

The Power of God - 10 Plagues

Exodus 7:8-12:42

Introduction: Two Contrasts: Pharaoh's hard heartedness contrasted with Moses' obedience
Israel's blessings contrasted with Egypt's destruction.

Precept: We are either the slave of God and his will, or the slave of Satan and his will.

Four Categories of God's sovereignty; destruction of snakes (7:10-12); destruction of property (7:14-10:29); destruction of life (11:1-12:31); destruction of security (14:21-29).

Pharaoh & Moses. Pharaoh is the instrument of Satan; Moses is the instrument of God.

Pharaoh's hard-heartedness - In Exodus 4:21 God told Moses that he would "harden Pharaoh's heart". (Exodus 7:1; 8:32; 9:12; 10:1, 20, 27; 11:10) In Exodus 7:13-14, 22; 8:15, 19; 9:7, 34-35 Pharaoh hardened his own heart, or simply that his heart was hardened.

Exodus 7:8-13 - This was a case of man against God while Satan looked on.

Concept: The first three plagues/strikes went from something out of the ordinary to something that was definitely the 'finger of God'. The fourth, fifth and sixth plagues/strikes 'ruin the land' (8:24). The seventh, eighth and ninth plagues/strikes are directed at Pharaoh (9:14-16) so that he will know that there is none like God in all the earth.

Precept: Hard-heartedness is of Satan (Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:11-19), as God warns. (Psalm 95:8; Proverbs 29:1; Ezekiel 3:7; Hebrews 3:8, 15; 4:7)

Conclusion: The Old Testament presents us with three iniquitous patterns; rebellion, pride and selfishness. God hates them all and Satan uses each of them for our demise.

Exodus 9:30 is the first time in the OT that "Fear the Lord" is used. Fearing the Lord is a reverence and awe that causes us to surrender to the sovereignty of God. If we don't surrender to the Lord in all things we do not yet fear the Lord.

The plagues/strikes of God are evidence that God holds individuals and peoples accountable and that in the midst of that accountability 'innocent' people can be injured. Walk in the ways of the Lord anyway.