

Moses – part 10

The Lord destroys every plant of the field in Egypt
by Victor Torres

Right from the start the Lord has shown the Pharaoh of Egypt that His messengers, Moses and Aaron, are far more powerful than Pharaoh's magicians. The snake that was Aaron's staff swallowed these magicians' snakes.

The first plague was the waters of Egypt turning into blood. These waters are the symbols of Babylon's lies. When we are in Babylon, we live by these lies like the fish which live in these rivers. Then we spiritually die when these lies are exposed by the blood of Christ, His words.

Mat 26:28 (BBE) Take of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the testament, which is given for men for the forgiveness of sins.

The next plague are the frogs, which, like the waters of Egypt, also symbolize the lies of the false churches of this world. These frogs came in the truckloads! The whole country of Egypt was full of them. The lies in Babylon are as many, and we all believed them. We all bowed down to Satan and got fooled by his ministers.

Rev 12:9 (MKJV) And the great dragon was cast out, the old serpent called Devil, **and Satan, who deceives the whole world.** He was cast out into the earth, and his angels (Satan's false ministers) were cast out with him.

The lice and the flies which followed these frogs also symbolize the many lies taught to us when we are in false churches. We are all born as children of Satan, the father of lies. Here is just one Scripture that says this:

Psa 58:3 (KJV) The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies.

Psa 58:3 (GNB) Evildoers go wrong all their lives; they tell lies from the day they are born.

Next, the Lord killed all of Egypt's livestock through pestilence or a grave disease. Livestock is a symbol of wealth, as Abraham, Isaac and Jacob were all blessed with great numbers of them. It was only Egypt's livestock that got affected by this disease.

Exo 9:5 (BBE) And the time was fixed by the Lord, and he said, Tomorrow the Lord will do this thing in the land.

Exo 9:6 And on the day after, the Lord did as he had said, **causing the death of all the cattle of Egypt, but there was no loss of any of the cattle of Israel.**

This shows us that when we were in Babylon, we truly believed that we were learning the truth. Like the livestock of Egypt, the things we learned was our wealth, and we will count them all as nothing when we learn about the truth.

Php 3:8 (KJV) Yea doubtless, and I count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them *but* dung, that I may win Christ,

Php 3:8 (CEV) Nothing is as wonderful as knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. **I have given up everything else and count it all as garbage. All I want is Christ**

Of course, no one in Babylon thinks they're in a false church. Until their eyes are opened by God, they will continue to live the lies of their teachers.

Last time, we saw how the Lord has stricken all the Egyptians, including Pharaoh's magicians, with a very painful skin disease called boils.

Exo 9:10 (KJV) And they (Moses and Aaron) 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.

Exo 9:11 And the magicians could not stand before Moses because of the boils; **for the boil was upon the magicians, and upon all the Egyptians.**

This was the sixth plague. The Pharaoh was ready to give up only after the frogs, which was the second plague, but God has shown us time and again that the Pharaoh, like everyone else, has no free will. So God kept on hardening Pharaoh's heart.

Here is a verse that the elect is very familiar, but to which the whole world is blinded:

Isa 63:17 (KJV) O LORD, why hast thou made us to err from thy ways, *and* hardened our heart from thy fear? Return for thy servants' sake, the tribes of thine inheritance.

Isa 63:17 (CEV) Why did you make us turn away from you, our LORD? Why did you make us want to disobey you? Please change your mind! We are your servants, your very own people.

Pretty clear, isn't it? God makes us to err from His ways. He hardens our heart from His fear. We are no different than Pharaoh. If God wants us to be disobedient to Him our whole lives, we will be. If God wants us to be one of the first people He will save, we will be part of the body of Christ.

After the boils, God have stricken Egypt with hail and fire.

Exo 9:22 (ESV) Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward heaven, so that there may be hail in all the land of Egypt, on man and beast and every plant of the field, in the land of Egypt."

Exo 9:23 Then Moses stretched out his staff toward heaven, and the LORD sent thunder and hail, and fire ran down to the earth. And the LORD rained hail upon the land of Egypt.

Exo 9:24 There was hail and fire flashing continually in the midst of the hail, very heavy hail, such as had never been in all the land of Egypt since it became a nation.

Exo 9:25 The hail struck down everything that was in the field in all the land of Egypt, both man and beast. And the hail struck down every plant of the field and broke every tree of the field.

Exo 9:26 Only in the land of Goshen, where the people of Israel were, was there no hail.

This is showing us how determined God is in destroying our old man. He can't be stopped. He will succeed.

Psa 18:12 (CEV) Hailstones and fiery coals lit up the sky in front of you.

Psa 18:13 LORD Most High, your voice (His words) thundered from the heavens, **as hailstones and fiery coals poured down like rain.**

Psa 18:14 You scattered your enemies (our old man) with arrows of lightning.

God's voice or His words is what the hailstones and fiery coals symbolize. And His words destroys the lies which we believe.

When God was destroying the plants of the field, there was an interesting detail that was included.

Exo 9:25 (CEV) People, animals, and crops were pounded by the hailstones, and bark was stripped from trees.

Exo 9:26 Only Goshen, where the Israelites lived, was safe from the storm.

Exo 9:27 The king sent for Moses and Aaron and told them, "Now I have really sinned! My people and I are guilty, and the LORD is right.

Exo 9:28 We can't stand any more of this thunder and hail. Please ask the LORD to make it stop. Your people can go--you don't have to stay in Egypt any longer."

Exo 9:29 Moses answered, "As soon as I leave the city, I will lift my arms in prayer. When the thunder and hail stop, you will know that the earth belongs to the LORD.

Exo 9:30 But I am certain that neither you nor your officials really fear the LORD God."

Exo 9:31 Meanwhile, the flax and barley crops had been destroyed by the storm because they were ready to ripen.

Exo 9:32 But the wheat crops ripen later, and they were not damaged.

Certain crops, such as the flax and barley were destroyed because they were ready to ripen, but the wheat and the rye were not damaged because they ripen later. What does this mean? Why did God spare the immature crops?

To know what this means, let's read a parable from our Lord.

Mat 13:24 Jesus then told them this story: The kingdom of heaven is like what happened when a farmer scattered good seed in a field.

Mat 13:25 But while everyone was sleeping, an enemy came and scattered weed seeds in the field and then left.

Mat 13:26 When the plants came up and began to ripen, the farmer's servants could see the weeds.

Mat 13:27 The servants came and asked, "Sir, didn't you scatter good seed in your field? Where did these weeds come from?"

Mat 13:28 "An enemy did this," he replied. His servants then asked, "Do you want us to go out and pull up the weeds?"

Mat 13:29 "No!" he answered. "You might also pull up the wheat.

Mat 13:30 Leave the weeds alone until harvest time. Then I'll tell my workers to gather the weeds and tie them up and burn them. But I'll have them store the wheat in my barn."

The teachers in Babylon will teach you that the weeds and the wheat are representing different people. Some, they'll say, are like the weeds that will be burned in hell, and some are like the wheat who will be saved in the day of judgment. But this is not true.

What these teachers are forgetting is that our Lord clearly told us that the kingdom of God is within us. The Lord is talking about the kingdom of God in all His parables, and so these wheat and weeds are in each one of us. The weeds are our evil deeds. They start from evil thoughts planted by the enemy, Satan. The wheat is our good deeds, starting from good thoughts planted by God in our hearts. What this story is telling us is that we will all be punished for our evil deeds and will be rewarded for our good works.

Let's go back to the story of Moses:

Exo 9:33 After Moses left the royal palace and the city, he lifted his arms in prayer to the LORD, and the thunder, hail, and drenching rain stopped.

Exo 9:34 When the king realized that the storm was over, he disobeyed once more. He and his officials were so stubborn

Exo 9:35 that he refused to let the Israelites go. This was exactly what the LORD had said would happen.

Through all these plagues, we see Israel getting spared. And one of the biggest lies that Babylon teaches is that it will be the same for the elect. They say that before God destroys the world, the elect will be carried away to some safe place where they will not go through the trials that the world will go through. The reality is that if you are one of the chosen of God, you will go through God's judgment first. Israel was spared from the plagues that beset Egypt, but they did go through some of their own trials.

Deu 8:2 (ESV) And you shall remember the whole way that the LORD your God **has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart**, whether you would keep his commandments or not.

Deu 8:3 And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, **but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.**

Let's read ahead about what happened next, and Lord willing, we will learn more spiritual lessons behind these events in our next study.

Exo 10:1 (ESV) Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go in to Pharaoh, for I have hardened his heart and the heart of his servants, that I may show these signs of mine among them,

Exo 10:2 and that you may tell in the hearing of your son and of your grandson how I have dealt harshly with the Egyptians and what signs I have done among them, that you may know that I am the LORD."

Exo 10:3 So Moses and Aaron went in to Pharaoh and said to him, "Thus says the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, 'How long will you refuse to humble yourself before me? Let my people go, that they may serve me.

Exo 10:4 For if you refuse to let my people go, behold, tomorrow I will bring locusts into your country,

Exo 10:5 and they shall cover the face of the land, so that no one can see the land. And they shall eat what is left to you after the hail, and they shall eat every tree of yours that grows in the field,

Exo 10:6 and they shall fill your houses and the houses of all your servants and of all the Egyptians, as neither your fathers nor your grandfathers have seen, from the day they came on earth to this day." Then he turned and went out from Pharaoh.