

Show of Strength: 1 Blood

Exodus Chapter 7

- Exd 6:28 **Break Over, Back to the Story** vs 28-30 Should probably be read w/ ch 7
Now it came about on the day when the LORD spoke to Moses in the land of Egypt,
- Exd 6:29 that the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "I am the LORD; speak to Pharaoh king of Egypt all that I speak to you."
- Exd 6:30 But Moses said before the LORD, "Behold, I am unskilled in speech; how then will Pharaoh listen to me?"
- *Moses once again tries to get out of this do to a perceived deficiency.*
- Exd 7:1 **1) The Hardened Heart** vs 1-13
Then the LORD said to Moses, "See, I make you {as} God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron shall be your prophet.
- *Moses was not a god. God will make Pharaoh to perceive him so.*
 - *Thus no more problem with unskilled in speech.*
- Exd 7:2 "You shall speak all that I command you, and your brother Aaron shall speak to Pharaoh that he let the sons of Israel go out of his land.
- Exd 7:3 "But I will harden Pharaoh's heart that I may multiply My signs and My wonders in the land of Egypt.
- Exd 7:4 "When Pharaoh does not listen to you, then I will lay My hand on Egypt and bring out My hosts, My people the sons of Israel, from the land of Egypt by great judgments.
- Exd 7:5 "The Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch out My hand on Egypt and bring out the sons of Israel from their midst."
- *Why will God harden Pharaoh's heart?*
 - 1 *So God can answer Pharaoh's question, "Who is the Lord that I should obey His voice?" (Exodus 5:2)*
 - 2 *So God can multiply His Signs and His Wonders (Exodus 7:3)*
 - 3 *So God can lay His hand on Egypt (Exodus 7:4)*
 - 4 *So God can bring out His people from Egypt by Great judgments (Exodus 7:4)*
 - 5 *So God can be known as LORD / YHWH or Jehovah (Exodus 7:5)*
 - *These Great Judgments will accomplish much.*
 - *Micah 7:15 God will again demonstrate Great Judgments and accomplish much. "As in the days when you came out from the land of Egypt, I will show you miracles."*
 - *Numbers 33:3-4 "And they departed from Rameses in the first month, on the fifteenth day of the first month; on the morrow after the passover the children of Israel went out with an high hand in the sight of all the Egyptians. For the Egyptians buried all [their] firstborn, which the LORD had smitten among them: upon their gods also the LORD executed judgments."*
 - *A Great Judgment against the Gods of Egypt*
- Exd 7:6 So Moses and Aaron did {it;} as the LORD commanded them, thus they did.
- Exd 7:7 Moses was eighty years old and Aaron eighty-three, when they spoke to Pharaoh.
- *80 and 83. You have to understand that Moses lived 120 years old.*
- Exd 7:8 Now the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying,
- Exd 7:9 "When Pharaoh speaks to you, saying, 'Work a miracle,' then you shall say to Aaron, 'Take your staff and throw {it} down before Pharaoh, {that} it may become a serpent.' "
- *Exodus 7:1 God says that He will make (future tense) as a god to Pharaoh.*
 - *God tells Moses that Pharaoh will need a sign of some authority before he even starts to listen to Moses and Aaron.*
- Exd 7:10 So Moses and Aaron came to Pharaoh, and thus they did just as the LORD had commanded; and Aaron threw his staff down before Pharaoh and his servants, and it became a serpent.

- Exodus 4:3 When Moses threw down the staff at the burning bush scene, the serpent was a common serpent. The Hebrew word is "nachash"
- In this scene the serpent is a different serpent. The Hebrew word is "tanniyn" a great serpent (dragon or sea monster) Some have said a great serpent being the symbol of the cobra on the crown of Pharaoh.

Exd 7:11 Then Pharaoh also called for {the} wise men and {the} sorcerers, and they also, the magicians of Egypt, did the same with their secret arts.

- Notice the numbers Plural of wise men, plural of sorcerers and plural of magicians. The least number here is 6. It could be 9 or 12 or more.
- 2 Timothy 3:7 + 8 "Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith." Possibly these are the wise men that resisted Moses.

Exd 7:12 For each one threw down his staff and they turned into serpents. But Aaron's staff swallowed up their staffs.

- They all threw down their staffs and they became serpents.
- Aaron's staff ate up 6-12 serpents.
- Did this really happen? Sticks to Snakes. And can the miraculous happen by beings other than God? YES
- Remember the confrontation here is "WHO IS LORD THAT I SHOULD OBEY HIM?" The wise men, sorcerers and magicians are Satan's messengers trying to retain authority over Egypt.
- 2 Thessalonians 2:9-11 "[Even him], whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness"
- This is a heavy verse. Most times we want to ignore this. But this is true toady as it was in Egypt. But the hope comes with the surrounding verses to 2 Thessalonians 2:9-11. It is a must read for context and encouragement sake.
- Romans 1:28 "And even as they did not like to retain God in [their] knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;"

Exd 7:13 Yet Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he did not listen to them, as the LORD had said.

- KJV "And He hardened Pharaoh's heart, that he hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had said"
- Exodus 4:21 "...I will harden Pharaoh's heart..."
- But we also see Exodus 7:22 "Pharaoh's heart was hardened" What is going on here? Is it the Lord or is it Pharaoh?
- Romans 9:14-24 "What shall we say then? [Is there] unrighteousness with God? God forbid. For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. So then [it is] not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy. For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth. Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will [have mercy], and whom he will he hardeneth. Thou wilt say then unto me, Why doth he yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will? Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed [it], Why hast thou made me thus? Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour? [What] if God, willing to shew [his] wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction: And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory, Even us, whom he hath called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?"
- God is the one who sets the rules. God rules how He wants to rule.
- James 1:13-16 "Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. Do not err, my beloved brethren."
- We are not to err on this point. God does not cause man to be tempted to sin. God will test man to obey. DO NOT ERR.
- 2 Peter 3:9 "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

- Look back on what did God do to harden "harden Pharaoh's heart" Exodus 5. All God did was send a messenger to Pharaoh to as for a 3-6 day vacation. Then Pharaoh displayed his own pride hardened heart. He made their task harder.
- If you or I adopt the premise that God's Spirit in some way fell upon Pharaoh and made his will or heart turn away, we are reading more into the text than is there. Pharaoh's heart hardened because the Lord brought him a message through a shepherd from slaves.
- All God did was to present His will, His desire. The pride in Pharaoh hardened his own heart. You and I see this all the time as we go and share the gospel.
- Exodus 7 Pharaoh asked for a miracle to show authority. His magicians copied it and Pharaoh chose to justify away the answer from God. That will harden a heart
- As we go forth sharing the gospel, some people will ignore, and harden their heart to God as they refuse the message.
- An example: Many parents have a rebellious teenager. When parents lay down rules or enforce the rules, it may seem that the rebellion is escalated because of the parents. If they didn't have rules or enforce these the teenager wouldn't rebel. Thus it could seem the parents are causing the problem. NO! The problem is in the heart of the rebellious. All the parent did was bring the good standard, desiring a good result and the wicked heart makes things worse.

Exd 7:14 **2) 1st of 10 Plagues - Blood** vs 14-25

10 judgments 3 sets of 3 plus one final against the firstborn

The 1st 2 are always predicted and the 3rd one is unannounced

1-3 fall on Nile and Earth

4-9 fall on the Egyptians but with a distinction for those who live in Goshen

These are Severe, Predicted, Directed, and w/ Moral Purpose.

These are definitely from a divine origin.

These are against the deities of Egypt.

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Pharaoh's heart is stubborn; he refuses to let the people go.

Exd 7:15 "Go to Pharaoh in the morning as he is going out to the water, and station yourself to meet him on the bank of the Nile; and you shall take in your hand the staff that was turned into a serpent.

Exd 7:16 "You shall say to him, 'The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, sent me to you, saying, "Let My people go, that they may serve Me in the wilderness. But behold, you have not listened until now."

Exd 7:17 "Thus says the LORD, "By this you shall know that I am the LORD: behold, I will strike the water that is in the Nile with the staff that is in my hand, and it will be turned to blood.

Exd 7:18 "The fish that are in the Nile will die, and the Nile will become foul, and the Egyptians will find difficulty in drinking water from the Nile.'"

- The Egyptians worshiped the Nile. They called upon the spirit of the Nile named "Hapi"
- The greatest Egyptian god Osiris' blood stream was the Nile
- Egypt's dependence is on the Nile.
- God go straight after Egypt's greatest god and source of existence

Exd 7:19 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Say to Aaron, 'Take your staff and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt, over their rivers, over their streams, and over their pools, and over all their reservoirs of water, that they may become blood; and there will be blood throughout all the land of Egypt, both in {vessels of} wood and in {vessels of} stone.' "

- This is not explained away by a red tide. The waters in the vessels of wood and stone would not have been affected.
- The popular natural explanation:
 - The redness in the Nile could have actually been pollution caused by volcanic activity,

specifically that of Santorini, which erupted around 1500 B.C. and whose ash is found in the Nile region. The silt could make the Nile turn blood red, and would also render it undrinkable. Heavy rains in the red-soiled area of Lake Victoria could have caused reddened water to wash downstream.

- A red toxic algal bloom (red tide) could have produced large quantities of toxins that would kill fish.

- Exd 7:20 So Moses and Aaron did even as the LORD had commanded. And he lifted up the staff and struck the water that {was} in the Nile, in the sight of Pharaoh and in the sight of his servants, and all the water that {was} in the Nile was turned to blood.
- Exd 7:21 The fish that {were} in the Nile died, and the Nile became foul, so that the Egyptians could not drink water from the Nile. And the blood was through all the land of Egypt.
- *Moses and Aaron did even as the LORD commanded.*
- Exd 7:22 But the magicians of Egypt did the same with their secret arts; and Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he did not listen to them, as the LORD had said.
- *It is interesting that the wise men and the sorcerers are not with the magicians as before. Possibly they are getting the hint that a powerful God is at work here.*
 - *Again the possibility of this duplicated miracle is a satanic show. If it were just the magicians showing how the trick was done they would have turned the bloody water back to clear water. But because of the satanic influence, no good thing can come from Satan.*
- Exd 7:23 Then Pharaoh turned and went into his house with no concern even for this.
- *Pharaoh turns away from the Word of the LORD and didn't consider the Word. This too will harden your heart.*
- Exd 7:24 So all the Egyptians dug around the Nile for water to drink, for they could not drink of the water of the Nile.
- Exd 7:25 Seven days passed after the LORD had struck the Nile.
- *The Nile was blood for 7 days.*

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