


God's Mighty Acts Reveal His Mercy and Justice

Exodus 8:20 – 9:35


Presented by Bob DeWaay
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The Fourth Plague: swarming insects

■ **Exodus 8:20, 21**

Now the LORD said to Moses, "Rise early in the morning and present yourself before Pharaoh, as he comes out to the water, and say to him, 'Thus says the LORD, Let My people go, that they may serve Me. For if you will not let My people go, behold, I will send swarms of insects on you and on your servants and on your people and into your houses; and the houses of the Egyptians shall be full of swarms of insects, and also the ground on which they dwell.'"



Israel is protected from the plagues

■ **Exodus 8:22 - 24**

"But on that day I will set apart the land of Goshen, where My people are living, so that no swarms of insects will be there, in order that you may know that I, the LORD, am in the midst of the land. And I will put a division between My people and your people. Tomorrow this sign shall occur." Then the LORD did so. And there came great swarms of insects into the house of Pharaoh and the houses of his servants and the land was laid waste because of the swarms of insects in all the land of Egypt.



Moses will not compromise

■ Exodus 8:25 - 27

And Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron and said, "Go, sacrifice to your God within the land." But Moses said, "It is not right to do so, for we shall sacrifice to the LORD our God what is an abomination to the Egyptians. If we sacrifice what is an abomination to the Egyptians before their eyes, will they not then stone us? We must go a three days' journey into the wilderness and sacrifice to the LORD our God as He commands us."



Pharaoh wants relief

■ Exodus 8:28, 29

And Pharaoh said, "I will let you go, that you may sacrifice to the LORD your God in the wilderness; only you shall not go very far away. Make supplication for me." Then Moses said, "Behold, I am going out from you, and I shall make supplication to the LORD that the swarms of insects may depart from Pharaoh, from his servants, and from his people tomorrow; only do not let Pharaoh deal deceitfully again in not letting the people go to sacrifice to the LORD."



Pharaoh Lied

■ Exodus 8:30 - 32

So Moses went out from Pharaoh and made supplication to the LORD. And the LORD did as Moses asked, and removed the swarms of insects from Pharaoh, from his servants and from his people; not one remained. But Pharaoh hardened his heart this time also, and he did not let the people go.



The fifth plague – Egyptian cattle die

■ **Exodus 9:1 - 3**

Then the LORD said to Moses, “Go to Pharaoh and speak to him, ‘Thus says the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, Let My people go, that they may serve Me. For if you refuse to let them go, and continue to hold them, behold, the hand of the LORD will come with a very severe pestilence on your livestock which are in the field, on the horses, on the donkeys, on the camels, on the herds, and on the flocks.’”



Again Israel is spared

■ **Exodus 9:4, 5**

But the LORD will make a distinction between the livestock of Israel and the livestock of Egypt, so that nothing will die of all that belongs to the sons of Israel. And the LORD set a definite time, saying, “Tomorrow the LORD will do this thing in the land.”



Miracles of timing, decimation, & protection

■ **Exodus 9:6, 7**

So the LORD did this thing on the morrow, and all the livestock of Egypt died; but of the livestock of the sons of Israel, not one died. And Pharaoh sent, and behold, there was not even one of the livestock of Israel dead. But the heart of Pharaoh was hardened, and he did not let the people go.



The sixth plague: boils

■ **Exodus 9:8, 9**

Then the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "Take for yourselves handfuls of soot from a kiln, and let Moses throw it toward the sky in the sight of Pharaoh. And it will become fine dust over all the land of Egypt, and will become boils breaking out with sores on man and beast through all the land of Egypt."



The learned men no longer oppose Moses

■ **Exodus 9:10, 11**

So they took soot from a kiln, and stood before Pharaoh; and Moses threw it toward the sky, and it became boils breaking out with sores on man and beast. And the magicians could not stand before Moses because of the boils, for the boils were on the magicians as well as on all the Egyptians.



This time God hardens Pharaoh's heart

■ **Exodus 9:12**

And the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he did not listen to them, just as the Lord had spoken to Moses.



God's self revelation through His deeds

■ **Exodus 9:13, 14**

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Rise up early in the morning and stand before Pharaoh and say to him, 'Thus says the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, Let My people go, that they may serve Me. For this time I will send all My plagues on you and your servants and your people, so that you may know that there is no one like Me in all the earth.'"



God let Pharaoh live in order to display His own person and attributes

■ **Exodus 9:15, 16**

"For if by now I had put forth My hand and struck you and your people with pestilence, you would then have been cut off from the earth. But, indeed, for this cause I have allowed you to remain, in order to show you My power, and in order to proclaim My name through all the earth."



The seventh plague: hail

■ **Exodus 9:17, 18**

"Still you exalt yourself against My people by not letting them go. Behold, about this time tomorrow, I will send a very heavy hail, such as has not been seen in Egypt from the day it was founded until now."



Even in judgment, God shows mercy

■ **Exodus 9:19**

"Now therefore send, bring your livestock and whatever you have in the field to safety. Every man and beast that is found in the field and is not brought home, when the hail comes down on them, will die."



Those who believed God's Word took action

■ **Exodus 9:20, 21**

The one among the servants of Pharaoh who feared the word of the LORD made his servants and his livestock flee into the houses; but he who paid no regard to the word of the LORD left his servants and his livestock in the field.



Egypt judged and Israel spared

■ **Exodus 9:22 - 26**

- Moses stretches out his staff
- The worst hail in Egypt's history falls
- Israel is not touched



Under duress, Pharaoh confesses sin

■ **Exodus 9:27, 28**

Then Pharaoh sent for Moses and Aaron, and said to them, "I have sinned this time; the Lord is the righteous one, and I and my people are the wicked ones. Make supplication to the Lord, for there has been enough of God's thunder and hail; and I will let you go, and you shall stay no longer."



Hard hearted Pharaoh

■ **Exodus 9:29 - 35**

- Pharaoh doesn't really fear God
- Moses prays and the hail stops
- Pharaoh's heart was hardened



Applications

- 1) To avoid the judgment of hardening, pay attention to the evidence.
- 2) Fear the Word of the Lord and take action.
- 3) Avoid seeking temporary salvation from circumstances without submitting to God.



1) To avoid the judgment of hardening, pay attention to the evidence.

■ **Romans 1:21a, 28**

For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God, or give thanks; . . .
And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper,



1) To avoid the judgment of hardening, pay attention to the evidence.

Paul's chiastic structure in Romans 1:28

They "do not approve" (dokimazo_) . . . God

God . . . Gives them "disapproved" (adokimos) mind



1) To avoid the judgment of hardening, pay attention to the evidence.

■ **Psalms 81:11, 12**

"But My people did not listen to My voice;
And Israel did not obey Me. So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their heart, To walk in their own devices."



2) Fear the Word of the Lord and take action.

■ **Matthew 7:24**

Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine, and acts upon them, may be compared to a wise man, who built his house upon the rock.



3) Avoid seeking salvation from circumstances without submitting to God.

■ **John 5:14, 15**

Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "Behold, you have become well; do not sin anymore, so that nothing worse may befall you." The man went away, and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.