

Exodus Chapter 10

Chapter 10

Verse 1 – The purpose of the heart hardening according to God was to show Pharaoh His signs. These plagues and troubles were a sign. Remember, He is the same God.

Verse 2 – Another purpose was to

- Testimony to future generations as to what God did during your time in Egypt and in bondage.
- How He set you free. Encourage others about God.
- To show His signs. This is how He works.
- To get us to understand that He is the Lord.
- Question: How do the signs and wonders and God's approach to dealing with both Israel and Pharaoh...show us how He is the Lord back then and even today?

Application – what should we be telling our kids?

Verse 3 – Question to Pharaoh....How long are you going to remain prideful and stubborn and not humble thyself? Keys here....he was called to obey the word of God. He refuses to do that. God points out it must be his pride in the way. Enemy doesn't want you to really serve God.

- God still asks questions today. God asks him a question through Moses and Aaron. Why does He ask a question that God already knows the answer to? For Pharaoh's benefit and self-revelation. God's mercy demonstrated based on asking this type of question...to help Pharaoh repent.
- What first step is God waiting on from him....humility! Always the first step.
- He can come out of this if he just obeys...has to be humble first in order to obey.

Verse 4 – If he refuses to obey...by letting the people go, locusts will be coming.

- Sometimes there is a little Pharaoh in us...we know what we need to do but refusing to do it.
- Trouble often follows disobedience.

Verse 5 – so thick you can't see the ground. What God allowed you to have that survived the last plague, will be taken out by this one. Ever escape with some stuff but you later lost even that.

- God knew that Pharaoh had something left over....He allowed it. To make a point even today.

Verse 6 – They coming in a manner that you've never seen before.

- Judgment against Egyptian god Set, protector of crops.
- This problem is coming in a manner never before seen in nature.
- Moses turns around and leave. You don't want to be connected to them when it happens.

Verse 7 –his people ask, how long will this guy continue doing this to us. They suggest a compromise. Let the man only serve.

- Good advice and logical advice is not always godly advice.

Verse 8 – Compromise. Asks a question....who are going? Enemy can ask questions too but not for revelation; for deception. Will allow them to go worship...but has a condition.

Verse 9 – Moses reply is everyone is going because they all have a feast or appointment with God.

- Application – we all still have the same appointment with God. First fruit.

Verse 10 – The question was a set up or excuse. Let the Lord be with you....blesses them, puts God in the mix and declares that he will let the people go but that he should look after the kids because there is evil out there. Come on, the people who used to kill children in the Nile now is concerned about them. Don't think so. He enemy is not your friend or concerned about your well-being.

- This is a logical argument, but not spiritual. Why is it not a spiritual position?
- Often the enemy tricks us by telling us something that sounds good but in the end is designed to trap us.

Verse 11 – Lies on them and says they only asked for the men to go worship. Only a partial truth.

- DG – what Pharaoh wants is what many of us want in the flesh: a way to give in to God without fully submitting to Him.
- God wants all of us while the enemy is happy with just some of us.
- God desires the whole house to be saved. Next generation to be saved; children to be saved.
- Notice who Pharaoh focuses on staying....the kids. Remember Egypt represents the world. The enemy wants your children to remain in the world.
 - This is a problem for parents even today. How? Think about it.

Verse 12 – Stretch out hands in the direction he wants to see results. When he obeys....the locusts come up. This plague will finish up what you had left from the last trouble. Pharaoh's partial obedience still brings trouble.

Verse 13 – The plague was brought by the east wind. The trouble but Israel's help was coming from the east. Likewise, trouble for some, but victory and comfort for others will be coming from that direction.

Verse 14 – trouble is resting there now. Never faced trouble like this. Trouble all around them, resting there...no relief in sight. All they could see...think about it...was this trouble all around them...on their job, in their houses...trouble.

Verse 15 – this trouble eats up everything. No growth. They were used to losing some stuff before but because they refused to humble themselves they are losing everything they had before. There is an application for today here still.

Verse 16 – Pharaoh calls on Aaron and Moses in a hurry. Notice, he knows who to call. Confessions...he has sinned against God and against them...true dat. Shallow repentance....only a desire to avert consequences. Discussion point....why does he call on them now?

Verse 17 – Hook me up this time only and ask God to take away this instance of death. Getting this plague to stop was not his real problem. His real problem was he still refused to stay humble and obey.

- Speaking well, but never did say he was going to obey.

- Not understanding that this trouble, the root cause for all his trouble was a lack of humility leading to disobedience.
- God's desire is that you be made whole.

Verse 18 – Moses still praying for a bad leader and an evil enemy.

Verse 19 – God reverses the curse. How did that happen or what caused God to respond that way? Prayer. The right prayer by the right person according to God's will can remove the trouble you are facing.

Verse 21 - Darkness coming. Moses still stretching out his hands and getting results in that direction. So dark they could feel it.

Verse 22 – three days in the dark. Against Egyptian sun god Ra. They are trusting in their sun god for light; we are trusting in the Son of God for an everlasting light.

Verse 23 – amazing, they are sitting in the dark while God's people enjoy the light. One group can't move and are stuck in the dark while God's people enjoy the light and can move around....in the light.

- Notice the comparison between light and darkness. You can't see your way around. No movement...stuck there in the dark. Little hope. Anyone ever live in darkness for a while?
- There is a power outage in Egypt....but power is still in Goshen.
- Even if you are in the world....you can be a light and find the light in Goshen. In the world but separated from it.
 - Something else to relay and tell our children about how God works. They need to know that there needs to be a separation between being cool and being saved.
 - They need to know how to reach Goshen too. Critically important!

Verse 24 – Pharaoh calls on them for help. Has another compromise, you can go but let the flocks say behind. Kids can go now too.

- By now, we should know the reason behind these compromising offers. What is Pharaoh really trying to achieve here?
- Partial obedience is still a trick to keep you in bondage.
- Wants a way to let them go but still have some control and influence the people to come back.
- Why does Pharaoh want them to come back? Why not let them go? Because the enemy really wants you to serve him.
- How do we know this concept is true? See it other places in the Bible. Genesis, Balaam, Christ's temptation in the wilderness. Same tricks are still effectively used against us today.
- Real compromise by Christians when we go to church, worship, but don't trust God with our stuff, possessions, etc. That is a problem....when you trust God in some areas but not with your possessions. Spiritually, the money, the stuff, and the goods....can draw you back into the world.

Verse 25 – Moses explains that he can't go out there without a sacrifice for the Lord. Don't go empty handed. He will let you go to church and worship but doesn't want you to sacrifice as part of worship to God.

Verse 26 – Cattle needs to go, not leaving anything behind. Part of service to God is bringing everything with you...being sold out. He tells him they won't know how to serve Him until they get there. Important thing is to just get there. Further instructions await when you get there. A fresh word when you get there.

Verse 27 – Still stubborn.

Verse 28 – threatens death when he can't have his way.

Verse 29 – Moses reply? May be continued in Chapter 11.

Some summary thoughts from my mentor James Turner:

- In order to really worship, three foundational things needed – separation from the world; giving must be mandatory; sacrifices must be made.
- What makes folks bitter is refusing to do God's will.
- Pharaoh's aim is to take the giving out of worship.
- The devil wants you to leave behind what God may require of you later.

The Bible tells us there were several reasons why God sent these plagues upon Pharaoh and Egypt.

- To answer Pharaoh's question, *Who is the LORD?* (Exodus 5:2). In the plagues, God showed Himself greater than any of the false gods of Egypt
- To show the power of God through Moses (Exodus 9:16)
- To give a testimony to the children of Israel for future generations (Exodus 10:2)
- To judge the false gods - demons, really - of Egypt (Exodus 12:12, Numbers 33:4)
- To warn the nations - more than 400 years later, the Philistines remembered the LORD God of Israel as the one who plagued the Egyptians (1 Samuel 4:8)
- As a testimony of the greatness of God to Israel (Exodus 15:11, Deuteronomy 4:34)