

**"The 10 Plagues upon Egypt"**

**Part 4**

**Exodus 7-12**

**Introduction:** Over the past weeks we have been looking at the prelude to the plagues which God would bring upon Egypt. We examined in detail the meeting between Moses, Aaron and Pharaoh in Exodus 7:10-14 and we seen that God hardened the heart of Pharaoh. God manifested Himself through the miracle of Aaron's rod turning into a serpent and He manifest His power as Aaron's rod swallowed the rods of the magicians. But Pharaoh refused to believe. He looked for a reason to NOT believe and he found it when Satan counterfeited the miracle. He ignored the obvious because he did not want to acknowledge God. The sin of unbelief brought upon him the judgment of God which was the hardening of his heart.

**Notice Exodus 7:10-14**

Pharaoh had placed himself in a very dangerous position with his suppression of the Truth. In that position he then came under the judgment of God and God would now use him for two reasons:

1. To demonstrate His power.
2. To warn others of the danger of rejecting God.

Tonight, in our study of Moses we have arrived at the first plague.

**I. Plague #1 Water to Blood**

**Exodus 7:14-25**

With this first plague there is much for us to see and consider. I want to use 6 points pertaining to this plague.

**1. The Reproving before the Plague**

**Notice Exodus 7:14-16**

Pharaoh had rejected God's request twice before and it looked like his rejection would go uncontested. But that was about to change. Pharaoh had adequately been warned and I am sure he thought there would be no repercussions. But Pharaoh was wrong.

Matthew Henry said, *"God always warns a man before He wounds him."*

There is a very familiar verse in the Bible that comes to mind here.

**Numbers 32:23**

<sup>23</sup> *But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out.*

All sin has consequences, and every person needs to know that no one will get away with their sin. There are people today who attend church and they hear the Truth over and over again. They see no consequences at the present time and therefore they see no need to urgently turn to Jesus Christ. They are ignorant of what the Bible teaches.

**Romans 2:1-9**

*Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things.*

<sup>2</sup> *But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things.*

<sup>3</sup> *And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?*

<sup>4</sup> *Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?*

<sup>5</sup> *But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;*

<sup>6</sup> *Who will render to every man according to his deeds:*

<sup>7</sup> *To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:*

<sup>8</sup> *But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath,*

<sup>9</sup> *Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile;*

These verses are addressed to the REFORMED SINNER. This is the person who sees themselves as better than most. He does not do what the RATIONAL SINNER does, but he is still guilty of sin. He thinks he will somehow escape the judgment, but what he does not know is that the judgment of God is building against him like flood waters behind a dam and someday that judgment will sweep over him like a giant wave and it will be too late.

This is the position which Pharaoh was in and this is the position many others are in who continually reject the grace of God.

## 2. The Revelation in the Plague

### Notice Exodus 7:17

Pharaoh refused to acknowledge God earlier.

### Exodus 5:1-2

*And afterward Moses and Aaron went in, and told Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Let my people go, that they may hold a feast unto me in the wilderness.*

<sup>2</sup> *And Pharaoh said, Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go.*

Pharaoh would not acknowledge God nor would he even show a desire to seek to know him, but he was about to get a quick education about God. He will learn of the danger of rejecting God, He will learn of the power of God, he will learn that his gods were nothing compared to the God of Israel, and he would learn that God is Superior. In the ten plagues Pharaoh will go through God's "fast track system" and in these plagues he was gain an understanding of God.

One of the many reasons for the plagues was that God would be known.

### Application:

The better a person knows God the more he or she will give glory to God. In these ten plagues Israel will gain a deeper knowledge of God.

### Exodus 6:5-7

<sup>5</sup> *And I have also heard the groaning of the children of Israel, whom the Egyptians keep in bondage; and I have remembered my covenant.*

<sup>6</sup> *Wherefore say unto the children of Israel, I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will rid you out of their bondage, and I will redeem you with a stretched out arm, and with great judgments:*

<sup>7</sup> *And I will take you to me for a people, and I will be to you a God: and **ye shall know that I am the LORD your God**, which bringeth you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.*

The Egyptians would also gain a knowledge of God through the plagues.

### Exodus 7:5

<sup>5</sup> And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch forth mine hand upon Egypt, and bring out the children of Israel from among them.

In all that God does today He does it to reveal Himself to mankind. The plagues were not done for entertainment but so that God would be manifest through them.

#### Romans 9:17

<sup>17</sup> For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth.

God has assigned to the church the responsibility of manifesting our Lord to the world around us.

#### Philippians 1:20-21

<sup>20</sup> According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death.

<sup>21</sup> For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Paul's mission was to magnify Jesus Christ to the world around him. This too is our mission. We are to personally go into the world and live in a way that others can see Christ in us. The CHURCH as a body is to be a place where people come in and learn about God. The services are not to be entertaining but they are to be educational.

#### 2 Timothy 4:1-3

I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;

<sup>2</sup> Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine.

<sup>3</sup> For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

Let us notice what Paul wrote to the Ephesians concerning the church.

#### Ephesians 4:11-15

<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:

<sup>13</sup> Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

<sup>14</sup> That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

<sup>15</sup> But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

### **3. The Ruin of the Plague.**

#### **Notice Exodus 7:19-21**

This plague was devastating to the Egyptians. The river waters and the ponds were all turned to blood. It would affect three areas of their lives:

#### **1. Their food supplies.**

Much of the food in Egypt came from the Nile River but with this plague all the fish died. It is important that ever after the plague was lifted it would take a long period of time for the supply to be built back up.

#### **2. Their environment.**

The river of blood combined with the dead fish gave off a terrible stench. The river and the riverbanks would be a mess. They used the river not just for drinking water but also for bathing and washing clothing. They used the water to water their livestock. This plague would have devastated the Egyptians.

#### **3. Their economy.**

The river provided many people with jobs. Fishing was a big part of the economy and this would have taken away all the jobs connected with the river. Their economy would experience a huge hit because of this plague.

Let me just pause here and remind you that the affects from this plague were all brought on by sin.

#### **4. The Reaping of the Plague.**

This plague of water to blood brought upon Egypt that which they were guilty of in the past.

**Exodus 1:22**

<sup>22</sup> And Pharaoh charged all his people, saying, Every son that is born ye shall cast into the river, and every daughter ye shall save alive.

In these days the Nile River was used as a means of execution for the baby boys. The babies that were tossed in would either drown or meet a quick death in the teeth of the crocodiles which made the blood of the babies flow in the river.

Now the chickens had come home to roost. The Egyptians were not bothered by the blood which they put in the river, but they were certainly bothered by the blood which God put in the river. They were experiencing the law of REAPING AND SOWING.

**Galatians 6:7-8**

<sup>7</sup> Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

<sup>8</sup> For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

**Job 4:8**

<sup>8</sup> Even as I have seen, they that plow iniquity, and sow wickedness, reap the same.

Proverbs 1 describes what is happening in Egypt.

**Proverbs 1:24-31**

<sup>24</sup> Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded;

<sup>25</sup> But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof:

<sup>26</sup> I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh;

<sup>27</sup> When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you.

<sup>28</sup> Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me:

<sup>29</sup> For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD:

<sup>30</sup> They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof.

<sup>31</sup> Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.

**Conclusion:**

There is much more to see in what takes place here and we shall come back to examine more next week. In closing let me remind you of the need to pray for our leaders of our nation. Here in Exodus we see that the sins of the nation's leader brought devastation upon the entire nation. If God avenged Egypt for the killing of the baby boys what can we expect to happen in our nation with all the abortions which have been performed? Let us never forget the law of REAPING AND SOWING.