

**"The 10 Plagues upon Egypt"**

**Part 30**

**Exodus 7-12**

**Introduction:** Tonight, in our study of Moses' life we have arrived at the conclusion of our study of the Ten Plagues. Next week we will follow Israel out of Egypt, through the Red Sea, and into the wilderness. In our past two studies we were looking in some detail of the tenth and final plague.

1. **The Death of the Firstborn.**
2. **The Despair of the People.**
3. **The Deliverance of Israel**
  - A. **The demand of deliverance.**
    - ✓ **The control behind the demand.**
    - ✓ **The compliance in the demand.**

Tonight, in our study we are going to look at one more supernatural event that was connected to the tenth plague.

**4. The Despoiling of the Egyptians**

**Notice Exodus 12:35-36**

- a. **The rightness of the despoiling.**

The despoiling of the Egyptians was a fulfillment of God's Word to Moses back in Exodus 3.

**Exodus 3:21-22**

***21 And I will give this people favour in the sight of the Egyptians: and it shall come to pass, that, when ye go, ye shall not go empty.***

***22 But every woman shall borrow of her neighbour, and of her that sojourneth in her house, jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment: and ye shall put them upon your sons, and upon your daughters; and ye shall spoil the Egyptians.***

I want to draw your attention to the word "**borrow**". It is also used in Exodus 12:36 and then in 12:36 we see the word "**lent**". When we see the word "borrow" and the word "lent" we think of something that had to be returned. So, the translation here gives the appearance that when Israel spoiled the Egyptians that they only borrowed the gold and the silver, promising to return it. They of course never did return what they were given so then we get the impression that Israel stole the gold and the silver. But that is not the

case. The word "borrow" means "to ask". The word "lent" means "to give". The Israelites did not deceive the Egyptians into thinking these things would be returned. The Israelites asked for them and the Egyptians willingly gave them the gold and the silver. God never commands His people to do evil.

**Psalm 37:21**

<sup>21</sup> The wicked borroweth, and payeth not again: but the righteous sheweth mercy, and giveth.

**b. The retribution in the despoiling.**

**Notice Exodus 12:36**

At the end of this verse we are told they spoiled the Egyptians. Egypt would give away their riches and never get them back. But they had absolutely nothing to complain about for they had made great gains from the slavery of the Israelites. They had gained their riches through forced labor. This text in Exodus 12 is a picture of what James recorded in his letter.

**James 5:1-8**

*Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you.*

<sup>2</sup> *Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten.*

<sup>3</sup> *Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days.*

<sup>4</sup> *Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth.*

<sup>5</sup> *Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter.*

<sup>6</sup> *Ye have condemned and killed the just; and he doth not resist you.*

<sup>7</sup> *Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.*

<sup>8</sup> *Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.*

James tells those who had abused the workers to gain their riches were going to experience misery because of how they attained their riches. The principle here in James and in Egypt is that you cannot gain riches in an evil way without paying a bigger price than what you gained. You will not enjoy the riches for long for they will either gain wings and fly away, or you will have other problems that will keep you from enjoying them even though you still possess them. Riches gained in gambling will eventually haunt the one who possesses them. Those who gain their riches in dishonest dealings will find them to be a curse, those who go to court to wrongfully sue for riches will someday discover what they gained was actually a bigger loss than their gain.

**1 Timothy 6:6-12**

*<sup>6</sup> But godliness with contentment is great gain.*

*<sup>7</sup> For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.*

*<sup>8</sup> And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.*

*<sup>9</sup> But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.*

*<sup>10</sup> For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.*

*<sup>11</sup> But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.*

*<sup>12</sup> Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.*

**c. The recompense in the despoiling.**

Israel had been worked as slaves and had not received the proper pay as we just considered. The despoiling would help to correct some of the mistreatment done to God's people.

God's people often come up short in this life. This is especially true of pastors and missionaries. Many missionaries have been expected to live on very meager fair. They sacrifice so much to take the Gospel to remote areas, and they get very little in pay. Pastors are often called upon to put in much more than forty hours a week, but they are given a meager pay to do so. I have known pastors that did what God had called them to do

while at the same time they stressed greatly over how they were going to make ends meet for their own family. Let me show you what Paul stated concerning ministers of the Gospel.

**1 Corinthians 9:3-11**

<sup>3</sup> Mine answer to them that do examine me is this,

<sup>4</sup> Have we not power to eat and to drink?

<sup>5</sup> Have we not power to lead about a sister, a wife, as well as other apostles, and as the brethren of the Lord, and Cephas?

<sup>6</sup> Or I only and Barnabas, have not we power to forbear working?

<sup>7</sup> Who goeth a warfare any time at his own charges? who planteth a vineyard, and eateth not of the fruit thereof? or who feedeth a flock, and eateth not of the milk of the flock?

<sup>8</sup> Say I these things as a man? or saith not the law the same also?

<sup>9</sup> For it is written in the law of Moses, thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the ox that treadeth out the corn. Doth God take care for oxen?

<sup>10</sup> Or saith he it altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, this is written: that he that ploweth should plow in hope; and that he that thresheth in hope should be partaker of his hope.

<sup>11</sup> If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things?

**1 Timothy 5:17-18**

<sup>17</sup> Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.

<sup>18</sup> For the scripture saith, thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer is worthy of his reward.

God's servants can become very discouraged if they do not keep their eyes upon the Word of God where God promises that He has a way of balancing the scales. The day will come when His servants will be properly compensated.

**Psalm 128:1-2**

*Blessed is every one that feareth the LORD; that walketh in his ways.*

***<sup>2</sup> For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands: happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee.***

**Hebrews 6:10**

*<sup>10</sup> For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.*

**d. The receptiveness of the despoiling.**

**Notice Exodus 12:36**

After the ten plagues we would certainly not expect the Egyptians to give Israel anything but grief. But God moved the hearts of the Egyptians and they willingly gave to the Israelites their riches.

The lesson for us here is one of encouragement. When God calls upon us to serve Him, we do not need to be concerned with how our needs are going to be met. God can use people we do not even know to meet our needs. When God has assigned the duties, He will also give the power and the resources to accomplish the duty.

Now there is something else which needs to be considered in this lesson. Israel would need these riches later as we shall see, and God provided them BEFORE the journey. This is not always the way in which God works. Sometimes (and most of the time) He will not provide what we need until we actually need it, or He will not provide what we need until we show that we are willing to walk by faith and trust Him.

**Joshua 3:13-17**

*<sup>13</sup> And it shall come to pass, as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests that bear the ark of the LORD, the LORD of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of Jordan, that the waters of Jordan shall be cut off from the waters that come down from above; and they shall stand upon an heap.*

*<sup>14</sup> And it came to pass, when the people removed from their tents, to pass over Jordan, and the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people;*

*<sup>15</sup> And as they that bare the ark were come unto Jordan, and the feet of the priests that bare the ark were dipped in the brim of the water, (for Jordan overfloweth all his banks all the time of harvest,)*

*<sup>16</sup> That the waters which came down from above stood and rose up upon an heap very far from the city Adam, that is beside Zaretan: and those that came down toward the sea of the plain, even the salt sea, failed, and were cut off: and the people passed over right against Jericho.*

*<sup>17</sup> And the priests that bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the midst of Jordan, and all the Israelites passed over on dry ground, until all the people were passed clean over Jordan.*

God's hand of provision often does not move until we are willing to step off the bank and into the raging waters.

**e. The requirements from the despoiling.**

It would be years later that God would ask for these riches from the Israelites to use in the building of the Tabernacle. When Israel gave, they gave back far more than what was needed.

**Exodus 36:5-7**

*<sup>5</sup> And they spake unto Moses, saying, The people bring much more than enough for the service of the work, which the LORD commanded to make.*

*<sup>6</sup> And Moses gave commandment, and they caused it to be proclaimed throughout the camp, saying, Let neither man nor woman make any more work for the offering of the sanctuary. So the people were restrained from bringing.*

*<sup>7</sup> For the stuff they had was sufficient for all the work to make it, and too much.*

The lesson for us here is that when God blesses us, He does so first of all so that we can serve Him by giving back. Let us remember what we looked at in the doxology at the end of Romans 11.

**Romans 11:35-36**

*<sup>35</sup> Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again?*

*<sup>36</sup> For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.*

Whatever we have it has been given to us from God. All things are OF HIM which means He is the source of ALL BLESSINGS. So, whatever we give to God is only that which we received from Him to begin with.

So, when God gives to us, He gives so that we will have resources to serve Him. The test for us is if we are going to use the riches for our own desires or will we use it to serve God.

Let me remind you that before God ask for the riches to build the Tabernacle the Devil asked for donations at Sinai. While Moses was in the mountain talking with God Satan moved the people to give a donation to mold the golden calf.

**Conclusion:**

We need to get our priorities in order concerning our riches. God gives to us so that we can give back to Him and thus further the ministry. But at the same time Satan does all he can to solicit our riches. It would be the Devil's desire to deplete us of all our blessings so we cannot help with God's work.