

Pestilence, Boils, And Hail

Exodus 9

Faith Portal Church

YOUTH

Unit 10 Lesson 8

Supplemental Texts

Exo 8

Focus Verse

“And the magicians could not stand before Moses because of the boils; for the boil was upon the magicians, and upon all the Egyptians.” – Exodus 9:11

Introduction

The Egyptians had been on the receiving end of God’s judgment because their leadership would not consent to God’s demand. No one could tell the depth of Pharaoh’s stubbornness, but it is vivid that his heart was far away from God. What is puzzling is that he had no compunction walking back his promises to Moses and Aaron after each respite from the plagues. Exodus 8:19 says that his magicians told him it was God fighting them, but he was too stubborn to listen.

Deeper Look

The Hand Of The Lord – Exo 9:1-12

Pharaoh had seen the first four plagues, yet he would not listen to Moses and Aaron. Again, God sent Moses to him to inform him of the coming plague should he refuse to let God’s people go. The next plague would ruin the livestock owned by the Egyptians but not those owned by the Israelites. With that God showed to Pharaoh that He loves Israel (v. 7). Despite the selective devastation, Pharaoh’s heart remained hardened. This plague was directed against an Egyptian goddess, which was in the form of a cow. The next charge God gave to Moses and Aaron would bring about terrible boils erupting into sores on people and animals all over the land of Egypt (v. 10). And this plague was likely directed against the Egyptian god of medicine. The magicians suffered from the boils and so did not come to Moses and Aaron. Still, Pharaoh remained willful.

Rise Up Early In The Morning – Exo 9:13-35

Before Moses stated the next plague to Pharaoh, he declared a warning of the plagues God would send to Egypt if Pharaoh yet refused to let His people go. In his obstinacy, God would be glorified. What a sobering thought! God gave counsel to Pharaoh and his people to take safety measures before the plague of severe hailstorm hit to avert calamity. Those who heeded God’s message saved their servants and livestock, but those who did not suffered loss. Yet again, God spared His people in Goshen (v. 26). This plague was directed against Egyptian gods, especially the sky goddess. God stopped the plague when Moses mediated, but Pharaoh remained willful.

Questions

1. How true is this statement: Everyone obeys God when God warns about His coming punishment? Answer with an example.
2. God sent Moses to Pharaoh to inform him that the fifth plague against the Egyptians' livestock would come the following day. What was significant about stating the day? What suggestion would you have given to Pharaoh if you were there?
3. How important was it for Moses and Aaron to follow God's instructions as He sent the plagues upon the Egyptians? Why did God ask Moses to sprinkle ashes toward the heaven in the presence of Pharaoh?
4. What God's warnings should have terrified Pharaoh as God determined to send the seventh plague? Why was Pharaoh unable to understand what you understood God was going to do? Explain.
5. What attributes of God were shown as He told Pharaoh and his people what to do to prepare against the seventh plague? Did anyone die from the hailstorm? Why?
6. Describe the severity of the hailstorm. Did the severity cause Pharaoh to confess "I have sinned this time" to Moses and Aaron? Explain.
7. What attributes were illustrated in Moses as he interceded for Pharaoh? Did Moses trust Pharaoh's confession? Explain. How would you deal with people like Pharaoh?

Personal Meditation

Our God is a gracious God. And we see that before God sent the seventh plague. Although Pharaoh and his people deserved God's punishment for not letting the Israelites go, God offered grace to the Egyptians, to whoever would take advantage of it. God warned that He would send the worst hailstorm in the history of Egypt. He gave them the day and time and presented a way to escape the lethal hail. And so, the Egyptians were given the chance to choose life over death (vv. 19-21,25). In Noah's day, before the flood came upon the earth, God gave the sinful world a choice to escape the flood (Gen 6:11-14,17-18; 2 Pet 2:5). Even though God was not pleased with the people of Noah's day, He gave them the privilege to choose life. Similarly, we see the same idea in the admonition Moses gave to the Israelites in Deut 30:11-20.

To escape the pending judgment upon the world, you must be saved. And if you are a child of God, your continued obedience is crucial to living in divine safety (Psa 91). According to John 3:16, you have made a choice to accept Jesus; therefore, let that choice remain unchanged.

DAILY STUDY

Monday	Exo 9:1-7
Tuesday	Exo 9:8-12
Wednesday	Exo 9:13-18
Thursday	Exo 9:19-24
Friday	Exo 9:25-30
Saturday	Exo 9:31-35



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