



SERMON NOTES

September 12, 2021

Exodus 8:20—9:12

God Sets His People Apart

Why do I need to hear this passage of Scripture?

What's the big idea of this passage?

What are the main takeaways walking through this passage?

What must I do with what I've heard?

*The mission of Carney Evangelical Free Church
is to make fervent and obedient disciples for Jesus Christ.*

LIVING OUT THE WORD

September 12, 2021

Exodus 8:20—9:12

God Sets His People Apart



CULTURE: Moses was identified as an Egyptian before (2:19), but by circumcision and in suffering Moses chose instead to identify with God's people (8:22; cp. Heb. 11:24-26). How do we identify with God's people in His church today? How do baptism, membership, even hardship identify us as part of the visible body of Christ?

COMMUNICATE: Peter tells the church in 2 Peter 2:4-10 that God is able to save His own people and preserve us from harm (22-23; 9:4). What Abraham "bargained" for with God in Genesis 18, we have made true for us, for all who are saved through the blood of Jesus Christ. How would you share with someone that God saves His *church*?

AIM: God plagued the Egyptians but not His people for a purpose: "that you may know that I am the LORD in the midst of the earth" (22). The punishment is declare God's authority everywhere, over all people! Does God have authority in "the world?" How do people tend to limit God's authority to "religion," or religious people and places only?

CELEBRATE: How God is worshiped matters to Him. Pharaoh will let the Hebrews sacrifice in the land, but that's not what God commanded. Pharaoh permits a shorter travel distance, but God says three days away. Why was the separation important? Will God share His authority with Pharaoh? How does God call us to worship now? (25-28)

CARE: Churches wrestle with being taken advantage of when they offer help. Moses warned Pharaoh not to break his promise (29) and prays for the plague to be removed, in spite of Pharaoh's actions. So churches also help those in need, faithfully blessing even if others are unfaithful. Will you love others, independent of how it's received?

CULTIVATE: Through these three plagues, Pharaoh hardened his heart (8:32), the heart of Pharaoh was hardened (9:7), and the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh (9:12). The more we resist the Lord and His Spirit speaking to us, the harder our hearts will get. Is the opposite true? The more we welcome the Spirit, the better we hear Him?

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