

"The 10 Plagues upon Egypt"

Part 13

Exodus 7-12

Introduction: As we return to our study of the life of Moses, I want to do a little review of what we looked at the last time we were in our study. Last week we looked at the 6th plague which God brought upon Egypt. That plague was the boils and open sores upon man and beast. This plague was brought on by Moses casting ashes from THE FURNACE into the air. This was the very furnace that was used to burn the bricks which the Israelites were forced to make. This plague was directly connected with the sin of the Egyptians and their affliction of the people of Israel.

Then we also started into the 7th plague which is great hail, rain and thunder. As we started into this plague, we looked at only one point.

I. The Demand before the Plague

Notice Exodus 9:13

This was at least the 6th time that Pharaoh had heard this demand, and, in the repetition, we looked at 2 points.

1. The Greatness of Pharaoh's Rebellion
2. The Greatness of God's Grace

This now brings us to where we are in our study today.

The Seventh Plague

"Great Hail on the Land"

Exodus 9:13-35

Part 2

As we move on there is much for us to see in this 7th plague.

II. The Declaration before the Plague

Notice Exodus 9:14-16

There are 4 points to see here in the declaration.

1. The place of the FUTURE plagues.

Notice Exodus 9:14

The place of destruction now has some added dimensions. The remaining plagues would now come upon Pharaoh's heart, upon his servants and upon his people. It is true that the people had suffered from the previous plagues but now there would be much more suffering for the people. The suffering that would come in the following plagues would be much more severe. In the remaining plagues death would now be ever present in the land of Egypt.

So, the people of Pharaoh would now begin to experience the severe consequences of his sins. But it is the heart of Pharaoh that we need to examine here. This makes me raise a question, "What does it mean that the plagues would come upon the heart of Pharaoh?"

This means that Pharaoh would now have wrestling's within his heart, and he would agonize like never before. Pharaoh would be tormented with his heart. There would be absolutely no rest and no peace for this man from this time forward. From this time forth we can only imagine that Pharaoh would become mean and angry because of the torment within him.

Application:

This is what sin does within the heart. It desensitizes, hardens, chills and torments. If you chose to live in sin and refuse to repent there will be no rest and no peace. Let us look at several passages.

In Psalm 32 David wrote concerning his sin with Bathsheba when he lived for over a year with it locked in his heart.

Psalm 32:1-5

Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

² Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.

³ When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long.

⁴ For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah.

⁵ I acknowledge my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.

David was released when he confessed his sin to the Lord.

In Matthew 28 we read about the servant who was forgiven a huge debt, but he refused to forgive his fellowman who owed money to him. This was reported to his master and here is what we read concerning that man:

Matthew 28:34-35

³⁴ And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him.

³⁵ So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.

Jesus tells this parable and then He applies it in verse 35. He is not saying that we lose our salvation, but He is saying that God will turn us over to the tormentors. The question here is, "Who are the tormentors? These are the hidden tormentors of anger and bitterness that eat your insides out, the tormentors of frustration and malice that give you ulcers and high blood pressure and migraine headaches and lower back pain, the tormentors that make you lie awake at night on your bed stewing over every rotten thing that happens to you. The tormentors of an unforgiving heart who stalk your trail day and night, who never leave your side, who suck every bit of joy from your life.

Why? BECAUSE YOU WILL NOT FORGIVE FROM THE HEART.

Pharaoh would experience these tormentors not because of unforgiveness but because of unconfessed sin.

This is what happens to people who refuse to repent and people who continue to suppress the conviction of the Spirit and who suppress the Truth of God's Word.

Let me also give you another frightening thought from the life of Pharaoh. He would have no rest, no peace, he would have terrible wrestling's within his heart, and he would be completely miserable, and because he would continue to harden his heart, he would NOT be able to repent. How frightening is that thought? He has gone so far that that he was now in a very strong spiritual whirlpool pulling him toward destruction.

2. The power of the FUTURE plagues.

Notice Exodus 9:15

Here God gives to Pharaoh a warning that he will be cut off from the earth, meaning that he would die.

Here is the most powerful man in the world he sees himself as such. But God lets him know that if He desires, He can cut his life off and Pharaoh would be no match.

Application:

There are many powerful people in our world today who have no respect for the Lord at all. They see themselves as being in complete control of all that happens within their lives. But while they may be able to exercise their power over people under them, they are no match for the Lord. Let me show you Daniel's interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream:

Daniel 4:20-25

²⁰ *The tree that thou sawest, which grew, and was strong, whose height reached unto the heaven, and the sight thereof to all the earth;*

²¹ *Whose leaves were fair, and the fruit thereof much, and in it was meat for all; under which the beasts of the field dwelt, and upon whose branches the fowls of the heaven had their habitation:*

²² *It is thou, O king, that art grown and become strong: for thy greatness is grown, and reacheth unto heaven, and thy dominion to the end of the earth.*

²³ *And whereas the king saw a watcher and an holy one coming down from heaven, and saying, Hew the tree down, and destroy it; yet leave the stump of the roots thereof in the earth, even with a band of iron and brass, in the tender grass of the field; and let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let his portion be with the beasts of the field, till seven times pass over him:*

²⁴ *This is the interpretation, O king, and this is the decree of the most High, which is come upon my lord the king:*

²⁵ *That they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and they shall wet thee with the dew of heaven, and seven times shall pass over thee, till thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will.*

Here was the most powerful man in the world and God told him He would strip away his power. Deeper into the chapter we read these words:

Daniel 4:28-33

²⁸ *All this came upon the king Nebuchadnezzar.*

²⁹ *At the end of twelve months he walked in the palace of the kingdom of Babylon.*

³⁰ *The king spake, and said, Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty?*

³¹ *While the word was in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, saying, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from thee.*

³² *And they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field: they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and seven times shall pass over thee, until thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will.*

³³ **The same hour was the thing fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar:** *and he was driven from men, and did eat grass as oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till his hairs were grown like eagles' feathers, and his nails like birds' claws.*

In an hour it all went away from the king.

Let me show you what will take place in the Tribulation as the Seal Judgments are poured out.

Revelation 6:15-17

¹⁵ *And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, 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?*

The point to see in all of this is that the mightiest people on the earth are no match for the wrath of Almighty God.

3. The provoker of the plagues.

Notice Exodus 9:16

Here we see a Truth which we have looked before. God chose to use Pharaoh to manifest His name and His power throughout all the earth. Let us understand that God will be glorified in every person's life in some way.

He will be glorified in in the lives of the wicked such as Pharaoh.

Romans 9:21-22

²¹ *Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour?*

²² *What if God, willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction:*

The Unrighteous - God can use people who are lumps of sinful clay and who have fitted themselves for destruction to glorify Himself. In His longsuffering He can permit them to live instead of cutting them off and then in their lives He can use them how He sees fit. The point is that God will be glorified even in the lives of the wicked.

The Righteous - God will certainly be glorified in those of us who are saved.

Romans 9:23-24

²³ *And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory,*

²⁴ *Even us, whom he hath called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?*

We, who are the church are the vessels of mercy for we have received His mercy. In our lives God will be glorified for all eternity.

Ephesians 1:4-6, 12

⁴ *According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:*

⁵ *Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,*

⁶ **To the praise of the glory of his grace**, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

¹² **That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.**

III. The Denunciation before the Plague

Notice Exodus 9:17

This statement from the Lord was a direct denunciation against the pride of Moses. Instead of dignifying pride as the world does the Lord rebuked Pharaoh through Moses for his pride. It was pride that had brought Pharaoh to this point. Pride was the man's problem.

Application:

Pride is promoted within our culture, but the Truth of the matter is pride is a sin. It is extremely dangerous in the lives of people today. Pride was what brought God's judgment upon Nebuchadnezzar. The Bible is clear about the consequences of pride.

Pride blinds men to many things.

Psalm 10:2-6

² *The wicked in his pride doth persecute the poor: let them be taken in the devices that they have imagined.*

³ *For the wicked boasteth of his heart's desire, and blesseth the covetous, whom the LORD abhorreth.*

⁴ *The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts.*

⁵ *His ways are always grievous; thy judgments are far above out of his sight: as for all his enemies, he puffeth at them.*

⁶ *He hath said in his heart, I shall not be moved: for I shall never be in adversity.*

Proverbs 16:18-19

¹⁸ *Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.*

¹⁹ *Better it is to be of an humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud.*

Proverbs 29:23

²³ *A man's pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit.*

IV. The Deliverance from the Plague

Notice Exodus 9:18-19

Here is the grace of God toward the Egyptians. The plague could not be stopped but God was it could be avoided. If the Egyptians believed God, they could bring their livestock in and they too could enter their houses and they would be spared.

Notice Exodus 9:20-21

There were 2 different responses to the warning. Some heeded the warning, and some did not.

Conclusion/Application:

Today as we face the unseen enemy of the Coronavirus there are many who have heeded the warnings and they have stayed home because they do not want to catch the dreaded disease.

But there is another warning given today that many ignore. Even worse than the Coronavirus is the wrath of God. I see people today who listen to every word we are told by the news media and follow their instructions to avoid the virus, but they will NOT heed the warning of God's Word that tells them they are headed for the wrath of God. God has given many warnings in His Word and people have heard them, but they will not take the Way of escape.

Hebrews 9:27

²⁷ And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

This judgment is inevitable!!! It is coming. But there is a way of escape.

John 3:16

¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Listen to what Jesus said as recorded by Matthew.

Matthew 10:18

²⁸ And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.