

LESSON: PHARAOH'S HARDENING HEART —October 13, 2019

INTRODUCTION / SYNOPSIS:

There were **ten plagues** released upon the Egyptians by God. The first Plague of water turned into blood was introduced in **Chapter 7:17-25**. And in **Chapter 8: 5-32**, The second Plague were frogs (8:5-15). The third Plague were lice (8:16-19). The fourth Plague were flies (8:20-32). And in **Chapter 9: 1-35** introduced: The fifth Plague of the death of the livestock (9:1-7), and The sixth Plague were boils (9:9-12).

EXODUS 9:17-26 ¹⁷Pharaoh was still exalting himself against the expense of God's people's, for he wouldn't let them go. ¹⁸⁻¹⁹But, the next day about the same time, God said He will cause a hailstorm across the nation, never seen before that will kill the cattle and the beast. **This will be the seventh plague—hail.** ²⁰And those that feared the Word of the Lord brought their cattle and servants in from the fields, ²¹but those who had no regard for the Word of the Lord left their servants and cattle in the field. ²²And the Lord said unto Moses, "*Stretch forth your hand toward heaven, and cause the hail to fall throughout the land of Egypt... ..man, beast, herb...*" ²³And Moses stretched forth his rod toward heaven: and the Lord sent thunder and hail, and the fire (lightening) upon the ground; and hail rained upon the land of Egypt. ²⁴It fell so grievously, that none like it before has ever been seen in all the land. ²⁵And the hail hit hard throughout all the land of Egypt, in the field, upon both man and beast, and every herb of the field, even the trees were shattering. ²⁶Only in the land of Goshen was there no hail, where the children of Israel *were*.

LESSON: I. THE PROMISE OF PHARAOH EXODUS 9:27-28

9:27 And Pharaoh sent, and called for Moses and Aaron, and said unto them, I have sinned this time: the Lord is righteous, and I and my people are wicked. Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron, and he says that he had sinned, and this time confesses that the Lord *is* righteous, and he and his people had been wrong. What a turnaround!

9:28 Intreat the Lord (for it is enough) that there be no more mighty thunderings and hail; and I will let you go, and ye shall stay no longer. So, Pharaoh tells Moses and Aaron to beg the Lord to end this and let there be no *more* mighty thundering and hail. That meant no more miracles of signs and wonders; no more plagues upon the people, and Pharaoh would let God's people go, and not keep them any longer.

II. THE PROMISE OF MOSES EXODUS 9:29-30

9:29 And Moses said unto him, As soon as I am gone out of the city, I will spread abroad my hands unto the Lord; and the thunder shall cease, neither shall there be any more hail; that thou mayest know how that the earth is the Lord's. And Moses tells Pharaoh that as soon as he's gone out of the city, he will stretch out his hands to the Lord, then there will be no more thunder and hail. This was to let Pharaoh know that the earth *is* the Lord's.

9:30 But as for thee and thy servants, I know that ye will not yet fear the Lord God. But, Moses lets Pharaoh know that he knows that he and his servants had not yet come to the conclusion to fear the Lord God.

III. THE DEVASTATION OF CROPS EXODUS 9:31-32

9:31 And the flax and the barley was smitten: for the barley was in the ear, and the flax was bolled. And God knows the seasons of their barley and flax. So, the flax and the barley were beaten and knocked down by the hail. This was not a good time for either to be struck by the hail. ¹The **flax** is “bolled”—i.e., forms its seed-vessel—towards the end of January or beginning of February, and the **barley comes into ear** about the same time. Flax and barley are generally ripe in March while wheat and rye are in April. The barley *was* in the ear, and the flax *was* in bud (bolled), neither were ripe. Flax was grown largely in Egypt, since linen garments were very generally worn by the people, and were the necessary attire of the priests (Herod. ii. 37). Mummies also were swathed in linen bandages (Herod. ii. 86); and soldiers wore linen corselets (Herod. ii. 182, 3:47). Barley was grown as food for horses, as an element in the manufacture of beer, and as a material for an inferior kind of bread.

9:32 But the wheat and the rie were not smitten: for they were not grown up. But the wheat and the rye were not struck, for they *were* not grown up out of the ground, probably hidden under ground. Barley and flax always came before the wheat and rye. In Egypt the wheat harvest is at least a month later than the barley harvest.

IV. THE FAITHFULNESS OF MOSES EXODUS 9:33

9:33 And Moses went out of the city from Pharaoh, and spread abroad his hands unto the Lord: and the thunders and hail ceased, and the rain was not poured upon the earth. So, Moses did as he said he would do when he left Pharaoh. He went out of the city. He stretched out his hands unto the Lord: and the thunder, hail, and rain ceased pouring down upon the earth.

V. THE HARDENING OF PHARAOH EXODUS 9:34-35

9:34 And when Pharaoh saw that the rain and the hail and the thunders were ceased, he sinned yet more, and hardened his heart, he and his servants. But, when Pharaoh saw that all the rain, and hail and thunders had ceased, he and his servants sinned yet more, still hardening his heart.

9:35 And the heart of Pharaoh was hardened, neither would he let the children of Israel go; as the Lord had spoken by Moses. And Pharaoh still would not let the children of Israel go, just as the Lord had spoken through Moses because the heart of Pharaoh was still hard.

SUMMARY:

²⁷Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron, and says that he and his people had sinned, and this time he confesses that the Lord is righteous. ²⁸Pharaoh does not want any more mighty thunderings and hail. So, he says to Moses and Aaron that he will let the Israelites go, just beg the Lord to end this (**9:27-28**).

PITWM VERSE BY VERSE



²⁹So, Moses tells Pharaoh that as soon as he's gone out of the city, he will stretch out his hands to the Lord, and the thunder and hail will cease, so that Pharaoh will know how that the earth *is* the Lord's. ³⁰But, Moses lets them know that he knows that they had not yet come to the conclusion to fear the Lord God (**9:29-30**).

³¹And the flax and the barley were beaten and knocked down by the hail. The barley *was* in the ear, and the flax *was* in bud (bolloed), neither were ripe. This was not a good time to be struck down by the hail. ³²But the wheat and the rye were not struck, for they *were* not grown up out of the ground, probably hidden under ground (**9:31-32**).

³³So, Moses did as he said he would do when he left Pharaoh. He went out of the city. He stretched out his hands unto the Lord: and the thunder, hail, and rain ceased pouring down upon the earth (**9:33**).

³⁴Pharaoh saw that the thunder, hail, and rain ceased, yet he and his servants sinned more, still hardening his heart. ³⁵And Pharaoh still would not let the children of Israel go, just as the Lord had spoken through Moses, because the heart of Pharaoh was still hard (**9:34-35**).

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