



Exodus 10:1-11:10

FACING THE JUDGMENT OF GOD

Humans are so created that the choices they make contribute to forming character, and character thus formed promotes the making of similar choices in the future... Choosing and habit-forming are things we all know about. What none of us knows is when the “point of no return” will be reached... Sadly, we can pass the point where freedom to change has been lost and still retain the illusion that “I can give it up any time I want!” Thus, the situation in which Pharaoh found himself was not peculiar to him but is intrinsic to the human condition... Choices are the privilege and price of being human. Our privilege is that of being responsible beings...called to make responsible choices... The price we pay is that every choice, for good or ill, goes to fashioning our characters, and in the long or short term—or both—those choices make us answerable to the Judge of all the earth.

—J. Alec Motyer

<p>The Staff Turning into Snake</p> <p><i>God is absolutely sovereign in power!</i></p> <p>(7:8-13)</p>	<p>1st Three Plagues (7:14-8:19)</p> <p>Blood <i>Go to Pharaoh in the morning</i></p> <p>Frogs <i>Go to Pharaoh</i></p> <p>Gnats No warning</p>	<p>2nd Three Plagues (8:20-9:12)</p> <p>Flies <i>Go to Pharaoh in the morning</i></p> <p>Pestilence <i>Go to Pharaoh</i></p> <p>Boils No warning</p>	<p>3rd Three Plagues (9:13-10:29)</p> <p>Hail <i>Go to Pharaoh in the morning</i></p> <p>Locusts <i>Go to Pharaoh</i></p> <p>Darkness No warning</p>	<p>The Death of the Firstborn</p> <p><i>God is absolutely righteous in judgment!</i></p> <p>(11:1-12:36)</p>
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

There is a fundamental mission orientation to the entire plague cycle... It is the Lord's desire to be known throughout the earth.

—W. Ross Blackburn

Moses had become a means by which the Egyptians were denied their freedom and trapped [10:7]... The irony is apparent: those who had enslaved the Israelites, keeping them trapped and denying them their freedom, were now getting a taste of their own medicine.

—Douglas K. Stuart

Pharaoh's resistance has moved from proud, resolute leadership... to petulant stubbornness to a kind of sick denial to an obstinacy beyond any human explanation.

—John I. Durham

Osiris was the Egyptian god of agriculture, resurrection, and life. He was depicted with green skin to symbolize vegetation and rebirth and he held the “crook and flail,” symbols associated with the power and authority of Pharaoh.

Locusts swarm up to 200 million per square mile and eat more food than 90,000 people can in a day.

PLAGUE #8 — Destroying Locusts (10:1-20)

- God reminds Moses of the purpose of the plagues:
 1. To display the signs of My power to the world.
 2. To impact future generations.
 3. To bring you to a greater knowledge of who I am.
- God confronts the _____ of Pharaoh.
- God confronts the god of the _____ (Osiris).
- Pharaoh offers another _____ to Moses.
Go now, you who are men...but leave your families behind. (10:10-11)
- Pharaoh exhibits a superficial _____.
- The Lord _____ Pharaoh's heart.

Is God Unfair in Hardening Pharaoh's Heart?

The Lord says that He will harden Pharaoh's heart (4:21; 7:3)

Pharaoh hardens his own heart (8:15, 32; 9:34)

Pharaoh's heart is hardened (7:13, 22; 8:19; 9:7, 35)

The Lord hardens Pharaoh's heart (9:12; 10:1, 20, 27; 11:10; 14:8)

1. God is absolutely sovereign and free to do as He wills (Romans 9).
2. God is absolutely merciful and saves all who call on Him (Roman 10).
3. God is absolutely incomprehensible in His wisdom and grace, choosing to harden some, for a time, in order to have mercy on all (Romans 11).

PLAGUE #9 — Deep Darkness (10:21-29)

- God confronts the god of the _____ (Ra).
- God gives special _____ to His people.
- Pharaoh offers a final concession to Moses.
Go, serve the Lord...but leave all your flocks behind. (10:24)
- The Lord _____ Pharaoh's heart.

PLAGUE #10 — Death of the Firstborn Announced (11:1-10)

- God gives special _____ to His people.
- God announces the final plague—death of all the firstborn.
That you may know that the Lord does make a distinction between Egypt and Israel. (11:7)
- The Lord _____ Pharaoh's heart.

FIVE PRINCIPLES FROM EXODUS 10:1-11:10

1. God desires for His name to be known throughout all the earth.
2. I am to tell of God's wondrous deeds to the next generation.
3. Humbling myself before God is the first step toward wisdom.
4. I must beware of the concessions that the world can offer me—
Go ahead and worship God but...
5. God's judgment is absolutely fair, just, and deserved—thus His grace to us is completely undeserved and absolutely amazing!

God's hardening of Pharaoh was a judicial act, abandoning him to his stubbornness, much as God's wrath against the ungodly is expressed by "giving them over" to their own depravity (Romans 1:24-28).

—John R. W. Stott

The moment God draws back his restraining influence there is hardening. That is one of the ways God produces hardening: He leaves them to themselves.

—D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

Hardened. Heb., *chazaq*, "to make firm, strengthen, confirm; tie fast"

The plagues are creation reversals: animals harm rather than serve humanity; light ceases and darkness takes over; waters become a source of death rather than life.

—Peter Enns

Ra was considered the supreme creator deity and the father to the pharaohs. Associated with the sun, he was seen as the giver of all life.

Every morning the rising of the sun in the east reaffirmed the life-giving power of Amon-Ra.

—Philip Ryken

Hell's punishment fits sin's crime because sin is divorce from God. The punishment fits the crime because the punishment is the crime. Saying no to God means no God... If sin exists, hell can exist; for hell is only sin eternalized. Hell is not so much an external punishment added to sin, as it is sin coming to full fruition.

—Peter Kreeft

There are only two kinds of people in the end: those who say to God, "Thy will be done," and those to whom God says, in the end, "Thy will be done."

—C. S. Lewis