

Moses | Part 3 | Pastor Steve Wells | 01.26.2020
Replay message at: <http://www.northpointeFL.org/messages>

Memory Verse: Exodus 9:15-16

“ 15 By now I could have lifted my hand and struck you and your people with a plague to wipe you off the face of the earth. 16 But I have spared you for a purpose—to show you my power and to spread my fame throughout the earth. ”

God sent 10 plagues to Pharaoh and Egypt through Moses and Aaron. Read about these plagues (**Exodus 7-12**) and the effect they had on Pharaoh and the people of Egypt. After you read the chapters, watch this 7 minute video about the potential correlation between the plagues and some of the 114 gods of the Egyptians. Many scholars believe/debate that these plagues were a direct attack on the gods the Egyptians were worshipping. Discuss the 10 plagues and the video with your family or small group.

Read: Exodus 7-12--Then watch the video linked here : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W6Yssx4W11k>

Breakdown of the chapters and Plagues:

- Aaron's Staff Becomes a Serpent-Exodus 7:1-13
- A Plague of Blood- Exodus 7:14-25
- A Plague of Frogs- Exodus 8:1-15
- A Plague of Gnats-Exodus 8:16-19
- A Plague of Flies-Exodus 8:2-32
- A Plague against Livestock-Exodus 9:1-7
- A Plague of Festering Boils-Exodus 9:8-12
- A Plague of Hail-Exodus 9:13-35
- A Plague of Locusts-Exodus 10:1-20
- A Plague of Darkness-Exodus 10:12-29
- Death for Egypt's Firstborn-Exodus 11&12

Magicians/Wizards were able to perform many of the same plagues when asked by Pharaoh.

- Why do you think the magicians/wizards were able to use “magic” and do some of the same things?
- Why couldn't the magicians/wizards do them all?

When Pharaoh asked Moses to remove the frogs, Moses told him to pick a time for him to let the people go and for the frogs to go away. Pharaoh did not ask for immediate relief but requested for one more day.

- Why do you think he said “tomorrow” and not today?

Pharaoh did not want to let his power and control over the people go. He wanted to prolong it one more day--even if he had to suffer. Interesting how God is willing to remove something in our life NOW but we often choose to delay.

- Has there been a time in your life where you wanted (needed) God to save you-but you wanted to delay it?
 - Why did you want to delay God from removing something? If you do not have a personal story-what is something someone may want to delay removing from their life? (Addiction--Not wanting to let go of a lifestyle, Relationships, Finances, Job, A desire or dream that is not in God's plan)
- Do you need to change or let go of something in your own life for a better life with God--but part of you still wants to hold on?

It is clear God and Pharaoh both hardened Pharaoh's heart.

- What does it mean to have a hard heart or to harden your heart?

Pharaoh continued to be stubborn--even though God continued to show His power with the plagues.

- Why do you think God hardened Pharaoh's heart?

The article “What the Bible Tells Us About the 10 Plagues of Egypt” by Zondervan Academic explains the hardening of Pharaoh's heart by both God and Pharaoh: “It is true that Pharaoh hardened his own heart six times before God did. But it's an inaccurate to say that God merely confirmed the stubborn pattern of Pharaoh's heart.

As discussed above, God was explicit that he was planning to harden Pharaoh's heart because he wanted to perform all of his acts of judgment against the Egyptians (4:21–23; 9:14–16). God did not have to do it that way, but this is the way he chose to do it. Thus, the significance of the hardening of Pharaoh's heart in the immediate context is related to the sovereign display of God's power.”

If you have time as a group read this article about the video and discuss it. If there is not time within your group, read it this week during your own personal study time.

<https://zondervanacademic.com/blog/what-the-bible-tells-us-about-the-10-plagues-of-egypt>.