

**"The 10 Plagues upon Egypt"**

**Part 2**

**Exodus 7-12**

**Introduction:** Last week in our study of Moses we looked at a few of the purposes for the plagues which God brought upon the nation of Egypt.

1. **The plagues were direct attacks against the gods of 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.*

Through the plagues God will show the Egyptians that their gods are powerless and useless. The plagues will be an extension of God's grace to the Egyptians for He would desire to see them repent and turn to Him.

2. **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.*

3. 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.

There is yet another reason which we did not consider last week.

4. The plagues would be used as an encouragement for the people of Israel.

Through the plagues the people would clearly see the power of God at work on their behalf.

**I. The First Plague  
Part 2  
Exodus 7:1-25**

**Notice Exodus 7:1-6**

Last week we looked at these verses and we considered how Moses and Aaron would be God's representatives to Pharaoh and we also looked at the faithfulness of Moses and Aaron in verse 6. From this point on there would be no more resistance from Moses.

**Notice Exodus 7:7-9**

God knew how Pharaoh would respond and He knew that Pharaoh would ask to see a miracle to confirm the authority by which they made their request. Moses was to instruct Aaron to cast his rod on the ground and it would become a serpent.

**Notice Exodus 7:10**

Moses and Aaron did just as the Lord said when Pharaoh ask to see a sign. I need to point out here that Pharaoh had every right to ask to see a sign. There were many false gods in Egypt and there were many who claimed to be commissioned by one of these gods so we must credit him for seeking to know the authority by which Moses and Aaron came to him. We will consider a lesson from this after we see something else which happened in this meeting.

**Notice Exodus 7:11-12**

When Pharaoh called the magicians of Egypt, they were able to cast their rods down and they too became serpents. Now many have tried to explain away what the magicians did, and they teach that they had snakes that were rigid and when they cast them down, they loosened up and began to crawl. But that is not what the Bible tells us. Verse 12 tells us that they cast down their RODS and they BECAME serpents.

**Application:**

1. **Satan counterfeited this miracle so as to deceive Pharaoh and his magicians and to discourage Moses and Aaron.**

There are several verses which come to mind here:

**John 8:44**

*<sup>44</sup> Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.*

Satan is a liar and a counterfeit and for that reason we must be very careful. When we studied 1 Corinthians, we considered how Satan will counterfeit the spiritual gifts within the body of Jesus Christ. There are gifts which do not exist anymore because there is no need for them, and Satan will work through people to counterfeit these gifts to cause confusion and to cause division within the church. Remember what happened at Corinth?

**2 Corinthians 11:13-15**

*<sup>13</sup> For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.*

*<sup>14</sup> And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.*

*<sup>15</sup> Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.*

Satan had planted false apostles within the church, and it was causing much confusion. Satan will counterfeit the spiritual gifts in an attempt to destroy the church. The gifts were given to edify and build up the church but its Satan's goal to do the opposite.

**Ephesians 4:11-12**

*<sup>11</sup> And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;*

<sup>12</sup> For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

Now because Satan is a counterfeit, we then must heed the words of John as recorded in 1 John.

**1 John 4:1-3**

*Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.*

<sup>2</sup> *Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God:*

<sup>3</sup> *And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.*

Now, John is saying more here than to just test the spirits. There was a group in John's day that taught that Jesus was not really a man/human. That may not seem very important, but it is very important because if Jesus was not a man of the human race then He would not have qualified to be our Sacrifice for our Sacrifice had to be a man in order to die for men.

Now, let me explain what John is saying here. He is telling his readers to look at the teacher's or the pastor's doctrine. He may sound good and he may preach some Truth but if his doctrine is not Biblical then separate far from him. Let me show you Peter's warning:

**2 Peter 2:1-3**

*But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.*

<sup>2</sup> *And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.*

<sup>3</sup> *And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you:*

I point all of this out because we need to be fully aware. Be sure to know someone's doctrine before you submerge yourself under their teaching because a false teacher will mix their false doctrine in with some of the Truth and little by little, they will feed you lies/poison. Do not be deceived by how good they preach or how sincere they seem. Satan will do all he can to deceive God's children.

**Illustration:** Years ago, I visited a church where they had four men who were singing that evening. The men were from out of state and they sounded really good. As I listened, I thought it would be good to talk with them about coming to Claysburg with their music. After they were finished, they were set up at a table in the foyer and so I went and spoke with them. They said they would love to come and share their music but when I ask them for a doctrinal statement, they informed me that they did not have one because they did not want to offend. The leader of the group told me they did all they could to stay away from doctrine. That statement told me that I wanted nothing to do with those men.

**Notice Exodus 7:10-12 again.**

As I read these verses again, I want to raise a question, "What is the significance of the rod turning into a serpent?" We talked about this earlier, but I believe we need to see it again in this passage.

The rod in the Bible speaks of government the serpent represents sin and Satan. The rod of Aaron turning into a serpent is a picture of what happened to the Egyptian government. There was a time when the government of Egypt was kind to Joseph and his family but over the years the sin of the Pharaohs turned the government into a serpentine government that was now under the influence of Satan and his demonic spirits. This is seen in the affliction of Israel.

Now when the magicians cast down their rods and Aaron's rod swallowed their rods this was a warning to Pharaoh. The warning was there was a Greater power which was about to bring judgment upon him and his nation.

**Application:**

It is encouraging for us to know that we serve a God that is able at anytime to **swallow up** His enemies and those who oppress His people. Let me show you some passages where this phrase is used.

Notice the song which Moses and Israel sang after the Red Sea.

**Exodus 15:9-12**

<sup>9</sup> *The enemy said, I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil; my lust shall be satisfied upon them; I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.*

<sup>10</sup> *Thou didst blow with thy wind, the sea covered them: they sank as lead in the mighty waters.*

<sup>11</sup> *Who is like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?*

<sup>12</sup> *Thou stretchedst out thy right hand, **the earth swallowed them.***

In Numbers 16 Korah led a rebellion against Moses, but his rebellion ended with Divine intervention.

**Numbers 16:28-32**

<sup>28</sup> *And Moses said, Hereby ye shall know that the LORD hath sent me to do all these works: for I have not done them of mine own mind.*

<sup>29</sup> *If these men die the common death of all men, or if they be visited after the visitation of all men; then the LORD hath not sent me.*

<sup>30</sup> *But if the LORD make a new thing, and the earth open her mouth, and **swallow them up**, with all that appertain unto them, and they go down quick into the pit; then ye shall understand that these men have provoked the LORD.*

<sup>31</sup> *And it came to pass, as he had made an end of speaking all these words, that the ground clave asunder that was under them:*

<sup>32</sup> *And the earth opened her mouth, **and swallowed them up**, and their houses, and all the men that appertained unto Korah, and all their goods.*

Those of us who know Jesus Christ have a great and wonderful promise in 1 Corinthians 15.

**1 Corinthians 15:51-54**

<sup>51</sup> *Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,*

<sup>52</sup> *In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.*

<sup>53</sup> *For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.*

<sup>54</sup> *So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, **Death is swallowed up in victory.***

God has swallowed up the greatest enemy known to man which is DEATH. Since God has swallowed up our greatest enemy there is nothing for us to fear for God can see that all our enemies are swallowed up and someday, they will be.

**Conclusion:**

There is much more here for us to see so we shall pick it up next week. As we close, I will show you the end result of all our enemies being swallowed up of God.

**Revelation 21:1-5**

*And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.*

*<sup>2</sup> And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.*

*<sup>3</sup> And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.*

*<sup>4</sup> And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.*

*<sup>5</sup> And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.*