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Have You Received Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

This healing, restoring God has now made His greatest act of healing available through His Son, Jesus Christ, who came not only to heal physical diseases but to heal the deepest sickness of all: sin.

*Isaiah 53:5 (ESV)*

*"But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed."*

Jesus is the perfect fulfillment of God's healing promise. If you have not yet accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior, what are you waiting for? Believe in Him today, and you will be saved and healed.

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God bless you.

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