

Unlocking The Mystery & Treasure Of Our Inheritance

#25 The Cosmic Battle Continues

Truth: Satan distorted the various aspects of God's revelation in Genesis.

Remember: 1. God is manifesting His power to Pharaoh and his officials.

He is proving to them He alone is the true and living God.

2. God was exposing the futility of the Egyptian religion and the vanity of the gods they worshiped.

3. All God did to Egypt was a reminder to His people: Your God Is Fighting For You!

Plague #5 - Livestock Killed - Ex. 9:1-7 - 2nd miracle by God alone - No staff - Warning
Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and say to him, 'This is what the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, says: "Let my people go, so that they may worship me."

Consider: Can I truly worship God if I am still holding on to Egypt; still immature, carnal Christian?

If you refuse to let them go and continue to hold them back, ³ the hand of the LORD will bring a terrible plague on your livestock in the field—on your horses, donkeys and camels and on your cattle, sheep and goats. ⁴ But the LORD will make a distinction between the livestock of Israel and that of Egypt, so that no animal belonging to the Israelites will die."⁵ The LORD set a time and said, "Tomorrow the LORD will do this in the land."⁶ And the next day the LORD did it: All the livestock of the Egyptians died, but not one animal belonging to the Israelites died. Pharaoh investigated and found that not even one of the animals of the Israelites had died. Yet his heart was unyielding and he would not let the people go.

1. Judgment on cow-headed Hathor, goddess of the deserts and Apis, the bull god

a. All cattle and especially the Apis bull were sacred to the Egyptians.

b. The sacred Apis bull was a demonization of the life of Jesus - especially the Biblical promise of an immaculately born Son of God, who would also be God in the flesh. [Gen. 3:15; Isa. 7:14]

c. Apis bull [Serapis or Osorapis] was supposedly born of a miraculous conception when, every 25 years, divine moonlight struck a cow and it conceived.

d. Apis bull was considered to be the incarnation of god on earth.

It created all of creation by the authority of his spoken word.

e. In death the Apis experienced a "resurrection" with Osiris and was considered a parallel of the Christian Messiah.

f. The Egyptian priests in conjunction with doctors cared for the sacred animal.

g. At the end of 25 years, a new bull was chosen with the pomp and ceremony of royalty.

h. A celebration followed! For 40 days, the Egyptian women raised their dresses and exposed themselves to the bull. You would capture the fertility energies of the Apis and excite the life-giving waters of Osiris.

i. At the end of the 40 days the bull was removed to the Apis temple where it was kept in a special sanctuary.

- j. Once the new Apis was inaugurated, the old bull was drowned, mummified, mourned and placed into a huge sarcophagus.
- k. The burial rites were so revered and costly that they paralleled those of the Pharaoh.
- l. In 1851, 60 Apis sarcophagi of red and black granite weighed in at more than 60 tons each.
- 2. God was steadily destroying the economy of Egypt, while showing His ability to protect and provide for those who obeyed Him.
- 3. The gods of Egypt were once again proven to be lifeless and useless.
 - a. This plague devastated the protected livestock of the Egyptians including the vast herds of Pharaoh.
 - b. It illustrated God's unlimited power when, miraculously, none of the Hebrews cattle died.
 - c. It destroyed the dominion of the sacred Apis bulls.

Plague #6 - BOILS - Ex. 9:8-12 - Unannounced & NO Warning - No Staff

And the LORD said unto Moses and unto Aaron, Take to you handfuls of ashes of the furnace, and let Moses sprinkle it toward the heaven in the sight of Pharaoh. And it shall become small dust in all the land of Egypt, and shall be a boil breaking forth with blains upon man, and upon beast, throughout all the land of Egypt. And they took ashes of the furnace, and stood before Pharaoh; and Moses sprinkled it up toward heaven; and it became a boil breaking forth with blains upon man, and upon beast. And the magicians could not stand before Moses because of the boils; for the boil was upon the magicians, and upon all the Egyptians.

- 1. Judgment against gods over health and disease
 - a. Hannah writes: "The Egyptians, fearfully aware of epidemics, worshiped Sekhmet, a lion-headed goddess with alleged power over disease.
 - b. Imhotep convinced the Egyptians premature forms of sickness and disease could be ultimately avoided if the proper aspects of healing-magic were carefully employed.
 - c. Imhotep's magicians used magic crystals and incantations of Isis to call upon Sekhmet, the goddess-sovereign of epidemics and diseases to work with the positive energies of Serapis for the healing needs of the Egyptians.
 - d. These rituals were accompanied by burnt offerings of live humans to medical gods. After burning them on an altar, they tossed the ashes into the air as a health-blessing for the Egyptians.
 - e. God commands Moses and Aaron to grab handfuls of soot from a furnace and toss it in the air before Pharaoh. The airborne soot miraculously transforms into dust and expands to become a dust cloud covering the land of Egypt. As the dust settles on the people and animals, nasty and painful boils break out on their skin.' God shows remarkable sarcasm here, taunting Egypt! The ashes descend with painful boils, not blessings.
- 2. When God attacked the divine health of the Egyptians by placing a filthy, eruptive disease of boils upon them, He accomplished:
 - a. He sent the respected Egyptian magicians fleeing, powerless - unclean and unable to perform their priestly duties.
 - b. He showed the inferiority of the Egyptian high gods and denounced them as helpless demons.

- c. He judged Sekhmet and revealed her impotence at regulating diseases.
- d. He altered the ritual of "casting ashes:" made the ashes a curse instead of a blessing.
- e. He mocked the temples of Imhotep and Sekhmet. This revealed to ALL people: neither crystals, psychic dreams, positive energy nor coercions of men and their gods can defy the incontestable will of Yahweh.
- f. Pharaoh - the people you trusted to defend Egypt from the God of the Hebrews cannot defend themselves.

Note: Before God sent the last 3 plagues, Pharaoh was given a special message from God. Things are considerably worse, and the account of the plagues becomes more lengthy and detailed.

Plague #7 - The Storm; Fiery Hail - Ex. 9:13-35 - In The Morning - Rod of Moses

Ex. 9:13-16 And the LORD said unto Moses, Rise up early In The Morning, and stand before Pharaoh, and say unto him, Thus saith the LORD God of the Hebrews, Let my people go, that they may serve me. For I will at this time send all my plagues upon thine heart, and upon thy servants, and upon thy people; that thou mayest know that there is none like me in all the earth. For now I will stretch out my hand that I may smite thee and thy people with pestilence; and thou shalt be cut off from the earth.

1. These last plagues begin with the warning that unless Pharaoh releases the Israelites, God will "send the full force of His plagues against Pharaoh and Egypt" (v. 14).
2. God could have legitimately and easily wiped out all of Egypt in one blow, but He did not (v. 15). If Pharaoh persists in his hardness of heart, things will get considerably worse.
3. Pharaoh was told he was placed in his position by God, so God could show His power and declare His name through all the earth (verse 16).

Ex. 9:18-21 Behold, tomorrow about this time I will cause it to rain a very grievous hail, such as hath not been in Egypt since the foundation thereof even until now. [God's grace] Send therefore now, and Gather Thy Cattle, and All That Thou Hast In The Field; for upon every man and beast which shall be found in the field, and shall not be brought home, the hail shall come down upon them, and they shall die. He that feared the word of the LORD among the servants of Pharaoh made his servants and his cattle flee into the houses: And he that regarded not the word of the LORD left his servants and his cattle in the field.

Note: God gives time to heed His word and His warning. Time to escape the judgment.

Ex. 9:22-26 And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch forth thine hand toward heaven, that there may be hail in all the land of Egypt, upon man, and upon beast, and upon every herb of the field, throughout the land of Egypt. And Moses stretched forth his rod toward heaven: and the LORD sent thunder and hail, and the fire ran along upon the ground; and the LORD rained hail upon the land of Egypt. So there was hail, and fire mingled with the hail, very grievous, such as there was none like it in all the land of Egypt since it became a nation. And the hail smote throughout all the land of Egypt all that was in the field, both man and beast; and the hail smote every herb of the field, and brake every tree of the field. Only in the land of Goshen, where the children of Israel were, was there no hail.

Ex. 9:27-28 I have sinned this time: the Lord [YHWH] is righteous, and I and my people are wicked. Entreat the Lord [YHWH] that there be no more mighty thundering ["voices of Elohim"], for *it is* enough. I will let you go, and you shall stay no longer."

Note: Judgment against Nut, the sky goddess; Osiris, crop fertility god; Set, storm god

1. Nut was the protector of the sky and weather.

a. Nut controlled the atmospheric conditions surrounding the Pharaoh's empire.

b. She conquered the fierce storms that could herald the death of a king.

Ex. 9:31 Now the flax and the barley were struck, for the barley *was* in the head and the flax *was* in bud. But the wheat and the spelt were not struck, for they *are* late crops.

Note: Before the next plague, God told Moses the Israelites would be able to tell their children of the things they had seen God do in Egypt and how it showed them God's power.

Plague #8 - LOCUSTS - Ex. 10:1-20 -2nd miracle with rod of Moses alone

Ex. 10:3-5 Moses and Aaron came in unto Pharaoh... Thus saith the LORD God of the Hebrews, How long wilt thou refuse to humble thyself before me?... ⁴ Else, if thou refuse to let my people go, behold, tomorrow will I bring the locusts into thy coast: And they shall cover the face of the earth, that one cannot be able to see the earth: and they shall eat the residue of that which is escaped, which remaineth unto you from the hail, and shall eat every tree which grows for you out of the field:

1. The plague of the hail had destroyed the flax and barley crops, but the wheat and spelt crops were not destroyed, because they matured later on (9:31).

2. When Moses foretold of the coming of the locusts on the next day, Pharaoh's officials pled with him to let the Israelites go (10:7).

3. Egypt, they protested, was ruined, so why incur any further disasters?

4. Pharaoh offered to let the men go, but not the women.

5. When the plague struck Egypt, Pharaoh confessed he had sinned against God.

6. He asked Moses for forgiveness, and to pray for the plague to be removed (10:16-17).

7. A strong west wind carried the locusts into the Red Sea.

8. When the plague was removed, Pharaoh returned to his old ways, and would not let Israel go.

Note #1: The idea of such a calamity brought instant terror to the hearts of the Egyptians.

#2: They prayed to Sobek, the crocodile-headed god of animals and insects.

#3: Sobek was the underworld demon of the 4 elements of fire, earth, water and air.

#4: They believed Sobek controlled these 4 elements to the extent that he restrained the activity of creatures within specific habitats.

a. He could limit the activity of a crocodile within water; a locust within air, etc.

God revealed:

1. Sobek was unable to control the elements or limit the activity of God's insect army.

2. Sobek's companions, high god of fire could not scorch the creatures and the high god of wind could not blow the insects away.

Plague #9 - DARKNESS - Ex. 10:21-29 -Unannounced & NO Warning

Ex. 10:21-23 And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand toward heaven, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, even darkness which may be felt. And Moses stretched forth his hand toward heaven; and there was a thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days: ²³They saw not one another, neither rose any from his place for three days: but all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings.

1. Judgment against sun god, Ra, one of the chief Egyptian deities - Pharaoh represented
2. The darkness was so intense it produced a dread in the hearts of the Egyptians.
3. For 3 days the Egyptians and Israelites were confined to their homes.
4. The Egyptians' homes experienced darkness. There was light in the homes of the Israelites.

Question: Whom can they call upon now?

1. Nut had been proven powerless. She could not elevate herself to provide the sky so the sun could shine forth.
2. The sky-cow-goddess, Hathor, had been humiliated by God during the disease of the cattle.
3. The evil god Sobek had been found impotent at controlling the element of the sky.
4. The mystical spells of Isis were useless against Israel's God.
5. The priestly magic had been paralyzed.
6. Now Ra, Creator "king of the gods" was confirmed helpless before Yahweh.

Ex. 10:28-29 And Pharaoh said unto him, Get thee from me, take heed to thyself, see my face no more; for in that day thou seest my face thou shalt die.

²⁹ And Moses said, Thou hast spoken well, I will see thy face again no more.

With this final act, Pharaoh sealed the destiny of his kingdom and his firstborn son.

The tenth plague would bring about the release of the Israelites.

Predicted in Ex. 4:22-23 at the burning bush

And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD, Israel is my son, even my firstborn: And I say unto thee, Let my son go, that he may serve me: and if thou refuse to let him go, behold, I will slay thy son, even thy firstborn.

The Hard Heart Or Obedience

What will you do when things get tough? Will you harden your heart like Pharaoh? Why me? Will you choose to obey God's offer of safety by "bringing your animals into the barns?"