

The Exodus

Lesson 5: The Ten Plagues, Part 2

(Exodus 10:1-13:16)

After seven great plagues on the land of Egypt, Pharaoh's heart was still hard and he refused to let the people of Israel go. So, for the eighth plague, Moses and Aaron warned Pharaoh that God would bring locusts on Egypt. Whatever plants had been left after the hail would be eaten up by the locusts. They would fill all the houses in Egypt and would be worse than anyone had ever seen. Still, Pharaoh would not let all the Israelites go and worship God. So, Moses stretched his hand over the land of Egypt and caused locusts to come upon it. They covered the land so much that it was dark and ate up all the plants. Then, Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron and said that he had sinned. He wanted God to forgive his sin and take away the locusts. The Lord then caused a very strong west wind that blew all the locusts into the Red Sea.

For the ninth plague, God told Moses to stretch his hand toward Heaven so that there would be darkness over the land of Egypt. This was such darkness that it could even be felt. No one could see anyone else. For three days, people did not even move from where they were. Yet, the Israelites had light where they were. So, Pharaoh called for Moses and told them to go serve the Lord, except that they were not allowed to take their animals. But, Moses said that they needed to take them to make sacrifices and offerings. Again, Pharaoh's heart was hard and he would not let them go. So, Pharaoh made Moses leave him and said that Moses would never see Pharaoh's face again.

Now, there was one last plague God was going to bring on Egypt. God told Moses that after this plague, Pharaoh would let the Israelites go out of Egypt. Moses told the people that the Lord said He would go out about midnight in the land of Egypt and cause all the firstborn in Egypt to die. This would include the firstborn of Pharaoh, the firstborn of the servants, and even the firstborn of the animals. There would be a great cry and sadness throughout the land of Egypt that had never happened before or will ever happen again. But, the Israelites would be saved and nothing bad would happen to them.

Then, God told Moses about the Passover. On the tenth day of the first month, the Israelites were to select a lamb or a goat that was free of defects and less than a year old. On the fourteenth day, they were to kill it and take the blood from this animal and put the blood on the casing along the sides of the door and over the top of the door. Then, they were to eat the meat of the animal that night. This would be a feast that the Israelites were required to keep every year. It was also called the Feast of Unleavened Bread because the Israelites were not allowed to have any leaven in the house during this time. And, they were to listen to all the instructions God gave them concerning this feast.

God told the Israelites that He was going to pass through Egypt that night and kill all the firstborn of both man and animals. But, He would pass over the houses of the Israelites when He saw the blood along the door frame and no one would be hurt. So, the Israelites were to keep the Passover that day and for every year so that they would remember this time when God passed over them and saved them from destruction.

Then, at midnight, the Lord killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt – from the firstborn of Pharaoh, to the firstborn of those in prison, and the firstborn of the animals. When the people got up during the night, there was a great cry in Egypt. There was not one house where there was not one dead.

Pharaoh told Moses and Aaron to get out of Egypt, with all the people and their animals. So, the Israelites hurried and left Egypt – just as God had promised. And, they asked for silver, gold, and clothing from the Egyptians and were able to take many things with them. Then, God told the Israelites to make all their firstborn sons special to Him.

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Study Questions:

1) Why did God send the plagues on the Egyptians?

2) What was the eighth plague? Did Pharaoh obey God?

3) What was the ninth plague? Did Pharaoh obey God?

4) What was the tenth plague? Did Pharaoh obey God?

5) What did God tell the Israelites to do so that all their firstborn would not be killed?

6) How often were the Israelites to keep the Feast of the Passover?

7) What was another name for this feast?

8) Did Pharaoh let God's people go?

Memory Verse:

"For I will pass through the land of Egypt on that night and will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the Lord" (Exodus 12:12).

Draw a picture of the lesson you learned about: