

8 and 9 Pestilence of Locust and Darkness

Exodus Chapter 10

Exd 10:1 **1) 8th of 10 Plagues - Locusts** vs 1 - 20

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh, for I have hardened his heart and the heart of his servants, that I may perform these signs of Mine among them,

Exd 10:2 and that you may tell in the hearing of your son, and of your grandson, how I made a mockery of the Egyptians and how I performed My signs among them, that you may know that I am the LORD."

- *God says I have done these things and now you have the responsibilities of telling your children and Grandchildren*
- *Deut 11:19 "And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up"*
- *Psalms 34:11 "Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the LORD."*

Exd 10:3 Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said to him, "Thus says the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, 'How long will **you refuse to humble yourself** before Me? Let My people go, that they may serve Me.

- *Pharaoh will not humble himself. Chapter 9 He did not consider the Word of the Lord and he exalted himself. This chapter he refuses to humble himself. Pride is Pharaoh's biggest problem.*
- *2 Chronicles 34:14-33 tells of a Prophetess Huldah Informing Josiah that indeed judgment will come but because Josiah humbled himself when he heard the words of the Lord, he would be spared.*
- *Matt 18:4 "Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven."*
- *1 Peter 5:5-6 "Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all [of you] be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:"*

Exd 10:4 'For **if you refuse** to let My people go, behold, tomorrow **I will bring locusts** into your territory.

Exd 10:5 'They shall cover the surface of the land, so that no one will be able to see the land. They will also eat the rest of what has escaped--what is left to you from the hail--and they will eat every tree which sprouts for you out of the field.

Exd 10:6 'Then your houses shall be filled and the houses of all your servants and the houses of all the Egyptians, {something} which neither your fathers nor your grandfathers have seen, from the day that they came upon the earth until this day.' " And he turned and went out from Pharaoh.

Exd 10:7 Pharaoh's servants said to him, "How long will this man be a snare to us? Let the men go, that they may serve the LORD their God. Do you not realize that Egypt is destroyed?"

- *Pharaoh's servants advise him to let them go. They realize Egypt is being ransacked and it is time to let them go.*

Exd 10:8 So Moses and Aaron were brought back to Pharaoh, and he said to them, "Go, serve the LORD your God! Who are the ones that are going?"

Exd 10:9 Moses said, "We shall go with our young and our old; with our sons and our daughters, with our flocks and our herds we shall go, for we must hold a feast to the LORD."

Exd 10:10 Then he said to them, "Thus may the LORD be with you, if ever I let you and your little ones go! Take heed, for evil is in your mind.

Exd 10:11 "Not so! Go now, the men {among you,} and serve the LORD, for that is what you desire." So they were driven out from Pharaoh's presence.

3rd Compromise

- *In Chapter 8 Pharaoh offers two compromises*
 - 1) *Sacrifice but stay I Egypt Ch 8:25*
 - 2) *Worship but don't go to far Ch 8:28*
- *Here we see the compromise of the men to worship but to leave behind the children.*
- *You can worship Jesus but you are tempted to leave your children in the world.*

Exd 10:12 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the land of Egypt for the locusts, that they may come up on the land of Egypt and eat every plant of the land, {even} all that the hail has left."

- *The Egyptian gods that this broke out against was Nepri, the god of grain. Ermutet, the goddess of childbirth and crops. Thermuthis, the goddess of fertility and the harvest.*
- *Natural Explanations are that the weight of hail will destroy most crops, leaving several insects and other animals without a normal food source. The remaining crops therefore would become targeted heavily, and thus be destroyed by swarms of locusts which would otherwise be distributed rather thinly. Or the locusts could have increased due to a lack of predators. Even without these explanations, swarms of locusts are not uncommon today.*

Exd 10:13 So Moses stretched out his staff over the land of Egypt, and the LORD directed an east wind on the land all that day and all that night; and when it was morning, the east wind brought the locusts.

Exd 10:14 The locusts came up over all the land of Egypt and settled in all the territory of Egypt; {they were} very numerous. There had never been so {many} locusts, nor would there be so {many} again.

- *God does things on a grand scale. Like the flood in Noah's day, there has not been a plague of locusts like this swarm before or since.*
- *Locusts Facts:*
 - *Locusts are similar to grasshoppers in size and appearance.*
 - *Locusts differ to grasshoppers in that they can be solitary (like grasshoppers) or they can be gregarious.*
 - *Locust plagues are due to an increase in rainfall which produces increased grasslands where locust can breed.*
 - *Desert Locusts, which change colour as they develop, can devour their own weight - 2g - in fresh food in 24 hours.*
 - *A ton of locusts, which is a tiny part of the average swarm, eats the same amount of food in a single day as 10 elephants, 25 camels or 2,500 people.*
 - *In early 1954, a swarm that invaded Kenya covered an area of 200 km². The estimated density was 50 million individuals per km² giving a total number of 10 billion locusts in that swarm. (Department of Entomology & Nematology University of Florida)*
 - *Leviticus 11:21-23 "Yet these may ye eat of every flying creeping thing that goeth upon [all] four, which have legs above their feet, to leap withal upon the earth; [Even] these of them ye may eat; the locust after his kind, and the bald locust after his kind, and the beetle after his kind, and the grasshopper after his kind. But all [other] flying creeping things, which have four feet, [shall be] an abomination unto you."*
 - *To eat them you can fry, bake, boil, or toast them. Adding salt, oil or butter enriches the experience.*

Exd 10:15 For they covered the surface of the whole land, so that the land was darkened; and they ate every plant of the land and all the fruit of the trees that the hail had left. Thus nothing green was left on tree or plant of the field through all the land of Egypt.

- *The vegetation was already damaged quite a bit by the hail. The locust is finishing off what was left. God gives Pharaoh a chance to humble himself time and time again. Because of Pharaoh's stubbornness, God has to continue adding sorrow upon sorrow.*

Exd 10:16 Then Pharaoh hurriedly called for Moses and Aaron, and he said, "I have sinned against the LORD your God and against you.

Exd 10:17 "Now therefore, please forgive my sin only this once, and make supplication to the LORD your God, that He would only remove this death from me."

- *"Only this once" - He is saying "I'll never do it again"*

Exd 10:18 He went out from Pharaoh and made supplication to the LORD.

Exd 10:19 So the LORD shifted {the wind} to a very strong west wind which took up the locusts and drove them into the Red Sea; not one locust was left in all the territory of Egypt.

Exd 10:20 But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he did not let the sons of Israel go.

- *Miracles do not change people. Miracles do not save people.*
- *John 12:37-40 "But though he had done so many miracles before them, yet they believed not on him: That the saying of Esaias the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spake, Lord, who hath believed our report? and to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed? Therefore they could not believe, because that Esaias said again, He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with [their] eyes, nor understand with [their] heart, and be converted, and I should heal them."*

Exd 10:21 2) 9th of 10 Plagues - Darkness vs 21 - 29

WITHOUT WARNING

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward the sky, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, even a darkness which may be felt."

- *This plague of darkness was an insult to Egypt's religion and entire culture. The sun god Amon-Ra was considered one of the greatest blessings in all of the land of Egypt. Other Egyptian gods that this broke out against were*
 - *Horus was the god of light;*
 - *Ptah, the chief god of Memphis, and the one who created the moon, the sun and the earth;*
 - *Atum, the sun god and creator who was worshiped at Heliopolis, the major center of sun worship;*
 - *Tem, the god of the sunset;*
 - *Shu, the god of sunlight and air.*
- *Natural Explanations: There could be several causes for unusual darkness: a solar eclipse, a sandstorm, volcanic ash, or simply swarms of locusts large enough to block out the sun.*

Exd 10:22 So Moses stretched out his hand toward the sky, and there was thick darkness in all the land of Egypt for three days.

Exd 10:23 They did not see one another, nor did anyone rise from his place for three days, but all the sons of Israel had light in their dwellings.

- *How dark was this darkness?*
 - *So thick they could feel it. v 21*
 - *They couldn't see other people near them v 23*
 - *It lasted 3 days*
 - *Israel had light in their dwellings. Egypt couldn't even light lamps. Israel could.*
- *Do you have light in your dwelling.*
- *John 1:3-5 " All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not."*
- *John 8:12 "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."*

Exd 10:24 Then Pharaoh called to Moses, and said, "Go, serve the LORD; only let your flocks and your herds be detained. Even your little ones may go with you."

4th Compromise

- *Go and Worship, take your family but tithing? Giving your resources to the Lord? Don't to that. We hear this all the time. From family, friends, the world and even Christians who do not give freely.*

Exd 10:25 But Moses said, "You must also let us have sacrifices and burnt offerings, that we may sacrifice {them} to the LORD our God.

Exd 10:26 "Therefore, our livestock too shall go with us; not a hoof shall be left behind, for we shall take some of them to serve the LORD our God. And until we arrive there, we ourselves do not know with what we shall serve the LORD."

- *"Not a hoof shall be left behind" All of it is the Lords. And with all I have I shall give to the Lord.*

- *We do not know what the Lord will ask of us to worship Him with. So all of us and all our family and all our stuff is His. When He asks; We will give.*

Exd 10:27 But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he was not willing to let them go.

Exd 10:28 Then Pharaoh said to him, "Get away from me! Beware, do not see my face again, for in the day you see my face you shall die!"

Exd 10:29 Moses said, "You are right; I shall never see your face again!"

To get a man's attention, God has used

Polluted River
 Animals - Frogs
 Insects - Gnats, Flies
 Livestock
 Sickness - Boils
 Weather - Hail
 Insects again - Locusts
 The Universe - Darkness

Drought of Basic Necessity - Water
 Abnormal number - Invading and Bad Smell
 Annoyance
 Shortage of Basic Necessity - Food
 Infirmary, pain
 Damaged Crops
 More Damage
 No Light

Creates Thirst
 Creates Detest
 Creates Aggravation
 Creates Hunger
 Creates Uncleanliness
 Creates Poverty
 Creates Hopelessness
 Creates Fear

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