

**"The 10 Plagues upon Egypt"**

**Part 1**

**Exodus 7-12**

**Introduction:** In our study of the Life of Moses we have now come to a very familiar section in which we show closely examine the Ten Plagues which God brought upon the Egyptians as Pharaoh refused to let the people go. It will take us several weeks to work our way through the plagues because there is much for us to consider.

There are several points about the plagues that I want to share before we get into our study.

**1. God gave warnings concerning the judgment of the plagues.**

**Genesis 15:13-14**

<sup>13</sup> *And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years;*

<sup>14</sup> *And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance.*

**Exodus 3:18-20**

<sup>18</sup> *And they shall hearken to thy voice: and thou shalt come, thou and the elders of Israel, unto the king of Egypt, and ye shall say unto him, The LORD God of the Hebrews hath met with us: and now let us go, we beseech thee, three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.*

<sup>19</sup> *And I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not by a mighty hand.*

<sup>20</sup> *And I will stretch out my hand, and smite Egypt with all my wonders which I will do in the midst thereof: and after that he will let you go.*

**Exodus 4:22-23**

<sup>22</sup> *And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD, Israel is my son, even my firstborn:*

<sup>23</sup> *And I say unto thee, Let my son go, that he may serve me: and if thou refuse to let him go, behold, I will slay thy son, even thy firstborn.*

Pharaoh had fair warning of the coming judgment and even as the plagues began, he received warnings from Moses of what was about to happen. I point this out because there is a point here which we need to see.

- **God always gives a warning before His judgment falls.**

Let me give you some examples:

**a. The Flood of Noah's day.**

**Genesis 6:13, 17**

*<sup>13</sup> And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.*

*<sup>17</sup> And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and every thing that is in the earth shall die.*

**2 Peter 2:5**

*<sup>5</sup> And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;*

Noah was a preacher so as he built the ark he also warned of the coming judgment upon the world.

**b. The Babylonian Captivity.**

**Jeremiah 1:14-17**

*<sup>14</sup> Then the LORD said unto me, Out of the north an evil shall break forth upon all the inhabitants of the land.*

*<sup>15</sup> For, lo, I will call all the families of the kingdoms of the north, saith the LORD; and they shall come, and they shall set every one his throne at the entering of the gates of Jerusalem, and against all the walls thereof round about, and against all the cities of Judah.*

*<sup>16</sup> And I will utter my judgments against them touching all their wickedness, who have forsaken me, and have burned incense unto other gods, and worshipped the works of their own hands.*

*<sup>17</sup> Thou therefore gird up thy loins, and arise, and speak unto them all that I command thee: be not dismayed at their faces, lest I confound thee before them.*

c. The Great Tribulation.

**Matthew 24:21-22**

<sup>21</sup> For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

<sup>22</sup> And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.

This is just one of many warnings concerning the Great Tribulation. But the point is that God always gives a warning ahead of the judgment. Just as He did with the plagues. He longs to see repentance from people for He longs to see people saved. God takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked. So, He gives warnings ahead of His judgments and these warnings are extensions of His grace.

**2. The plagues were direct attacks against the gods of Egypt.**

Egypt was polytheistic, meaning that the Egyptians had many false gods. It was a nation overflowing with idolatry. As we work our way through the plagues, we shall see that each of the plagues is directed toward at least one of the false gods which was worshipped in Egypt.

**Exodus 12:12**

<sup>12</sup> For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; **and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment:** I am the LORD.

**Numbers 33:4**

<sup>4</sup> For the Egyptians buried all their firstborn, which the LORD had smitten among them: **upon their gods also the LORD executed judgments.**

With this in mind there is something else here which we need to see. As the plagues will be direct attacks against the gods of the Egyptians, we can also see the plagues as an extension of God's grace to the Egyptians. As we study the plagues, we shall see that God will bring about certain catastrophes to show the Egyptians that their false gods were powerless to reverse the situations. You see it was God's desire that the Egyptians would turn to Him, the ONE TRUE GOD.

**3. The plagues were a public demonstration of the mighty power of the True God.**

**Exodus 8:19a**

<sup>19</sup> Then the magicians said unto Pharaoh, This is the finger of God:

**Exodus 9:13-16**

<sup>13</sup> And the LORD said unto Moses, Rise up early in the morning, and stand before Pharaoh, and say unto him, Thus saith the LORD God of the Hebrews, Let my people go, that they may serve me.

<sup>14</sup> For I will at this time send all my plagues upon thine heart, and upon thy servants, and upon thy people; that thou mayest know that there is none like me in all the earth.

<sup>15</sup> For now I will stretch out my hand, that I may smite thee and thy people with pestilence; and thou shalt be cut off from the earth.

<sup>16</sup> And in very deed for this cause have I raised thee up, for to shew in thee my power; and that my name may be declared throughout all the earth.

4. The plagues were the wrath of God upon Pharaoh and the Egyptians for how they had treated the Israelites.

**Exodus 10:16-17**

<sup>16</sup> Then Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron in haste; and he said, I have sinned against the LORD your God, and against you.

<sup>17</sup> Now therefore forgive, I pray thee, my sin only this once, and intreat the LORD your God, that he may take away from me this death only.

**I. The First Plague  
Part 1  
Exodus 7:1-25**

**Notice Exodus 7:1**

This is a verse that we need to stop and consider for there is a very important message here for us.

Pharaoh would not listen to what God had to say but he would lend an ear to Moses and Aaron so for that reason Moses and Aaron would be God's representatives standing before Pharaoh.

**Application:**

We encounter many people in our lives that do not attend church and do not read the Bible and many of them actually reject the idea that there is a God. So, they do not listen to God, but we often have a platform in their lives. In these situations, the way we conduct

our lives is so very important. They should be able to see our devotion to God, our love for God and for other people, our hatred of sin and evil and the hope which we possess in Christ. These things then become our testimony to people who refuse to listen to God. We then are His representatives to many people such as these. Let me show you some verses:

**1 Peter 3:15**

<sup>15</sup> *But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:*

**2 Corinthians 3:2-3**

<sup>2</sup> *Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men:*

<sup>3</sup> *Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.*

**2 Corinthians 5:19-20a**

<sup>19</sup> *To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.*

<sup>20</sup> *Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us:*

Let us understand that as we step out into our world, we are God's representatives and we are His epistles which men and women read every day as they watch to see how we conduct our lives. Let us also keep in mind that this also pertains to our family members who do not know the Lord. Our devotion, commitment, love, separation, stand and our hope speak loudly to those whom we have conduct with. Be very careful not to compromise your faith to please those whom you know for if we desire to see God work in their lives by using our lives, we must be true to Him.

**Notice Exodus 7:2-6**

I want to focus upon verse 6 here. This shows the faithfulness of Moses and Aaron to their assignment. We shall see that these two men will be faithful to God's assignment through the plagues. No longer is there any resistance from this point on they would do as God commanded them.

Application:

Faithfulness is what the Lord desires to see in our lives. We often forget this because of the world's influence upon our lives. We judge success by how much money someone makes, how big their house is, what kind of car they drive and how many toys they possess. We

often judge success by the position someone holds or how high they have climbed the ladder, how large the preacher's church is, or how many games the coach has won.

But faithfulness to the Lord is seldom used to judge much of anything. Faithfulness is hardly valued at all today and to show how true this is, just consider how few people lower their judgment of people because they are unfaithful to their wedding vows. Today in our society unfaithfulness in marriage is basically accepted and rarely confronted. The sad thing is this worldly influence has crept into the church and it is rare that there is a stand taken against unfaithfulness.

Let us all be reminded that God judges people on their faithfulness and especially on their faithfulness to Him.

**1 Corinthians 4:2**

*<sup>2</sup> Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.*

Faithfulness will determine the service given to us in the Kingdom Age.

**Matthew 25:14-23**

*<sup>14</sup> For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.*

*<sup>15</sup> And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.*

*<sup>16</sup> Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents.*

*<sup>17</sup> And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.*

*<sup>18</sup> But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money.*

*<sup>19</sup> After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.*

*<sup>20</sup> And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.*

*<sup>21</sup> His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.*

<sup>22</sup> He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.

<sup>23</sup> His lord said unto him, **Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.**

**Conclusion:**

If we desire God's approval, we must be faithful. We may not receive much of the world's approval, but the world knows little of faithfulness and good judgment. I am sure that we would much rather have the approval of God instead of man.