

EXODUS Lesson 08 *

Exodus Chapter 8

Distributed by: KJV Bible Studies

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Memory verses for this week: Col 3:23 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Col 3:24 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

Introduction: We continue our study on Exodus this week. In last week's lesson, we studied about how Moses used the rod to perform miracles before Pharaoh. He first cast down the rod and it became a serpent, then later he used the rod to cast it over the rivers of Egypt and all of them turned into blood.

After the services last week, Ann Miser pointed out that in verse 24 of Chapter 7, it clearly states that the people dug down beside to river to get water to drink. So apparently the water under the ground did not turn into blood, but all the other ponds and rivers did turn from water to blood. This week we cover the next three plagues as Pharaoh refuses to let God's people go.

We will be condensing A. W. Pink's suggested seven-fold purpose for the plagues upon Egypt.

- (1) They gave a public manifestation of the mighty power of God. See 9:16; and 8:19.
- (2) They were a Divine visitation of wrath, a punishment for Pharaoh and the Egyptians, 10:16.
- (3) They were a judgment from God upon the gods (demons) of Egypt. See Num. 33:4.
- (4) They demonstrated that Jehovah was high above all gods, 18:11.
- (5) They furnished a complete testing of human responsibility. (This is the meaning of the number ten, compared to the ten commandments).
- (6) They were a warning to the other nations, that God would curse those who cursed the Israelites. See Gen. 12:3; Josh. 2:8-9; and I Sam. 4:8.
- (7) These plagues were designed as a series of testings for Israel. See Deut. 4:33-34; and Ex. 15:11.

I. The Second Plague of Frogs

Exo 8:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, Go unto Pharaoh, and say unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Let my people go, that they may serve me.

Exo 8:2 And if thou refuse to let them go, behold, I will smite all thy borders with frogs:

Exo 8:3 And the river shall bring forth frogs abundantly, which shall go up and come

into thine house, and into thy bedchamber, and upon thy bed, and into the house of thy servants, and upon thy people, and into thine ovens, and into thy kneadingtroughs:

Exo 8:4 And the frogs shall come up both on thee, and upon thy people, and upon all thy servants.

Again Moses goes before Pharaoh and demands the people be let go from the land and their bondage. If they were not released to serve the Lord, he warns in verse 2 that there would be a plague of frogs.

Frogs were sacred to the Egyptians. One of their deities was "Heka" or "Heqet," was a frog-headed goddess. She was the goddess of resurrection, fertility, and childbirth. They could not kill these sacred frogs, for this was not allowed under their religious system.

They are warned that the frogs would come out of the Nile, which would be another blow at their religion, since they worshiped it. Frogs are symbols of uncleanness and of evil.

Rev. 16:13, And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.

These frogs would disrupt and corrupt every aspect of life.

Psa 105:29 He turned their waters into blood, and slew their fish.

Psa 105:30 Their land brought forth frogs in abundance, in the chambers of their kings.

Exo 8:5 And the LORD spake unto Moses, Say unto Aaron, Stretch forth thine hand with thy rod over the streams, over the rivers, and over the ponds, and cause frogs to come up upon the land of Egypt.

Exo 8:6 And Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt; and the frogs came up, and covered the land of Egypt.

Exo 8:7 And the magicians did so with their enchantments, and brought up frogs upon the land of Egypt.

While not perfectly clear, it appears that Pharaoh again refused to respond to Moses, so God tells him to execute plague. He was to go to the river, stretch forth the rod over the river and streams, and cause the frogs to come forth. God commanded, and Moses obeyed. If we want to please the Heavenly Father, we need to be a people of obedience. Moses and Aaron did not show fear of the king, but did exactly as they were told.

While I don't see why except to prove they could also do it, the magicians also bring up frogs. What a joke on the devil's crowd! They already had too many frogs. What was needed, was to get rid of the frogs, not cause more to come out of the river. But God's powers are greater than Satan, and he can only go as far

as the Lord allows.

Exo 8:8 Then Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron, and said, Intreat the LORD, that he may take away the frogs from me, and from my people; and I will let the people go, that they may do sacrifice unto the LORD.

Exo 8:9 And Moses said unto Pharaoh, Glory over me: when shall I intreat for thee, and for thy servants, and for thy people, to destroy the frogs from thee and thy houses, that they may remain in the river only?

Exo 8:10 And he said, To morrow. And he said, Be it according to thy word: that thou mayest know that there is none like unto the LORD our God.

Exo 8:11 And the frogs shall depart from thee, and from thy houses, and from thy servants, and from thy people; they shall remain in the river only.

Pharaoh claims to be willing to let the people go there in verse 8, so he requests that the frogs be removed. Notice he makes a request and makes a promise if the frogs be removed. So Moses agrees to his request.

In verse 10, he tells Pharaoh that he will know there is none like unto the Lord our God.

Rom. 2:4-5, Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance? 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.

Jonah 3:5-7, So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them. For word came unto the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste any thing: let them not feed, nor drink water.

Exo 8:12 And Moses and Aaron went out from Pharaoh: and Moses cried unto the LORD because of the frogs which he had brought against Pharaoh.

Exo 8:13 And the LORD did according to the word of Moses; and the frogs died out of the houses, out of the villages, and out of the fields.

Exo 8:14 And they gathered them together upon heaps: and the land stank.

Exo 8:15 But when Pharaoh saw that there was respite, he hardened his heart, and hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had said.

Moses makes his request to God, and the Lord hearkens and the frogs die. All through the land there are heaps of dead, stinking frogs. But even though God did what he wanted, Pharaoh refuses to keep his word.

Isa. 26:10, Let favour be shewed to the wicked, yet will he not learn righteousness: in the land of uprightness will he deal unjustly, and will not behold

the majesty of the LORD.

James 3:17, But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

James 1:8, A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

Prov. 29:1, He, that being often reprov'd hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.

Many people are not interested in repenting, but will promise anything to try to remedy the disaster. It may be the sickness of a baby or some other terrible thing, and they will promise the preacher and God anything. When the baby gets well, they forget all of their promises, and they continue to harden their hearts.

Psa. 66:13-14, I will go into thy house with burnt offerings: I will pay thee my vows, Which my lips have uttered, and my mouth hath spoken, when I was in trouble.

God warns us to not be hasty to make a vow and then defer to stand by our word.

Ecc 5:4 When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed.

Here is an example of the hardened heart. When a person sees the hand of God at work, and resist God's word, then the heart is hardened. This happens to many people today.

Psa. 95:8, Harden not your heart, as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness.

Pharaoh continued to harden his heart until the very end.

II. The Third Plague - Lice

*Exo 8:16 And the LORD said unto Moses, Say unto Aaron, Stretch out thy rod, and smite the dust of the land, that it may become lice throughout all the land of Egypt.
Exo 8:17 And they did so; for Aaron stretched out his hand with his rod, and smote the dust of the earth, and it became lice in man, and in beast; all the dust of the land became lice throughout all the land of Egypt.*

Being slow to learn, God brings another divine command for an additional plague. As before, Moses was to use the rod and spread it forth that lice would come up. Verse 17 says the lice came from the dust. Few things are more disgusting than to have lice on you. Once you get them in your hair, many times

you have to shave your head to get rid of them. The Egyptians were noted for cleanliness, so this along with the other plagues would be a horror to them.

Exo 8:18 And the magicians did so with their enchantments to bring forth lice, but they could not: so there were lice upon man, and upon beast.

Exo 8:19 Then the magicians said unto Pharaoh, This is the finger of God: and Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had said.

Just as God said, the lice came from the dust, which is under a curse. If Adam and Eve had not sinned, I believe our lives would have been much easier here on earth.

Gen 3:17 And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;

Gen 3:18 Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;

Gen 3:19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

This was a judgment against "Set," the Egyptian god of the desert. This time there was a failure of the magicians. They try to duplicate this, but they fail. They admit that this is the finger of God. From this point forward the Egyptians wisely (magicians) withdrew from the contest. See the N.T. comment on two of these men.

II Tim. 3:8, Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith.

These were lost men, but they recognized the source of the plagues. But rather than believe and do what he needed to do, he refused and Pharaoh's heart was further hardened.

Heb. 10:31, It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

III. The Fourth Plague - Flies

Exo 8:20 And the LORD said unto Moses, Rise up early in the morning, and stand before Pharaoh; lo, he cometh forth to the water; and say unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Let my people go, that they may serve me.

Exo 8:21 Else, if thou wilt not let my people go, behold, I will send swarms of flies upon thee, and upon thy servants, and upon thy people, and into thy houses: and the houses of the Egyptians shall be full of swarms of flies, and also the ground

whereon they are.

Exo 8:22 And I will sever in that day the land of Goshen, in which my people dwell, that no swarms of flies shall be there; to the end thou mayest know that I am the LORD in the midst of the earth.

I am sure that Moses had to rely on faith at this point in his life. Again God tells him to go before Pharaoh and demand that his people be let go so that they might serve God. With the demand comes the warning of the plague of flies. This promised plague on the Egyptians was a miracle that would destroy the faith of the Egyptians in Beelzebub "lord of the fly," a god that was worshiped by the Egyptians.

Psa. 78:45, He sent divers sorts of flies among them, which devoured them; and frogs, which destroyed them.

Notice that this time the land of Goshen was to be spared. Only God could control the flight pattern of the flies. Bro. Bynum noted in his lesson that "He often wished that he could control flies around him." We have little power of insects, but God has control over ALL THINGS.

Exo 8:23 And I will put a division between my people and thy people: to morrow shall this sign be.

Exo 8:24 And the LORD did so; and there came a grievous swarm of flies into the house of Pharaoh, and into his servants' houses, and into all the land of Egypt: the land was corrupted by reason of the swarm of flies.

Note in verse 24 that God makes a division. The division is between God's people and the devil's people. This reveals God's love for His people, and His protection of them. It also teaches the doctrine of separation proclaimed by God, and which is badly needed in our day.

In verse 24, this plague of flies is executed. We know that God is long-suffering, but there comes a time when His patience wears out.

Psa. 18:25-26, With the merciful thou wilt shew thyself merciful; with an upright man thou wilt shew thyself upright; With the pure thou wilt shew thyself pure; and with the froward thou wilt shew thyself froward.

If you walk contrary to God, be sure He will walk contrary to you.

Lev 26:23 And if ye will not be reformed by me by these things, but will walk contrary unto me;

Lev 26:24 Then will I also walk contrary unto you, and will punish you yet seven times for your sins.

This was a horrible plague. Just think about all of the germs, and diseases carried by these flies.

Exo 8:25 And Pharaoh called for Moses and for Aaron, and said, Go ye, sacrifice to your God in the land.

Pharaoh attempts a compromise which is rejected. Pharaoh compromises and offers to let them sacrifice in the land. The devil is always opposed to separation. The devil is a mixer but God is a separator. The devil's desire is for every Christian to look and sound like the world.

If there is no difference in our lives than the lost, why should they desire to be like us. But a person living for the Lord is different, and the world can see this difference. Several verses are given to encourage us to live a separated life for the Lord.

I Cor. 6:15-20, Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid. What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh. But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit. Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body. What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

II Cor. 6:14-18, Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

James 1:27 Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

James 4:4. Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

Exo 8:26 And Moses said, It is not meet so to do; for we shall sacrifice the abomination of the Egyptians to the LORD our God: lo, shall we sacrifice the abomination of the Egyptians before their eyes, and will they not stone us?

Exo 8:27 We will go three days' journey into the wilderness, and sacrifice to the LORD our God, as he shall command us.

Exo 8:28 And Pharaoh said, I will let you go, that ye may sacrifice to the LORD your God in the wilderness; only ye shall not go very far away: intreat for me.

Moses refused the compromise and makes a demand that they go the 3 days journey as God originally requested. Again Pharaoh makes another request. His second compromise is offered. Just don't go very far. During the plagues Pharaoh offered four compromises to Moses and Aaron. (1) Ex. 8:25; (2) Ex. 8:28; (3) Ex. 10:7-11; (4) Ex. 10:24-26.

In your life, you will have daily opportunities from Satan to compromise your Christian beliefs and serve him. We need to know who the liar is and who we can trust, and trust God only.

Exo 8:29 And Moses said, Behold, I go out from thee, and I will intreat the LORD that the swarms of flies may depart from Pharaoh, from his servants, and from his people, to morrow: but let not Pharaoh deal deceitfully any more in not letting the people go to sacrifice to the LORD.

Exo 8:30 And Moses went out from Pharaoh, and intreated the LORD.

Exo 8:31 And the LORD did according to the word of Moses; and he removed the swarms of flies from Pharaoh, from his servants, and from his people; there remained not one.

Exo 8:32 And Pharaoh hardened his heart at this time also, neither would he let the people go.

Moses warns Pharaoh in verse 29. He intreats God for them, but warns Pharaoh to not go back on his word this time. So God hears, and the flies are removed. As God does for us daily, the Lord answers Moses' prayer. But just as before, Pharaoh hardens his heart.

Study Questions:

1. What was the seven-fold purpose of the plagues?

See listing at top of introduction.

2. Name the first four plagues upon Egypt in their proper order.

River waters turned into blood
Frogs come up from the river
Lice from the sand
Flies

3. What was the relationship of the frogs to the religion of Egypt?

Frogs were sacred to the Egyptians. One of their deities was "Heka" or "Heqet," was a frog-headed goddess. She was the goddess of resurrection, fertility, and childbirth.

4. Why could not the Egyptians try to kill the frogs?

They could not kill these sacred frogs, for this was not allowed under their religious system.

5. What are frogs a symbol of in the Scriptures?

Frogs are symbols of uncleanness and of evil.

6. What was Pharaoh to learn from this plague?

Pharaoh would know there is none like unto the Lord our God.

7. What finally happened to the frogs?

God removed the plague and they died and were gathered in big heaps throughout the land.

8. What did Pharaoh promise to do, if the frogs were taken away?

He would let the people go to serve the Lord.

9. Where did the lice come from?

From the sand

10. In the Scripture the dust in under a.

CURSE. Gen. 3:17,19

11. Why did the Egyptians fail in reproducing lice?

They recognized that this was the hand of God that did this. They could not reproduce it.

12. Did the plague of flies come upon the land of Goshen? Why?

God did not let the flies come in the land of Goshen to show a difference between His people and the world.

13. What was the first compromise offered by Pharaoh?

That they could worship and sacrifice in the land where they were.

14. Why did Moses refuse to compromise?

Moses said, It is not meet so to do; for we shall sacrifice the abomination of the Egyptians to the LORD our God: lo, shall we sacrifice the abomination of the Egyptians before their eyes, and will they not stone us?

15. What was the second compromise offered by Pharaoh?

That they go not too far away.

* Base outline for lessons by permission from:

THE BOOK OF EXODUS

By E. L. Bynum

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Prov 4:18 But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

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Practice Random Acts of Kindness. Each act spreads, and many will be blessed.