

Exodus 7

5/21/17

Sunday Morning

Review:

**Exodus 7:1** Then the LORD said to Moses, "See, I make you as God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron shall be your prophet.

1. "See, I make you as God to Pharaoh"
  - a. Moses will become more like a god than a slave's representative

**V.5** "The Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch out My hand on Egypt and bring out the sons of Israel from their midst."

**V.10** So Moses and Aaron came to Pharaoh, and thus they did just as the LORD had commanded; and Aaron threw his staff down before Pharaoh and his servants, and it became a serpent.

V.11 Then Pharaoh also called for the wise men and the sorcerers, and they also, the magicians of Egypt, did the same with their secret arts.

1. "the magicians of Egypt, did the same with their secret arts"
  - a. All supernatural is not from God – Paul speaks of a coming day  
**2 Thessalonians 2:9(ESV)** The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders,  
<sup>10</sup> and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved.

V.12 For each one threw down his staff and they turned into serpents. But Aaron's staff swallowed up their staffs.

1. "But Aaron's staff swallowed up their staffs"
  - a. This was God pitted against the Egyptian god Sobek
    - i. A man w/ a crocodile head

V.13 Yet Pharaoh's heart was hardened, (qal imperfect – active voice) and he did not listen to them, as the LORD had said.

V.14 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Pharaoh's heart is stubborn; he refuses to let the people go.

**The plagues are to begin**

**10 plagues total – 3 sets of 3 plus 1**

**1<sup>st</sup> Plague (first sequence of 3's)**

**Plagues occurred over a 9 months to 1 year span**

V.15 (NP)

V.15 "Go to Pharaoh in the morning as he is going out to the water, and station yourself to meet him on the bank of the Nile; and you shall take in your hand the staff that was turned into a serpent.

1. "as he is going out to the water"
  - a. This could have been for bathing / religious ceremony

V.16 "You shall say to him, 'The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, sent me to you, saying, "Let My people go, that they may serve Me in the wilderness. But behold, you have not listened until now."

V.17 'Thus says the LORD, "By this you shall know that I am the LORD: behold, I will strike the water that is in the Nile with the staff that is in my hand, and it will be turned to blood.

1. "I will strike the...Nile...and it will be turned to blood"
  - a. This is the battle between God & the gods of the Nile
    - i. **Hapi** (fat man w/ women's breast – god of overflow)
    - ii. **Khnum** god of water – source of the Nile
  - b. There are several gods involved w/ the Nile River
    - i. We will take a simplistic view of gods of Egypt
    - ii. There are variants of their names - & descriptions
    - iii. Many of these gods interacted w/ ea. other in battles & sex
  - c. The Nile turned to actual blood – not an algae bloom, red silt, sun reflection – it caused the fish to die **V.18**

V.18 "The fish that are in the Nile will die, and the Nile will become foul, and the Egyptians will find difficulty in drinking water from the Nile.""

V.19 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Say to Aaron, 'Take your staff and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt, over their rivers, over their streams, and over their pools, and over all their reservoirs of water, that they may become blood; and there will be blood throughout all the land of Egypt, both in vessels of wood and in vessels of stone.'" ))

V.20 So Moses and Aaron did even as the LORD had commanded. And he lifted up the staff and struck the water that was in the Nile, in the sight of Pharaoh and in the sight of his servants, and all the water that was in the Nile was turned to blood.

V.21 (NP)

V.21 The fish that were in the Nile died, and the Nile became foul, so that the Egyptians could not drink water from the Nile. And the blood was through all the land of Egypt.

V.22 But the magicians of Egypt did the same with their secret arts; and Pharaoh's heart was hardened <sup>(active voice – grew strong/stubborn)</sup> and he did not listen to them, as the LORD had said.

V.23 Then Pharaoh turned and went into his house with no concern even for this. ))

V.24 So all the Egyptians dug around the Nile for water to drink, for they could not drink of the water of the Nile.

V.25 Seven days passed after the LORD had struck the Nile.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Plague

**Ex.8:1** Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and say to him, 'Thus says the LORD, "Let My people go, that they may serve Me.

V.2 "But if you refuse to let them go, behold, I will smite your whole territory with frogs.

1. "I will smite your whole territory with frogs"
  - a. This would be a battle w/ Heqet/Heka (goddess of fertility & rebirth)
    - i. Heqet had the form of a woman with a frog's head.
    - ii. From her nostrils, it was believed, came the breath of life that animated the bodies of those created by her husband, the great god Khnum, from the dust of the earth.
    - iii. Therefore frogs were not to be killed.

V.3 "The Nile will swarm with frogs, which will come up and go into your house and into your bedroom and on your bed, and into the houses of your servants and on your people, and into your ovens and into your kneading bowls.

V.4 "So the frogs will come up on you and your people and all your servants."

V.5 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Say to Aaron, 'Stretch out your hand with your staff over the rivers, over the streams and over the pools, and make frogs come up on the land of Egypt.'"

V.6 So Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt, and the frogs came up and covered the land of Egypt.

V.7 The magicians did the same with their secret arts, making frogs come up on the land of Egypt. **V.8** (NP)

V.8 Then Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron and said, "Entreat the LORD that He remove the frogs from me and from my people; and I will let the people go, that they may sacrifice to the LORD."

V.9 Moses said to Pharaoh, "The honor is yours to tell me: when shall I entreat for you and your servants and your people, that the frogs be destroyed from you and your houses, that they may be left only in the Nile?"

V.10 Then he said, "Tomorrow." So he said, "May it be according to your word, that you may know that there is no one like the LORD our God.

1. "when shall I entreat for you...Tomorrow"
  - a. Why did he wait an extra day?
    - i. The answer is a sign of **pride** in Pharaoh's heart
    - ii. By saying "tomorrow" Pharaoh was saying – they aren't bothering me that much "**Tomorrow** will be soon enough."

V.11 "The frogs will depart from you and your houses and your servants and your people; they will be left only in the Nile."

**V.13** The LORD did according to the word of Moses, and the frogs died out of the houses, the courts, and the fields.

V.14 So they piled them in heaps, and the land became foul.

V.15 But when Pharaoh saw that there was relief, **he** hardened his heart and did not listen to them, as the LORD had said.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Plague (unannounced)**

V.16 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Say to Aaron, 'Stretch out your staff and strike the dust of the earth, that it may become gnats through all the land of Egypt.'"

1. "Strike the dust of the earth, that it may become gnats"
  - a. This plague was w/out warning
  - b. The word for **gnats** is **kinmm**, which occurs only here in the Old Testament. It may mean **gnats** or perhaps **mosquitoes**
  - c. This is war against Set or Geb – the god of the desert
    - i. The Egyptians & especially the priest were really big on cleanliness
    - ii. They shaved all the hair off their bodies – so as to be really clean
    - iii. The priest were ceremonially unclean & couldn't function as priest

V.17 (NP)

V.17 They did so; and Aaron stretched out his hand with his staff, and struck the dust of the earth, and there were gnats on man and beast. All the dust of the earth became gnats through all the land of Egypt.

V.18 The magicians tried with their secret arts to bring forth gnats, but they could not; so there were gnats on man and beast.

V.19 Then the magicians said to Pharaoh, "This is the finger of God." But Pharaoh's heart was hardened <sup>(became more stubborn)</sup> and he did not listen to them, as the LORD had said.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Plague (second sequence of 3's)**

V.20 Now the LORD said to Moses, "Rise early in the morning and present yourself before Pharaoh, as he comes out to the water, and say to him, 'Thus says the LORD, "Let My people go, that they may serve Me.

21 "For if you do not let My people go, behold, I will send swarms of flies on you and on your servants and on your people and into your houses; and the houses of the Egyptians will be full of swarms of flies, and also the ground on which they dwell.

1. "I will send swarms of flies on you...your servants...your people...your houses"
  - a. This just says there was a "swarm"
  - b. Some think it was the scarab beetle that was worshipped
  - c. They thought the sun got across the sky by these beetles rolling it
    - i. Similar to the dung beetle
    - ii. War against Ra

V.22 "But on that day I will set apart the land of Goshen, where My people are living, so that no swarms of flies will be there, in order that you may know that I, the LORD, am in the midst of the land.

V.23 "I will put a division between My people and your people. Tomorrow this sign will occur."""

1. "I will set apart the land of Goshen"
  - a. "no swarms...will be there"
  - b. "that you may know that I, the Lord...in the midst"

V.24 Then the LORD did so. And there came great swarms of flies into the house of Pharaoh and the houses of his servants and the land was laid waste because of the swarms of flies in all the land of Egypt.

V.25 Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron and said, "Go, sacrifice to your God within the land."

V.26 But Moses said, "It is not right to do so, for we will sacrifice to the LORD our God what is an abomination to the Egyptians. If we sacrifice what is an abomination to the Egyptians before their eyes, will they not then stone us?

1. "for we will sacrifice to the LORD...is an abomination to the Egyptians"
  - a. They would be bleeding out cattle which were worshipped by Egyptians
  - b. True worship is always an affront to the world
2. "sacrifice to your God within the land"
  - a. This is a picture of what Satan wants believers to do –
    - i. Satan says, "It is OK to be a believer – just don't be a fanatic!"
    - ii. The mindset of believers today is to enjoy the world & deal w/ eternity when I'm closer to it. (death)

**James 4:4** You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

\*Written to believers not the lost

**2 Corinthians 6:14** Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness?

<sup>15</sup> Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever?

<sup>16</sup> Or what agreement has the temple<sup>(body)</sup> of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, "I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM; AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE."

<sup>17</sup> "Therefore, COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE," says the Lord. "AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN; And I will welcome you."

<sup>18</sup> "And I will be a father to you, And you shall be sons and daughters to Me," Says the Lord Almighty.

\*Written to believers not to the lost

**1 Jn.2:15 (NP)**

**1 John 2:15** Do not love the world, nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

<sup>16</sup> For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.

<sup>17</sup> And the world is passing away, and *also* its lusts; but the one who does the will of God abides forever.

\*Written to believers not the lost

**Galatians 1:4 (NIV)** who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father,

\*We don't always see this age as one we need rescuing from

V.27 "We must go a three days' journey into the wilderness and sacrifice to the LORD our God as He commands us."

V.28 Pharaoh said, "I will let you go, that you may sacrifice to the LORD your God in the wilderness; only you shall not go very far away. Make supplication for me."

**V.30** So Moses went out from Pharaoh and made supplication to the LORD.

V.31 The LORD did as Moses asked, and removed the swarms of flies from Pharaoh, from his servants and from his people; not one remained.

V.32 But Pharaoh hardened his heart this time also, and he did not let the people go.

1. "But Pharaoh hardened his heart this time also"

- a. Some people think if they could have lived in the days of miracles they would be better believers – not true
- b. Miracles or signs never convert anyone to Christ

**John 6:9** "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are these for so many people?"

<sup>10</sup> Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the **men** sat down, in number about five thousand.

**V.11 (NP)**

V.11 Jesus therefore took the loaves; and having given thanks, He distributed to those who were seated; likewise also of the fish as much as they wanted.

**V.30** They said therefore to Him, " What then do You do for a sign, that we may see, and believe You?  
What work do You perform?

- c. Even if man sees someone back from the dead they won't turn to Christ

**Luke 16:28**<sup>(rich man in hell)</sup> for I have five brothers-- that he<sup>(Lazarus)</sup> may warn them, lest they also come to this place of torment.'

<sup>29</sup> "But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.'

<sup>30</sup> "But he said, 'No, Father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent!'

<sup>31</sup> "But he said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone rises from the dead.'"

- d. The heart is the issue – the heart was Pharaoh's issue