

Lessons From the 10 Plagues (*Part 5: locust, darkness,*)

Purpose: to warn the listeners against stubbornness.

Don't be stubborn! Read: Exodus 10:1-29

Nothing left!

- The locust destroyed everything that was left over from the plague of hail.
- Destroying the remaining vegetation was a final blow to their crops and took away any comfort from their loss.
- Once again, this plague was directed toward their gods (Nut the sky goddess and Osiris, god of the crops)
- Sometimes we are so stubborn that we would rather see our lives destroyed than submit to the will of God.

Read: Exodus 10:21-29

Pharaoh is being stubborn! Yet God was patient with him (as He is with us). He is still giving him a chance to repent. Why? Because He does not want to judge anyone!

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. "He who believes in Him 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.

John 3:16-18

Why does God let the hearts of men become hardened? Because men love darkness rather than light!

And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."

John 3:19-21

Men love darkness rather than light –

...Who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.

Romans 1:32

How long will God put up with our stubbornness?

Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one's praise will come from God.

1 Corinthians 4:5

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

2 Corinthians 5:10

But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, who "WILL RENDER TO EACH ONE ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS": eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality; but to those who

are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness—indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek;

Romans 2:5-9

So, learn from the example of Pharaoh, don't be stubborn

5 Signs of a stubborn person (*by Daniel Wallen, pakwired.com*)

1. You fear new situations – Stubborn people are afraid of change
2. You argue about everything – Stubborn people have trouble admitting when they are wrong
3. You never change your mind – Stubborn people cheat themselves out of growth and transformation
4. You resort to “Ad hominem” attacks - “Ad hominem” is a Latin phrase that means “to the man”. Politicians use this all the time. Instead of addressing a point made during a debate, they expose a flaw in their opponent’s character to cast doubt on their point.
5. You avoid information that contradicts your beliefs – stubborn people only read news from sources that confirm their biases.

A Psalm of David. A Contemplation.

*Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven,
Whose sin is covered.*

*Blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity,
And in whose spirit there is no deceit.
When I kept silent, my bones grew old
Through my groaning all the day long.*

*For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me;
My vitality was turned into the drought of summer. Selah
I acknowledged my sin to You,
And my iniquity I have not hidden.*

*I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
And You forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah
For this cause everyone who is godly shall pray to You
In a time when You may be found;
Surely in a flood of great waters
They shall not come near him.*

*You are my hiding place;
You shall preserve me from trouble;
You shall surround me with songs of deliverance.
Selah*

*I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will guide you with My eye.
Do not be like the horse or like the mule,
Which have no understanding,
Which must be harnessed with bit and bridle,
Else they will not come near you.
Many sorrows shall be to the wicked;
But he who trusts in the LORD, mercy shall surround him.
Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, you righteous;
And shout for joy, all you upright in heart!*