

EXODUS – LESSON FOUR

- I. **GOD’S PLAGUES UPON EGYPT AND PHARAOH’S HARDENED HEART (7:14-11:10)**
- A. Water is turned to blood (7:14-25).
 - 1. All surface water surrounding and including the Nile River smitten with Aaron’s rod that previously turned into a serpent.
 - 2. Rivers become foul with dead fish.
 - 3. Magicians with their enchantments turn water to blood.
 - 4. Pharaoh’s heart is hardened.
 - B. Frogs cover the land of Egypt (8:1-15).
 - 1. With outstretched rod, frogs come up from river, onto the land and into the houses.
 - 2. Magicians with their enchantments bring forth frogs on the land.
 - 3. Pharaoh allowed opportunity to choose the time for reprieve.
 - 4. Pharaoh hardens his heart.
 - C. Lice come from the dust (8:16-19).
 - 1. With outstretched rod over dust of the earth, lice (fleas, gnats) appear.
 - 2. Magicians with their enchantments could not bring forth lice and must admit “the finger of God” is behind this sign.
 - 3. Pharaoh’s heart hardened.
 - D. Swarms of flies cover the land (8:20-32).
 - 1. Plea to let people go serve Jehovah backed with threat of swarms of flies upon the houses and land of Egypt.
 - 2. God’s people in Goshen shall be spared – only Egyptians to be plagued.
 - 3. Pharaoh’s bargain: I will let people go sacrifice “in the land”.
 - 4. When the flies are gone, Pharaoh hardens his heart.
 - E. Murrain (epidemic pestilence) comes upon the cattle of Egypt (9:1-7).
 - 1. Plea to let people go serve Jehovah backed with threat of pestilence upon only the cattle of Egypt – Israel’s animals spared.
 - 2. Cattle of Egypt die – not one belonging to the Israelites die.
 - 3. Pharaoh manifests a stubborn heart.
 - F. Boils come upon man and beast in Egypt (9:8-12).
 - 1. From ashes thrown into the air, boils breakout upon man and beast.
 - 2. Boils come upon the magicians and all Egyptians.
 - 3. Jehovah hardens the heart of Pharaoh.
 - G. Hail falls upon servants, cattle, fields and trees of Egypt (9:13-35).
 - 1. Pharaoh reminded that previous plagues and reprieve were to show that Jehovah is the only God – His authority is to be spread in all the earth.
 - 2. With outstretched rod toward heaven, thunder hail and fire come upon the land of Egypt – no hail plagues land of Goshen.
 - 3. Penitent Pharaoh with reprieve, sins yet more – He hardens his heart.

- H. Locusts permeate the land of Egypt (10:1-20).
 - 1. Jehovah's works to be rehearsed in the ears of generation to come.
 - 2. Plea to let people go in order to serve Jehovah is backed with threat of eating locusts that will devour what is left from the hail's destruction.
 - 3. Penitent Pharaoh asks Moses to entreat Jehovah to remove plague.
 - 4. West wind takes all locusts from the border of Egypt.
 - 5. Jehovah hardens Pharaoh's heart.
- I. Darkness felt over the land of Egypt (10:21-29).
 - 1. Moses stretches forth hand unto heaven and darkness felt.
 - 2. Pharaoh's bargain: Let people go, and cattle stay.
 - 3. Jehovah hardens Pharaoh's heart.
 - 4. Pharaoh wants to see Moses' face no more.
- J. Plague of killing the first born planned (11:1-10).
 - 1. Jehovah promises people that they will be allowed to leave Egypt with this judgment.
 - 2. People will be sent out of Egypt with jewels – God gives the people of Israel favor in the sight of the people of Egypt?
 - 3. First-born of Pharaoh unto the first-born of servants will die at midnight.
 - 4. Jehovah hardens Pharaoh's heart.

QUESTIONS:

- 1. Of what is turning the water to blood a sign?
- 2. How extensive was this plague felt in Egypt?
- 3. What was Pharaoh's reaction to the plague of the water being turned to blood?
- 4. Why do you think Pharaoh reacted the way he did to this first plague?
- 5. What was the powerful element in the second plague that showed God was behind it?
- 6. What led to Pharaoh hardening his heart on the occasion of the second plague?

7. What did the plague of lice point to as a sign?
Why was it such a clear sign?
8. With this third plague, what does Pharaoh reveal to you about his hardened heart?
9. What do you see in the “swarm of flies” that made it a sign that Jehovah was in control?
10. Moses did not compromise with Pharaoh’s proposal to sacrifice in the land because he was not going to offer up a sacrifice before the Egyptians that was an abomination to Jehovah. (T) (F).
11. What lesson about human nature do you learn in Pharaoh hardening his heart after the swarms of flies?
12. What was the fifth plague?
13. What *two elements* surrounding this plague made it a strong sign as being from Jehovah?
14. What was Pharaoh’s heart like after the fifth plague?
15. What strong message was sent when the plague of boils came?
16. Harmonize this fact in the plagues: Pharaoh hardened his heart (8:32) while it is also stated that Jehovah hardened his heart (9:12, 10:1,20).
17. What did Jehovah want Pharaoh to know in experiencing these plagues?

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18. How was ‘*fearing the word of Jehovah*’ manifested in Egypt in connection with the plague of hail?
19. How did Pharaoh sin yet more after confessing he had sinned?
20. What was being accomplished in God continually hardening Pharaoh’s heart?
21. What takes place seemingly for the first time before the plague of locusts which shows the accumulating effect of the plagues?
22. What lesson do we learn from Moses regarding “compromise” in his dealings with Pharaoh?
23. Why do you think Pharaoh asked God to forgive him of his sin “only for this once” in 10:17?
24. Why is the plague of *darkness* a unique sign from Jehovah?
25. What word would best describe Pharaoh’s hardened heart
 - a. ambivalent?
 - b. arrogant?
 - c. apathetic?
26. Upon what point do Pharaoh and Moses finally agree?
27. Why did the men and women of Israel ask the Egyptians for jewels of silver and gold?
28. How was Moses viewed in the land of Egypt?
29. Why would the tenth plague be the final plague?
30. Moses left the presence of Pharaoh in _____
_____.