"The 10 Plagues upon Egypt"

Part 6

Exodus 7-12

Introduction: Tonight, in our study of the life of Moses we have come to the second of the ten plagues. The second plague was a judgment of frogs.

II. The Second Plague

Part 1

Exodus 8:1-15

A. The Warning

Notice Exodus 8:1-2

Before this second plague would come upon Pharaoh and the Egyptians, God extended His grace to Pharaoh again. He sent Moses and Aaron to warn him of what was about to happen and even gave to him the details. But Pharaoh refused to be humbled and so he rejected the grace of God yet again.

Application:

There are many in the world today who need to read this passage and learn the lesson which is seen within this text. God's grace can only be rejected for so long. There will come a time when grace comes to an end and when it does there will be judgment. So many people believe that they can go through life indulging in their sin and they will never reap any consequences, but they are deceived by Satan and by their own sinful hearts.

Jeremiah 17:9-10

⁹ The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

¹⁰ I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

Many today are just like the reformed sinner in Romans 2.

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.

- ² But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things.
- ³ 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?
- ⁴ Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?
- ⁵ 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;
- ⁶ Who will render to every man according to his deeds:
- ⁷ To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:
- ⁸ But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath,
- ⁹ Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile;

This is the Truth that people need to understand. No one will escape the judgment of God.

Notice Exodus 8:4

I want you to notice here that not one Egyptian would be exempt. The frogs would come upon Pharaoh, his people and his servants. The elites, the lowest members of society and the middle class would all be impacted by this plague.

This brings to my mind what is recorded in Revelation 6 concerning the Seal Judgments as well as all the Judgments of the Tribulation.

Revelation 6:15-17

- ¹⁵ And the <u>kings of the earth</u>, and the <u>great men</u>, and the <u>rich men</u>, and the <u>chief</u>
 <u>captains</u>, and the <u>mighty men</u>, and <u>every bondman</u>, and <u>every free man</u>, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;
- ¹⁶ And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:
- ¹⁷ For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

God is longsuffering and desires that all come to repentance so we witness His grace over and over again, but one day it will end and not one unsaved person will escape His wrath.

B. The Infiltration

Notice Exodus 8:3-4

The frogs would be so great in number that they would be in everything. There would not be one area of the house where they would not be. They would get in the beds, in the places where the food was prepared, and they would crawl upon the people. We can only imagine what it would be like to go to bed and have frogs crawling under the covers and over our faces in the night. There would be no rest. Let me give you a glimpse of how devastating this infiltration of frogs was to them.

Psalm 78:45

⁴⁵ He sent divers sorts of flies among them, which devoured them; <u>and frogs, which destroyed them.</u>

We wonder how people could die from the frogs. It could have been by choking as they slept, and the frogs crawled in their mouth and was sucked into their throat. We don't really understand how bad this situation was. There were frogs everywhere! There was no place to go to escape them. As they walked, they would have walked upon frogs thus smashing them under their feet. Then when the frogs died, they had dead frogs all through their places of dwelling.

Notice Exodus 8:13-14

Rawlinson says that these particular kinds of frogs were known for their constant croaking noise. So, the noise of the frogs would have been deafening.

Notice the words of Galerius:

"The Egyptians were punished in this plague upon all the five senses. The sight was punished, that was offended with the multitude, with the greatness, with the hideous form and colour of these frogs. Their hearing was offended with the croaking of them; for it was but harsh music to dainty ears. Their smell was offended with the stench of them. Their taste was offended that they came into their troughs, the places of their dough, and so hindered them of the food that was provided for their nourishment... "The frogs shall come up both on thee, and upon thy people, and upon all thy servants." So that thou shalt not rid thyself of this annoyance. What! in their meat, and drink; and upon their bodies!"

I want to pause here for a moment and consider a few thoughts from all of this.

One of the false gods of Egypt was called Heqt and was considered to be the fertility goddess. This god was often pictured as a squatting frog. This goddess was considered to be a good luck charm to increase the fertility of the Egyptians. So, the infiltration of the frogs was a direct attack upon this false god. The frog goddess was supposed to bring forth life but now, because of these frogs, there was destruction.

Now let me give you something to consider in all of this. Let me take you back to where this all started.

Exodus 1:7-11

⁷ And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceeding mighty; and the land was filled with them.

[This verse can be viewed as a parallel with Exodus 8:6]

- ⁸ Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph.
- ⁹ And he said unto his people, Behold, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we:
- ¹⁰ Come on, let us deal wisely with them; lest they multiply, and it come to pass, that, when there falleth out any war, they join also unto our enemies, and fight against us, and so get them up out of the land.
- ¹¹ Therefore they did set over them taskmasters to afflict them with their burdens.

This was a direct attack upon the fertility of God's people. The Israelites had grown to where they filled the land and it is no coincidence that the frogs also filled the land. The Egyptians did everything they could to slow down and hinder the growth of the Israelite population, even by killing the baby boys. So, it could be that God is saying to the Egyptians, "You attacked the fertility and the fruit of my people so I will destroy the god you believe to be the one who controls your fertility."

Now, one of the interesting points to consider here is that in Egypt the frog was seen as sacred. It was illegal to kill the frog and if you were caught killing a frog you could find yourself facing the death penalty. What a predicament Egypt was in because of their own beliefs and because of the laws they had put in place.

Application:

This is what happens when a nation turns away from God and when evil people are placed in positions of authority. Evil men make evil laws which curse the land. In certain countries cows are seen as sacred and cannot be killed while many people die of starvation in the

same areas. This is an example of a people turning away from God and the people are cursed because of the laws.

Our nation is no different. In 1963 our nation removed prayer and the Bible out of the public schools. Let me show you what happened.

Madalyn Murray O'Hair, a militant left-wing atheist with close ties to the American Communist Party, took the school board of Baltimore to court for allowing prayer in school. The local court judge J. Gilbert Pendergast dismissed the petition stating, "It is abundantly clear that petitioners' real objective is to drive every concept of religion out of the public-school system." The case went to the Maryland Court of Appeals, and the court ruled, "neither the First nor the Fourteenth Amendment was intended to stifle all rapport between religion and government."

The case was then heard by the U.S. Supreme Court. Leonard Kerpelman addressed the court saying prayer in the public schools had been tolerated for so long that it had become traditional and that anything that is unconstitutional does not become constitutional through tradition. He went on to say the Constitution had erected a "wall of separation" between church and state", at which point Justice Potter Steward interrupted, asking where this wording appears. Kerpelman was stumped and an embarrassing silence followed. When he regained his composure, he stated that the text was not explicit on the point but that it had been interpreted to mean so.

Incredibly, the National Council of Churches and several Jewish organizations actually favored Madalyn O'Hair case! Not a single Christian organization filed a brief in support of school prayer, so the case went virtually uncontested before the Court. The Supreme Court ruled 8 to 1 in favor of abolishing school prayer and Bible reading in the public schools. Justice Tom Clark wrote, "religious freedom, it has long been recognized that government must be neutral and, while protecting all, must prefer none and disparage none." Atheism has been recognized by the federal government as a religion, and this Supreme Court ruling preferred Secular Atheism, and therefore failed to be neutral as Justice Tom Clark suggested.

Now let me show you some stats on the results of removing prayer and the Bible from schools.

In 1963, Madalyn Murray O'Hair won a lawsuit against the Baltimore School System, which voted in her favor 8-1 to ban school prayer and label it "unconstitutional". Though not all prayer was immediately banned from schools at that time, through a process of time, almost all school prayer is banned today.

A. Young People

- 1. For 15 years before 1963 pregnancies in girls ages 15 through 19 years had been no more than 15 per thousand After 1963 pregnancies increased 187% in the next 15 years.
- 2. For younger girls, ages 10 to 14 years, pregnancies since 1963 are up 553%.
- 3. Before 1963 sexually transmitted diseases among students were 400 per 100,000. Since 1963, they were up 226% in the next 12 years.

B. The Family

- 1. Before 1963 divorce rates had been declining for 15 years. After 1963 divorces increased 300% each year for the next 15 years.
- 2. Since 1963 unmarried people living together is up 353%
- 3. Since 1963 single parent families are up 140%.
- 4. Since 1963 single parent families with children are up 160%.

Egypt had made laws that said, frogs were sacred and could not be killed. Now the nation found themselves in a desperate situation because of their laws. Ungodly people were permitted to make the laws and that was why they were in this situation. Ungodly people in our nation have made the choice to remove prayer and the Bible from public schools so now we are in a desperate situation due to their laws.

C. The Counterfeit Miracle.

Notice Exodus 8:5-7

Just as with the first plague the magicians could not reverse the miracle, but they only made it worse.

Here in this action by the magicians we can again see one of the ways in which Satan works. He has people who serve him that he uses to cast doubt upon the Word of God and God's power. They are often people who are crafty with their speech.

2 Peter 2:1-3a

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.

- ² And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.
- ³ And through covetousness shall they with <u>feigned</u> [fictious, formed] <u>words</u> make merchandise of you:

2 Peter 3:4

⁴ And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.

Peter tells us they will cast doubt upon God's Word and will deny the power of the Lord. This is exactly what Satan was doing through the magicians. When they duplicated the miracle, it was an attempt to show that the miracle of what Moses and Aaron did was nothing great. Even the magicians could do the same.

This counterfeit miracle was designed to keep people from repenting and turning to God. This is also the very reason for the scoffers and the false teachers whom Satan raises up today.

Conclusion:

It is our responsibility to learn the Truth and to share it with others whom we know.

2 Timothy 2:1-4, 14-15

Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

² And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, <u>the same commit thou</u> <u>to faithful men</u>, who shall be able to teach others also.

- ⁴ No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.
- ¹⁴ Of these things put them in remembrance, charging them before the Lord that they strive not about words to no profit, but to the subverting of the hearers.
- ¹⁵ Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

³ Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.