

Lessons From the 10 Plagues *(Part 6 – Moses' last conversation with Pharaoh)*

Purpose: to show that God takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but has done everything possible to save us.

Some have given the impression that God is an angry old man who is waiting to strike down on all who disobey Him. I want to show today that this is not at all true, but the reality is:

- God does not take pleasure in the death of the wicked
- God has done everything possible to save us

Today we are going to look at the last conversation between Pharaoh and Moses. This starts at the end of Exodus chapter 10 and goes into chapter 11.

Exo 10:24 - *Then Pharaoh called to Moses and said, "Go, serve the LORD; only let your flocks and your herds be kept back. Let your little ones also go with you."*

Exo 10:25 - *But Moses said, "You must also give us sacrifices and burnt offerings, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God."*

Exo 10:26 - *Our livestock also shall go with us; not a hoof shall be left behind. For we must take some of them to serve the LORD our God, and even we do not know with what we must serve the LORD until we arrive there."*

Exo 10:27 - *But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he would not let them go.*

Exo 10:28 - *Then Pharaoh said to him, "Get away from me! Take heed to yourself and see my face no more! For in the day you see my face you shall die!"*

Exo 10:29 - *So Moses said, "You have spoken well. I will never see your face again."*

These last verses of chapter 10 are the first part of the conversation, which continues after the plague of darkness.

What is a "type"? A person or thing (in the Old Testament) believed to foreshadow another (in the New Testament).

- Egypt represents this sinful world (a world of idolatry, evil practices, etc.)
- Pharaoh represents in some ways the devil (ruler of this world, wanting to keep us in bondage)
- Israel represents God's people who are being brought out of darkness
- Moses represents Jesus, our great deliverer

Pharaoh agrees to let Israel go, but wants their flocks and herds to remain. Why?

- Because he wants to lure them back –
- Our possessions can become a snare to us
- Pharaoh knows that if he can keep their possessions, he can keep them.

Mat 13:22 - *Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.*

Moses wants their flocks and herds to go with them. Why?

- Because he wants them to be given to the LORD
- Moses expects God's people to give something to the LORD

Rom 12:1 - *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.*

This is the second time that Pharaoh threatens Moses:

Exo 10:10 - *Then he said to them, "The LORD had better be with you when I let you and your little ones go! Beware, for evil is ahead of you.*

Exo 10:28 - *Then Pharaoh said to him, "Get away from me! Take heed to yourself and see my face no more! For in the day you see my face you shall die!"*

This is what God had already said to Moses:

Exo 11:1 - *And the LORD said to Moses, "I will bring one more plague on Pharaoh and on Egypt. Afterward he will let you go from here. When he lets you go, he will surely drive you out of here altogether.*

Exo 11:2 - *Speak now in the hearing of the people, and let every man ask from his neighbor and every woman from her neighbor, articles of silver and articles of gold."*

Exo 11:3 - *And the LORD gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians. Moreover the man Moses was very great in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh's servants and in the sight of the people.*

In these three verses:

- God had told Moses what was going to happen – one more plague
- God had told Moses what to do beforehand – ask for silver and gold
- God had given Moses favour in the sight of the Egyptians

Moses speaks his final words to Pharaoh:

Exo 11:4 - *Then Moses said, "Thus says the LORD: 'About midnight I will go out into the midst of Egypt;*

Exo 11:5 - *and all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sits on his throne, even to the firstborn of the female servant who is behind the handmill, and all the firstborn of the animals.*

Exo 11:6 - *Then there shall be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as was not like it before, nor shall be like it again.*

Exo 11:7 - *But against none of the children of Israel shall a dog move its tongue, against man or beast, that you may know that the LORD does make a difference between the Egyptians and Israel.'*

Exo 11:8 - *And all these your servants shall come down to me and bow down to me, saying, 'Get out, and all the people who follow you!' After that I will go out." Then he went out from Pharaoh in great anger.*

Exo 11:9 - *But the LORD said to Moses, "Pharaoh will not heed you, so that My wonders may be multiplied in the land of Egypt."*

Exo 11:10 - *So Moses and Aaron did all these wonders before Pharaoh; and the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he did not let the children of Israel go out of his land.*

After Moses told Pharaoh what was going to happen, he became angry. Why?

- Because all of this was unnecessary!
- Because Moses didn't want Egyptians to die! (And neither did God)
- Jesus had the same thing happen to Him

Mat 23:33 - *Serpents, brood of vipers! How can you escape the condemnation of hell?*

Mat 23:34 - *Therefore, indeed, I send you prophets, wise men, and scribes: some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from city to city,*

Mat 23:35 - *that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar.*

Mat 23:36 - *Assuredly, I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation.*

Mat 23:37 - *"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!*

Mat 23:38 - *See! Your house is left to you desolate;*

Mat 23:39 - *for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, 'BLESSED is HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!' "*

God does not take pleasure in the death of the wicked!

Eze 33:11 - *Say to them: 'As I live,' says the Lord GOD, 'I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?'*

2Pe 3:9 - *The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.*

Conclusion – remember that even when plagues (difficulties) comes:

- God gives warning
- God's intention is to lead us to repentance
- God takes no pleasure in our destruction
- God has done everything possible to deliver us from what we deserve!