

Exodus 7:8-10:29 - 23 April 2020

“What The World Has To Offer”

Introduction

The Book of Exodus opens up w/ millions of Israelites having been in Egypt for 430 years & become slaves.

Moses has now come back from his exile in Midian and is with Aaron his brother

Chap 5 they presented to Pharaoh (for the 1st time) God’s command to “Let My people go”.

Pharaoh: “Who’s the LORD that I should obey Him?”

So the divide is emerging, there’s an identity of Israel and there’s an identity of Egypt and they’re different!

Israel is coming to identify w/ the LORD, but what does Egypt (or the world) have to offer?

Tonight, as we look at the 10 plagues coming on Egypt, we’ll also see 3 things that the world has to offer you

#1 – The world offers you Counterfeit Power (Chap 7:8-8:32)

Read Chap 7:8-13 – **Moses rod turns to serpent**

1. So the 3 magicians did the same thing
2. Satan has power to break the laws of physics.
 - a. Don't be amazed he does these miracles.
 - b. Turn to Deut 13:1-3
 - c. This is important as the Anti-Christ & False Prophet will be here in the world soon!
3. But God gets the last laugh here as Moses' rod eats up their serpents.
4. Must have been strange for them seeing a symbol of one of their gods (serpent) eaten up.

Read Chap 7:14-17 – **1st plague**

1. Nile River turns to blood (life-giving Nile)
2. Vs 17 – 'that you may know that I am the Lord'
 - a. Remember chap 5:2 – "Who is the Lord?"
 - b. Oh, he's gonna find out

Read Chap 7:18-25 – 1st plague (con't)

1. Vs 22 – magicians only counterfeit the miracle.
2. Why not reverse God's judgement and turn it back into water? They can't!
 - a. They can only mock judgment or make it worse
 - b. That's real helpful of them to make more blood.

Read Chap 8:1-6 – 2nd plague

1. First the Nile to blood & now a frog infestation
2. The Lord uses their 'gods' against them.
3. The counterfeit power that they ascribed to these created items are all being shown as frauds
4. They can't even kill these frogs, b/c they're little gods to them.

Read Chap 8:7-15 – 2nd plague (con't)

1. Vs 9 – God even stopped plague on a set day
2. This specificity so that GOD gets the glory!!
3. He kills frogs in street displaying their dead gods.

Read Chap 8:16-19 – 3rd plague

1. 3rd plague lice or gnats or mosquitos in mass
2. The word is only used here & in Psm 105 of the same event.
3. Vs 18 – “but the magicians could not”
 - a. Seems that bringing forth life was a bridge too far for them.
 - b. Even they noted this as the “hand of God”
 - c. They’re giving credit to someone besides themselves....that’s a start.

Read Chap 8:20-24 – 4th plague

1. 4th plague is the plague of flies
2. From this time on, Israel is exempt from plagues
 - a. Not that Israel deserves it, but God delights to be good to His people.
 - b. But it also shows His intentionality

Read Chap 8:25-27 – 4th plague (con't)

1. God commanded them to go out & sacrifice
2. Pharaoh offers them to sacrifice in the land
3. The enemy always offers compromise
 - a. See, they say, you can be a Christian AND be in the world.
 - b. As Moses says here, the believer's lifestyle is naturally offensive to the world.
 - c. We'll deal with the compromise the world offers more later.

Read Chap 8:28-32 – 4th plague (con't)

1. So God begins to get the recognition that He deserves.

#2 – The world offers you Calloused People (Chap 9)

Read Chap 9:7 – 5th plague

1. 5th plague is a disease in some cattle
2. Vs 6 – Which cattle died?
 - a. All the cattle that died were Egyptian
 - b. Not that all the Egyptian cattle died
 - c. There's another plague later that affects cattle as well
3. Vs 7 – Pharaoh saw Israel's cattle were spared
 - a. He could have seen this as a way out
 - b. But just hardened himself again

Read Chap 9:8-12 – 6th plague

1. 6th plague is boils or sores breaking out on man and beast
2. So this came upon Pharaoh unannounced
3. Pharaoh completely lost hope in magicians now
4. And Pharaoh continues to rebel

Read Chap 9:13-16 – 7th plague

1. Now let's deal with what we've been ignoring for a little while; the sovereignty of God
2. Vs 16 – “For this cause I have raised thee up”.
3. We don't seek to explain the sovereignty of God, we just declare it.
 - a. There are divine attributes of God that our limited minds aren't capable of fully grasping
 - b. God didn't call us to explain every detail of divinity. Called us to obey what we do know.
 - c. *God knowing that Pharaoh will be a rebel, uses him to accomplish His purposes.*
4. Did God harden Pharaoh's heart? No!
 - a. Read 8:15, 8:32 & 9:7 - The word used of Pharaoh is H3515 “*to make heavy or weighty*”
 - b. Read Chap 7:3 & 7:13 - The word used of God is H2388 “*to strengthen or make firm*”
5. So God used Pharaoh that He already knew would harden himself. God confirmed the process

Read Chap 9:17-26 – 7th plague (con't)

1. 7th plague is crops destroyed and cattle killed by hail.
2. Vs 20 – Good to see that some Egyptians did fear God and obeyed His Word.
 - a. The Passover itself is the same.
 - b. Were there Egyptians that put the blood on the doorposts and were spared from the death of the firstborn?

Read Chap 9:27-35 – 7th plague (con't)

1. Vs 27 – Pharaoh confesses sinfulness.
 - a. This is confession but not repentance
 - b. Lots of people say, “Oh I’m a sinner”, but don’t do anything about it.
2. Vs 34 – When God stopped the plague, Pharaoh never went thru with repentance, thus proving it was a false or empty confession of sin.
 - a. Pharaoh is calloused to his sin
 - b. We don’t do that.....

#3 – The world offers you Compromised Positions (Chap 10)

Read Chap 10:1-2

1. So far, these plagues have been so that Pharaoh will know that the Lord is God.
2. Now it is so Israel will know that He is God
3. That God's renown will be passed down from generation to generation

Read Chap 10:3-6 – **8th plague**

1. 8th plague is the crops destroyed by locusts
2. This is beginning to happen again today in biblical proportions.

Read Chap 10:7-11 – 8th plague (con't)

1. Yet another compromise offered by Pharaoh
2. Remember (Read it) chap 8:25
 - a. Pharaoh said, ‘you can sacrifice, but stay in the land.’
 - b. Be a Christian but stay in the world also.
3. Now Pharaoh says, ‘Why don’t the adults go sacrifice, but leave your kids with us.’
 - a. The enemy wants you to compromise by not dragging your kids into “your religion”.
 - i. “Let them choose for themselves.”
 - ii. “Let them stay & play sports w/ us.”
 - b. The enemy wants to raise your kids for you.
 - i. How much do you raise your kids?
 - ii. How much do you let the world raise your kids? (gov’t run schools)

Read Chap 10:12-20 – 8th plague (con't)

1. Pharaoh knew where to get relief, but no change.

Read Chap 10:21-23 – 9th plague

1. 9th plague is darkness so thick you can feel it
2. They didn't move for 3 days; you think the corona virus quarantine is rough?!?

Read Chap 10:24-29 – 9th plague (con't)

1. Another compromise being offered by the enemy, the world. Go, but leave your possessions.
2. Be a Christian, but don't give God ur money!!
3. Be a Christian, but spend your money on you!!
4. Notice vs 26 – “We need our stuff b/c we don't know what part of it God will require of us.”
 - a. Now that's faith! One step at a time!
5. How do you know if you're being put in a compromising position?
 - a. Read Rom 14:23 – what is not of faith is sin
 - b. Look at God, then make your decision
6. Vs 29 – He's right, won't see again

Conclusion

So 9 of the 10 plagues that God brought upon Egypt. What does the world have that could hold you there?

1. **They offer Counterfeit Power**

- a. With the power of Satan, the world can even violate the laws of nature and do miracles.
- b. But there's a limit to their miracles
- c. And they're teaching takes you to hell

2. **They offer Calloused People**

- a. Those in the world are just looking out for themselves.
- b. But Jesus Christ laid down His own life to give you life.

3. **They offer Compromised Positions**

- a. They give a false impression that you can serve God and mammon (or self and money)
- b. Divided allegiance makes you loyal to none.
- c. Live without compromise – **“A clean conscience makes for a soft pillow”**