

Out of Bondage onto Promise

Exodus 8:1-32

V1-32

- **V1-4** the plagues from the Lord has began because Pharoah has refused to let the people of Israel go, so as the waters turned to blood becoming undrinkable, and the wildlife dying all around the land, Pharoah is isolated in His palace with his heart still hardened against the Lord. Once more God commands Moses to go to Pharoah and give him another chance to let Israel go so they may leave and serve Him, and if he refuses then another plague will happen this time instead of blood in the waters it will be frogs coming out of the water and infiltrating the land.
- Aaron and Moses tell Pharoah that these frogs will not possess the natural fear of most frogs which try and avoid people, instead they will seek to abide in the areas that we find most comfortable and necessary like > **where they live**- inside the houses, **where they sleep**- bedroom, beds, **where they eat**- inside the ovens and the cooking bowls, **where they are**- even on their persons, the frogs will be hopping on their heads, clothes, and shoes, so they'll be no place to hide, as everywhere the people go God says the frogs will be, what a nightmare!
- **V5-7** nobody wants this right! For with frogs come warts and more disease and death, so of course Pharoah agreed right? Wrong! He refuses to let Israel go so Aaron and Moses unleash the frogs on Egypt, and remarkable the magicians of Pharoah thinking they could upstage Moses also do the same, this shows Satan's ability to do the supernatural but also how his involvement only makes the problems that you have worse not better.
- Also an interesting point of why God chose frogs as a plague is Egypt worshipped a female goddess for fertility named "**Heqet**" and she was always pictured with the head of a frog, and because frogs produced rapidly and were both creatures of the land and water able to live in two worlds ancient Egyptians considered them sacred and could not be killed. So God was teaching both Egypt and Israel that what man holds sacred is actually nothing before Him, as everything and anything is subject to His authority and must bow down to His will.
- **V8-11** Pharoah finally humbles himself and sends for Moses and Aaron asking them to "entreat" meaning intercede, on his behalf and ask the Lord to take away the frogs from the land and he will let Israel go. It wasn't until life became unbearable before Pharoah even entertained the thought of listening to Moses and Aaron, folks make no mistake about it unless life becomes miserable for most people they will not turn to the Lord and surrender to Him > **Ps 119:67**- life must become hard before people's heart becomes soft towards the Lord!
- **V12-15** God answers Moses prayer and the frogs begin to all die but notice the land still stank, this is the aftermath of sin, it may get better but there are still a stink lingering that it was once there. **V15** here is the heart of man revealed and exposed, as soon as Pharoah experienced relief he immediately set his heart back to doing evil why?

- Because all he wanted was relief not repentance, he never intended on surrendering to God and His will, he still wanted to follow sin and do things his way. Its very important when trying to help people that we try and distinguish between do they just want things to get better in the **natural** meaning relief from their bad circumstances, or do they want to be healed **spiritually**-repentance and forgiveness of their sin, which will still remain even if things get better natural.
- **V16-17** this time Moses doesn't come to Pharoah and give him an opportunity to repent before announcing the plague, instead he just goes and does it. The more Pharoah hardens his heart the worse things become and the more bleak the it gets for the people following him. Think about how much dust it was in Egypt during this time, and God strikes the dust and makes it become lice, as bad as the frogs were it doesn't compare to how miserable the lice made it.
- **V18-19** the magicians tried to duplicate this plague also but couldn't, it shows that all power is limited except the Lord's, as the occult could change a rod into a snake, turn water into blood, summon frogs, yet they couldn't bring forth lice. Their failure brought a realization to them as they admit that this is "**The Finger of God**" and still the heart of Pharoah remained hard, and he didn't listen, notice scripture keeps saying "**His heart grew harder**" meaning it got worse each time he refused to humble himself before the Lord and people it's the same today > **Heb 3:7-8**.
- **V20-22** Pharoah has hardened his heart towards God's Mercy and His power, and even when his advisors admitted that this is the Lord signifying that they cannot win this fight Pharoah wouldn't listen. Now he goes to the River Nile where this first started and warns Pharoah that if he doesn't let Israel go that swarms of flies will be everywhere except in the land of Goshen where the people of Israel live. The Lord tells him this is done so that he may know that "**I Am The Lord**" just as he proved to Moses God is showing Pharoah, and He does the same with us today, for its not enough for you and I to know Who Jesus is but He wants us to tell others also.
- **V23-27** Pharoah allows Israel to go but it's a compromise, he says go but only in Egypt, so that's just a holiday then its back to work. God told Pharoah that he was to allow them to go three days into the wilderness which means Egypt couldn't stop them if they decided to leave for god and Pharoah didn't want to take that chance. Evil always suggests some compromise to us, you can do this but only this way, and if we listen to it then we remain enslaved and not free. The only way is for us to leave the land of evil completely and take everyone and everything with us.
- **V28-32** we see God's grace in allowing Pharoah an opportunity to do the right thing even after he'd shown himself untrustworthy. Pharoah asks Moses to intercede for him and Moses agrees but as soon as the flies are removed here comes the heart of man again as Pharoah once more hardens his heart proving that he only wanted relief and not repentance.
- Pharoah at this point knows exactly what he is suppose to do, yet he refuses to do it, never mistake man's disobedience as ignorance **V28-** Pharoah says go sacrifice to the Lord, He knew Who it was that he was to obey, he just didn't want to do it, and that's exactly what is going on in our world.