



The very first of the ten plagues on ancient Egypt was the turning of the Nile river water into blood. But Egypt's pagan priests did similarly with their magic arts. But this poses a seeming problem, where did the priests get water to turn into blood?

Alleged Contradiction:

The Bible says that for each miracle Moses and Aaron demonstrated the magicians did the same by

their secret arts. Then comes the following feat:

(a) Moses and Aaron converted all the available water into blood ([Exodus 7:20-21](#))

(b) The magicians did the same ([Exodus 7:22](#)). This is impossible, since there would have been no water

left to convert into blood.

“Moses and Aaron did as Yahweh ordered. He raised his staff and struck the waters of the River with Pharaoh and his officials looking on, and all the water in the river turned to blood. The fish in the River died, and the River stank; and the

Egyptians could no longer drink the River water. Throughout the whole of Egypt there was blood. But by their spells the magicians of Egypt did the same: Pharaoh remained obstinate and, as Yahweh had foretold, refused to listen to Moses and Aaron”—Exodus 7:20-22 NJB

All the water in the Nile river was turned to blood, and it might look like there was no water left to turn to blood. However, the context does give us a clue as to how the magic practicing priests of Egypt had water to turn to blood:

“And all the Egyptians dug along the Nile to get drinking water, because they could not drink the water of the river”—Exodus 7:24 NIV

Obviously the Egyptian people dug into the sand near the Nile river to find fresh water that they could drink. Additionally, there very likely was fresh water stored at other locations. The Egyptian priests could have used the water from these locations to turn into blood.

As is the case with so many other claims of Bible contradictions, so this one also is vanquished once the facts are examined.