

**Wednesday Night Worship & Study**  
**Exodus Bible Study**  
October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**Recap**

**Genesis** is God's beginning of His progressive revelation to man...the creation, the fall, promise of redemption, humans and civilization, and God's covenant relationship with His chosen nation Israel (through Abraham).

- Genesis 12, 15, and 17: God's everlasting covenant with Abraham:
  - **Make Abraham a great nation (people)**
    - “But *they would be afflicted* (enslaved) for 400 years” Gen 15:13
    - “And also the nation (Egypt) whom they *serve I will judge*; afterward they shall come out with great possessions.” Gen 15:14
    - “...in the 4<sup>th</sup> generation *they shall return here (Israel)*...” Gen 15:16
  - To bless him (personally), make his name great, to be a blessing, bless those who bless him, and curse those who curse him
  - To bless the families (nations) of the earth (*Gentiles*) through him (*gospel to Abraham beforehand in Gal 3:8*)
  - **To give the land (Canaan – aka Promise Land, Israel) to Abraham's descendants**
  - For God to be the God of Abraham and His descendants
  - In return, Abraham and his descendants were to be circumcised
  
- Genesis 37-50: Jacob's family of 70 providentially in Egypt

**Exodus** is all about God delivering His people from the bondage of slavery in Egypt and preparing them for their possession in the Promise Land.

- Ch 1 – ***Population explosion over 430 years & national security:***
  - Make Abraham a great nation over 430 years (Ex 12:40,41)
    - From – 70 people (Gen 46:27); Jacob, his sons (12 tribes of Israel), and their families
    - To – a nation of more than 2 million people! 603,000 men (Num 1:46) and families (Ex 12:37)
  - People enslaved under Pharaoh who saw them as a nat'l threat
  - God shows His faithfulness to midwives
  
- Ch 2 – ***Moses is born:***
  - Moses is born and providentially raised as the son of Pharaoh's daughter until the age of 40.
  - ***Hebrews 11:24-26*** <sup>24</sup> *By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter,* <sup>25</sup> *choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.* <sup>26</sup> *He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward.*
  - Moses was like Jesus per Moses in Deuteronomy 18:15 and quoted by Peter in Acts 3:22 and Stephen in Acts 7:37: ***Moses said, 'The Lord God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brothers. You shall listen to Him in whatever He tells you.***
  - Moses kills an Egyptian and flees to Midian where he marries a local girl and has a son (2).
  - God hears His people in Egypt crying out, remembers His covenant with them, looks upon them and acknowledges them.
  
- Ch 3 & 4 – ***God and Moses at the burning bush*** (that doesn't burn):
  - God meets an 80 year old Moses on Mt. Horeb and tells him that He has seen His people in oppression and that Moses is to deliver them to the Promise Land
  - Moses resists many, many times
  - God says: My name is I AM WHO I AM; the elders and people will hear Moses but Pharaoh will not for God has hardened his heart, Israel is God's firstborn, Aaron will be Moses spokesman

- Ch 5 & 6 – ***Moses meets with Pharaoh:***
  - Pharaoh does not recognize God, adds more hardship on Hebrews, and turns the people against Moses
  - God says “wait and see what I will do!”, “I am the LORD”, wonders and miracles to be done to Pharaoh, the people WILL be brought out of Egypt
  - Hebrews don’t listen to Moses
  
- Ch 7 & 8 – ***The plagues:*** judgment\* on Egypt, Pharaoh, their gods, and a sign to the Hebrews:
  - #1 – Plague of water to blood
    - Attached Egyptian gods of the Nile and all water in Egypt becomes blood;
    - Nile is life source to Egyptians
  - #2 – Plague of Frogs
    - Attacked Egyptian god of birth and sacred reptile to Egyptians
    - Moses asks Pharaoh “when” he would like the frogs to be gone as a clear sign that “there is no one like the LORD our God”
    - Pharaoh hardened his heart
  - #3 – Plague of lice (gnats)
    - No discussion prior with Pharaoh
    - Attack on Egyptian god of the earth and harvest
    - Pharaoh’s magicians can’t duplicate and say “this is the finger of God”
    - Pharaoh hardened his heart
  - #4 – Plague of flies
    - Attacked the Egyptians’ god of flies
    - v22 I (God) will set apart the land of Goshen in which My people dwell, that no swarms of flies shall be there, in order that you may know that I am the LORD in the midst of the land.
    - Plague corrupted (ruined) the land
    - Pharaoh concedes to let them go sacrifice (but in Egypt), asks Moses to intercede from him
    - Pharaoh hardened his heart

### Key Concepts:

1. The ***Old Testament is ALWAYS marching towards the person and work of Jesus Christ.***
2. ***God is sovereign*** means that He has the power, wisdom, and authority to do anything He chooses within His creation. He exercises His sovereignty in accordance with His attributes.
3. ***God accomplishes His will through divine providence.*** God is in complete control of all things. He is sovereign over the universe as a whole (Psalm 103:19), the physical world (Matthew 5:45), the affairs of nations (Psalm 66:7), human destiny (Galatians 1:15), human successes and failures (Luke 1:52), and the protection of His people (Psalm 4:8). ***The universe is NOT governed by chance or fate.*** (Gotquestions.org/divine-providence)

### Tonight

#### **Exodus 9 - plagues of livestock pestilence and boils plus a warning**

Ref: [gotquestions.org/ten-plagues-Egypt.html](http://gotquestions.org/ten-plagues-Egypt.html) and MacArthur Study Bible

#### 9:1 – 7 #5 - Plague of livestock pestilence (disease)

- The death of livestock, was a judgment on the goddess *Hathor* (depicted as a cow, cow woman) and the god *Apis* (depicted as a bull), who were both depicted as cattle.
- A set time was established for the plague to begin that both showed God's power as well as gave them a decision on whether to listen and save their livestock (v6 – “all” died...)
- God protected His people from the plague, while the cattle of the Egyptians died. Livestock in the stable maybe not affected (v3 ‘in the field’)
- God was steadily destroying the economy of Egypt, while showing His ability to protect and provide for those who obeyed Him. Pharaoh even sent investigators (Exodus 9:7) to find out if the Israelites were suffering along with the Egyptians, but the result was a hardening of his heart against the Israelites.
- Pharaoh's heart became hard

### 9:8 – 12 #6 - Plague of boils

- This plague was a judgment against several gods over health and disease (*Sekhmet, Sunu, and Isis*).
- First time human health is directly targeted (in addition to the animals)
  - Same word for boils uses in Septuagint (OT in Greek) and in Revelation 16, on Job (Job 2), and on Lazarus (and rich man of Luke 16:21)
  - Boils refers to open, oozing sores
- This time, the Bible says that the magicians “could not stand before Moses because of the boils.”
- Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh (note the change in who does this)

### 9:13 – 17 A Revealing of God’s Purpose

- v13 – customary demand: “Thus says God, let My people go that they may serve Me.”
- v14 – warning of a bigger impact coming: At this time (NOW), I will send ALL My plagues to your very heart (meaning to ‘hit home’ of Pharaoh), on your servants and your people: SO THAT you man know that there is none like Me in all the earth.
  - There is only one true God and none compare
- Vs 15-17 – God could have destroyed Egypt but didn’t because Pharaoh was purposely raised up and put in this position so that God’s power may be put on full display and His name declared in all the earth.
  - v15 – merciful God, plagues could have been much worse to totally destroy Egypt and its people
  - v16 – God’s purpose in raising Pharaoh:
    - Romans 9:14-18 <sup>14</sup> What shall we say then? *Is there* unrighteousness with God? Certainly not! <sup>15</sup> For He says to Moses, “I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion.” <sup>16</sup> So then *it is* not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who shows mercy. <sup>17</sup> For the Scripture says to the Pharaoh, “For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all

the earth.” <sup>18</sup> Therefore He has mercy on whom He wills, and whom He wills He hardens.

- Romans 9:22-24 <sup>22</sup> *What* if God, wanting to show His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, <sup>23</sup> and that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory, <sup>24</sup> even us whom He called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?
- “that My name may be declared in all the earth”
  - Isaiah 46:9-11 For I *am* God, and *there is* no other; I *am* God, and *there is* none like Me, <sup>10</sup> Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times *things* that are not *yet* done, Saying, ‘My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,’ <sup>11</sup> Calling a bird of prey from the east, The man who executes My counsel, from a far country. Indeed I have spoken *it*; I will also bring it to pass. I have purposed *it*; I will also do it.
- v17 – Pharaoh not impressed with anyone but himself

Pharaoh’s authority came from God who is sovereign and has providential control of world affairs

- The God of the Israelites is all powerful, sovereign and providential control of nature
- Pharaoh and Egypt would be humiliated in front of all the nations
- God, His name, attributes, character, and power would be known everywhere

## **Application:**

God alone is all powerful, sovereign, and works all things in accordance with His perfect plan.

Romans 8:28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose.

Romans 9:18 So then He has mercy on whomever He wills, and He hardens whomever He wills.

Revelation 4:11 “Worthy are You, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for You created all things, and by Your will they existed and were created.”

Daniel 4:35 All the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and He does according to His will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay His hand or say to Him, “What have you done?”

Jeremiah 32:27 ‘Ah, Lord GOD! It is You who have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and by Your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for You.

Job 42:2 “I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.

Colossians 1:17 And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

What should your response be if you trust in Christ as your Savior and LORD?

## **Before Next Wednesday Night**

1. Read Exodus 9:13 – 10:29
2. Read Revelation 16 (bowl judgments that include the plagues)

**Questions from last week** (*Let Scripture interpret Scripture!*)

**Q1 Why did Aaron not die when the golden calf was made OR Why do some people in the Bible get judged immediately and others seem to not be judged?**

**A1** God would have been justified to have judged Aaron for allowing this to happen as told in Exodus 32. About 3,000 men did die in judgment. Moses prayed to God for mercy. Do we often lose sight of God's mercy in the OT?

**Q2 How do I know I am idolizing something?**

**A2** Some good answers were given in class.

- They included looking at where you are spending your time and resources. Is God getting your first fruits (best) of time and resources? This is most often seen in your time in His Word, tithing, serving others, praying, etc.
- Another answer was you are likely idolizing something if it causes you to sin to have it.
- Ask God - as a believer, when we ask God to search our hearts (Ps 139:23-24) show us our sins, He is faithful to help us see them.

**Q3 If Thomas Jefferson and his friends disenchanted the world, how do we re-enchant it?**

**A3** We don't, God does. Our main job is to glorify God. He gave us His Word to know Him and direct us on how we are to glorify and enjoy Him. We are to obey His Word as empowered by the Holy Spirit. That is how we serve God.

**Q4 Do you think the bigger audience for these (plagues) judgments was the Hebrews or us? Reference 1 Cor 10:11**

**A4** BOTH! The text in Exodus was written to record how God brought His people out of Egypt. It was written initially for the Israelites so they would remember and know who God is and what He did. The story of the Exodus is told and recalled through out the OT and NT to remind the Israelites from then until the coming of the Messiah. Additionally as 1 Cor 10:11 indicates, the verses on the plagues absolutely has meaning and application to each generation of believers (1 Cor 10:11) – no more and no less than to the Hebrews.

**Q5 How do the plagues in Revelation related to the ones in Exodus?**

A5 They share much in common as God uses plagues to pour out judgment on sin and sinners. There are several plagues in Exodus that also seen in Revelation.

<b>Exodus</b>	<b>Revelation</b>
Water to blood	8:8; 16:3-7
Frogs	
Lice (gnats)	8:7
Flies	
Livestock diseased	
Boils	16:2
Hail	16:21
Locusts	9:1-12
Darkness	8:12; 16:10
Firstborn	

**Q6 Is COVID a plague of judgment on the world?**

A6 No (my view). Every unbeliever is worthy of judgment by God. John 3:18 says *He who believes in Him (Christ) is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.* Believers are believers because they have been given faith to believe that Christ’s death on the cross was in their place and where Christ paid their sin debt in full (called penal substitution – Isaiah 53:5; 2 Cor 5:21). Christ took our sins and was the price for payment. In exchange for our sins, Christ gave us His righteousness. COVID affects non-believers and believers alike and we know believers’ sin has ALREADY been poured out in full, completely, once and for all. Therefore, I don’t think COVID is a judgment like in Exodus or Revelation.