

Moses – part 11
The Lord kills Egypt's firstborn
by Victor Torres

The words of God are like the hailstones and fiery coals that God used to destroy every plant of the field in Egypt. This shows us that God's words will destroy every rebellious work that we do and every rebellious thoughts in our minds.

2Co 10:5 (MKJV) pulling down imaginations and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought into the obedience of Christ;

2Co 10:5 (ESV) We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,

The next plague that God unleashed was the locusts.

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.

Again, this shows us how thorough God is in His discipline of us. No detail escapes Him.

Exo 10:7 (CEV) the king's officials asked, "Your Majesty, how much longer is this man going to be a troublemaker? Why don't you let the people leave, so they can worship the LORD their God? Don't you know that Egypt is a disaster?"

Exo 10:8 The king had Moses and Aaron brought back, and he said, "All right, you may go and worship the LORD your God. But first tell me who will be going."

Exo 10:9 "Everyone, young and old," Moses answered. "We will even take our sheep, goats, and cattle, because we want to hold a celebration in honor of the LORD."

Exo 10:10 The king replied, "The LORD had better watch over you on the day I let you leave with your families! You're up to no good."

Exo 10:11 Do you want to worship the LORD? All right, take only the men and go." Then Moses and Aaron were chased out of the palace.

Exo 10:12 The LORD told Moses, "Stretch your arm toward Egypt. Swarms of locusts will come and eat everything left by the hail."

Exo 10:13 Moses held out his walking stick, and the LORD sent an east wind that blew across Egypt the rest of the day and all that night. By morning, locusts

Exo 10:14 were swarming everywhere. Never before had there been so many locusts in Egypt, and never again will there be so many.

Exo 10:15 The ground was black with locusts, and they ate everything left on the trees and in the fields. Nothing green remained in Egypt--not a tree or a plant.

In the old testament, we see these locusts covering all of Egypt. In the new testament, we see these locusts darkening the whole earth.

Rev 9:2 (CEV) As it opened the tunnel, smoke poured out like the smoke of a great furnace. **The sun and the air turned dark because of the smoke.**

Rev 9:3 **Locusts came out of the smoke and covered the earth.** They were given the same power that scorpions have.

The sun is a symbol of Jesus Christ, who is the Truth. The locusts darkens the sun and the air, as lies darkens our minds and keep us from seeing the light of the sun.

Exo 10:16 (CEV) At once the king sent for Moses and Aaron. He told them, "I have sinned against the LORD your God and against you."

Exo 10:17 Forgive me one more time and ask the LORD to stop these insects from killing every living plant."

Exo 10:18 Moses left the palace and prayed.

Exo 10:19 Then the LORD sent a strong west wind that swept the locusts into the Red Sea. Not one locust was left anywhere in Egypt,

Exo 10:20 **but the LORD made the king so stubborn that he still refused to let the Israelites go.**

Each one of these plagues are so terrifying that any stubborn person would break and let the Israelites go. But as the Bible say, it is not up to us nor what we want that will happen. Everything is truly up to God.

Exo 10:21 (CEV) The LORD said to Moses, "Stretch your arm toward the sky, and everything will be covered with darkness thick enough to touch."

Exo 10:22 Moses stretched his arm toward the sky, **and Egypt was covered with darkness for three days.**

Exo 10:23 During that time, the Egyptians could not see each other or leave their homes, but there was light where the Israelites lived.

Back in those days, there were no electricity, but they must have used torches and lamps to move around during the night. And there was the light coming from the stars. But God supernaturally prevented all these light sources to provide light to the Egyptians as they could not even see each other! It's like they all turned blind. And this is just showing our blindness when we refuse to obey God.

Exo 10:24 (CEV) The king sent for Moses and told him, "Go worship the LORD! And take your families with you. Just leave your sheep, goats, and cattle."

Exo 10:25 "No!" Moses replied. "You must let us offer sacrifices to the LORD our God,

Exo 10:26 and we won't know which animals we will need until we get there. That's why we can't leave even one of them here."

Even one hour of blindness will make anyone tremble in fear, let alone three days. The Lord knows this, so He has to harden Pharaoh's heart once more. Pharaoh offered another compromise to Moses, but when Moses didn't accept this compromise, he even threatened Moses' and Aaron's lives.

Exo 10:27 (CEV) This time the LORD made the king so stubborn

Exo 10:28 that he said to Moses, "Get out and stay out! If you ever come back, you're dead!"

Exo 10:29 "Have it your way," Moses answered. "You won't see me again."

After this last plague that the Lord will unleash on the Egyptians, the Lord guaranteed Moses that they will be let go. This shows us once more how the Lord is controlling how the Pharaoh will react, as He is controlling how we act and react in every situation.

Exo 11:1 (CEV) The LORD said to Moses: I am going to punish the king of Egypt and his people one more time. Then the king will gladly let you leave his land, so that I will stop punishing the Egyptians. He will even chase you out.

Exo 11:2 Now go and tell my people to ask their Egyptian neighbors for gold and silver jewelry.

Exo 11:3 So the LORD made the Egyptians greatly respect the Israelites, and everyone, including the king and his officials, considered Moses an important leader.

Exo 11:4 Moses went to the king and said: I have come to let you know what the LORD is going to do. About midnight he will go through the land of Egypt,

Exo 11:5 and wherever he goes, **the first-born son in every family will die**. Your own son will die, and so will the son of the lowest slave woman. Even the first-born males of cattle will die.

Exo 11:6 Everywhere in Egypt there will be loud crying. Nothing like this has ever happened before or will ever happen again.

Exo 11:7 But there won't be any need for the Israelites to cry. Things will be so quiet that not even a dog will be heard barking. Then you Egyptians will know that the LORD is good to the Israelites, even while he punishes you.

Exo 11:8 Your leaders will come and bow down, begging me to take my people and leave your country. Then we will leave. Moses was very angry; he turned and left the king.

Exo 11:9 What the LORD had earlier said to Moses came true. He had said, "The king of Egypt won't listen. Then I will perform even more miracles."

Exo 11:10 So the king of Egypt saw Moses and Aaron work miracles, but the LORD made him stubbornly refuse to let the Israelites leave his country.

The firstborn sons of Egypt is a symbol of our old man. The firstborn sons of Israel are a symbol of our new man. Our old man is doomed but God will save the new man, the new person, in each one of us. We have seen this repeating theme in the stories that we have studied, from Cain and Abel, Isaac and Ishmael, Jacob and Esau, and now between Egypt and Israel.

Exo 12:1 (CEV) Some time later the LORD said to Moses and Aaron:

Exo 12:2 This month is to be the first month of the year for you.

Exo 12:3 Tell the people of Israel that on the tenth day of this month the head of each family must choose a lamb or a young goat for his family to eat.

Exo 12:4-5 If any family is too small to eat the whole animal, they must share it with their next-door neighbors. Choose either a sheep or a goat, but it must be a one-year-old male that has nothing wrong with it. And it must be large enough for everyone to have some of the meat.

Exo 12:6 Each family must take care of its animal until the evening of the fourteenth day of the month, when the animals are to be killed.

Exo 12:7 Some of the blood must be put on the two doorposts and above the door of each house where the animals are to be eaten.

Exo 12:8 That night the animals are to be roasted and eaten, together with bitter herbs and thin bread made without yeast.

Exo 12:9 Don't eat the meat raw or boiled. The entire animal, including its head, legs, and insides, must be roasted.

Exo 12:10 Eat what you want that night, and the next morning burn whatever is left.

Exo 12:11 When you eat the meal, be dressed and ready to travel. Have your sandals on, carry your walking stick in your hand, and eat quickly. This is the Passover Festival in honor of me, your LORD.

Exo 12:12 That same night I will pass through Egypt and kill the first-born son in every family and the first-born male of all animals. I am the LORD, and I will punish the gods of Egypt.

Exo 12:13 The blood on the houses will show me where you live, and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. Then you won't be bothered by the terrible disasters I will bring on Egypt.

Exo 12:14 Remember this day and celebrate it each year as a festival in my honor.

Exo 12:15 For seven days you must eat bread made without yeast. And on the first of these seven days, you must remove all yeast from your homes. If you eat anything made with yeast during this festival, you will no longer be part of Israel.

Exo 12:16 Meet together for worship on the first and seventh days of the festival. The only work you are allowed to do on either of these two days is that of preparing the bread.

Exo 12:17 Celebrate this Festival of Thin Bread as a way of remembering the day that I brought your families and tribes out of Egypt. And do this each year.

Exo 12:18 Begin on the evening of the fourteenth day of the first month by eating bread made without yeast. Then continue this celebration until the evening of the twenty-first day.

Exo 12:19 During these seven days no yeast is allowed in anyone's home, whether they are native Israelites or not. If you are caught eating anything made with yeast, you will no longer be part of Israel.

Exo 12:20 Stay away from yeast, no matter where you live. No one is allowed to eat anything made with yeast!

Exo 12:21 Moses called the leaders of Israel together and said: Each family is to pick out a sheep and kill it for Passover.

Exo 12:22 Make a brush from a few small branches of a hyssop plant and dip the brush in the bowl that has the blood of the animal in it. Then brush some of the blood above the door and on the posts at each side of the door of your house. After this, everyone is to stay inside.

Exo 12:23 During that night the LORD will go through the country of Egypt and kill the first-born son in every Egyptian family. He will see where you have put the blood, and he will not come into your house. His angel that brings death will pass over and not kill your first-born sons.

Exo 12:24 – 25 After you have entered the country promised to you by the LORD, you and your children must continue to celebrate Passover each year.

Exo 12:26 Your children will ask you, "What are we celebrating?"

Exo 12:27 And you will answer, "The Passover animal is killed to honor the LORD. We do these things because on that night long ago the LORD passed over the homes of our people in Egypt. He killed the first-born sons of the Egyptians, but he saved our children from death." After Moses finished speaking, the people of Israel knelt down and worshiped the LORD.

Exo 12:28 Then they left and did what Moses and Aaron had told them to do.

Exo 12:29 At midnight the LORD killed the first-born son of every Egyptian family, from the son of the king to the son of every prisoner in jail. He also killed the first-born male of every animal that belonged to the Egyptians.

Exo 12:30 That night the king, his officials, and everyone else in Egypt got up and started crying bitterly. In every Egyptian home, someone was dead.

Exo 12:31 During the night the king sent for Moses and Aaron and told them, "Get your people out of my country and leave us alone! Go and worship the LORD, as you have asked.

Exo 12:32 Take your sheep, goats, and cattle, and get out. But ask your God to be kind to me."

Exo 12:33 The Egyptians did everything they could to get the Israelites to leave their country fast. They said, "Please hurry and leave. If you don't, we will all be dead."