

The Final Plague Announced

April 22, 2018

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

Exodus 10:27-11:10; 12:29-32

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The Plagues

1. Blood: waters to blood; Pharaoh's heart hardened
2. Frogs: frogs everywhere; Pharaoh begs for relief; Pharaoh's heart hardened after relief
3. Gnats: dust becomes gnats; magicians recognize God's hand; Pharaoh's heart hardened
4. Flies: swarms of flies; Pharaoh relents then hardens his heart
5. Livestock: livestock die; Pharaoh hardens his heart
6. Boils: men & beasts covered with boils; Lord hardens Pharaoh's heart
7. Hail: severe hail; Pharaoh acknowledges his wrong; but after relief hardens his heart
8. Locusts: devouring locusts; Pharaoh seeks forgiveness; but after relief hardens his heart
9. Darkness: darkness over Egypt; Pharaoh summons Moses; but won't agree to terms
10. Death of Firstborn: Pharaoh begs the people to go!

Lessons & Observations

- God is Almighty & Absolute : plagues are creation reversals. Plagues show who God is and His authority - Ex 9:29.
- God will not share His glory: Egyptians=Rm 1:21-23. Turned away from God, refused to obey.
- God is just: God will deal with people according to their sins. Gave them what they deserved.
- God is merciful: God answered when His people cried out: Ex 2:23-24. God alone can save and deliver His people.
- God is sovereign: God's justice & mercy are side by side in His sovereign choice. The plagues discriminate between God's people & the world. Doctrine of Election: God chooses to place special favor on His people even though they are not sinless - Deut 7:7-8. Why? Paul answers Rom 9:16-18 - that God's name might be Great!

Apply: 1 Cor 10:6 - these things are examples so we might trust God's provision

The Tenth Plague - Death of Firstborn

- 10th plague announced at end of 9th after Moses summoned (10:24)
- Editorial reminder in 11:1-3 reminds us of Ex 3:19-22; 4:21-23.
- Not natural causes – God acted 11:1,4
- God executed justice: Pharaoh had oppressed God's firstborn Ex 4:22-23
- Plagues struck at heart of Egyptian culture set against God
- god of dead=Osiris; Anubis=god of underworld - depicted as dog Ex 11:7
- Egyptians deserved to die (Ro 6:23) as sons of Adam (1 Cor 15:22) and their own sins (Ro 5:12)
- God warned with 9 plagues : Ex 4:23

Apply:

- When death is on the way, it is absolutely necessary to make things right with God & obey!
- God warns us : Heb 9:27-28
- Don't be like Pharaoh refusing God's Word
- Not enough to believe in God - Jas 2:19
- Human history to reveal God's glory in salvation Eph 1:3-6.
- God is merciful in that He provides an escape from His righteous wrath for your sin by providing Jesus - the perfect Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world Jn 1:29
- Listen to Peter: call on the Father, trust Christ
1 Pet 1:17-21; Act 16:31

Think & Discuss:

- Review the plagues – how does each strike at the heart of Egyptian culture & rebellion against God?
- How are the plagues “Creation reversals”? How did the magicians respond to each? Why didn't they just reverse the plagues?
- How does each plague show God is Almighty and Absolute?
- How was Pharaoh seeking to 'steal' God's glory in oppressing God's people? How do we (world) do that today?
- How did Pharaoh deal with Egypt according to their sins?
- List the ways you see God's justice & mercy shown in the plagues and God's deliverance of His people.
- How is God's election shown in contrast between Egypt & Israel? What did Israel do to deserve God's favor? Dt 7:7-8. Why elect? Rm 9:16-18
- How should we use these examples - 1 Cor 10:6
- How can you use this narrative of God's handiwork for evangelism? How do the events of today warn like the plagues? Heb 9:27-28
- Is it enough to just believe in God? Jas 2:19
- What is needed to be saved today? Eph 1:3-6; Jn 1:29; 1 Pt 1:17-21; Act 16:31