

Exodus Chapter 09 Commentary

Ex 9:1 ¶ "Then the LORD said unto Moses, Go in unto Pharaoh, and tell him, Thus saith the LORD God of the Hebrews, Let my people go, that they may serve me. 2 For if thou refuse to let them go, and wilt hold them still, 3 Behold, the hand of the LORD is upon thy cattle which is in the field, upon the horses, upon the asses, upon the camels, upon the oxen, and upon the sheep: there shall be a very grievous murrain. 4 And the LORD shall sever between the cattle of Israel and the cattle of Egypt: and there shall nothing die of all that is the children's of Israel. 5 And the LORD appointed a set time, saying, Tomorrow the LORD shall do this thing in the land. 6 And the LORD did that thing on the morrow, and all the cattle of Egypt died: but of the cattle of the children of Israel died not one. 7 And Pharaoh sent, and, behold, there was not one of the cattle of the Israelites dead. And the heart of Pharaoh was hardened, and he did not let the people go."

The fifth plague is the plague of murrain upon the cattle, which includes horses, asses, camels, oxen, and sheep. We are not told exactly what the murrain is. The Strong's Concordance definition is *plague or pestilence that destroys*. We do know that it was epidemic upon the cattle of Egypt, and it caused them to die. God continues to separate his people from the Egyptians by sending the plague upon the Egyptians only.

8 ¶ "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. 9 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. 10 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. 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. 12 And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh, and he hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had spoken unto Moses."

The sixth plague is the plague of boils and blains upon man and beast. We notice; the magicians of Pharaoh are no longer involved. Since, the last plague was upon them also, they are out of the picture. This time the magicians are personally afflicted by the plague, and they flee from the presence of Moses. Now it is only the hand of God at work.

We pause here to point out: did you notice; the magicians of Egypt were not able to undo any of the miracles, or plagues, and cause them to stop? Even when the staff of Moses turned into a serpent, and they made their staves turn to serpents also, Moses's staff swallowed theirs up, leaving them defenseless. I suspect; Pharaoh now understands; his magicians are nothing more than con artist, and he no longer has any faith, or trust, in them. The magicians will not be mentioned again in the plagues. We do not know if they all died, or what became of them.

Re 16:2; 1 ¶ "And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth. 2 And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image."

We point out that God has made the distinction between his people and the Egyptians, and the plagues are now upon the Egyptians only. This is consistent with the plagues in Revelation; as we see in this reference, the plague was upon those who had the mark of the beast. These that are plagued are not God's chosen people. God has made a difference between his people and the devil's people.

13 ¶ "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. 14 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. 15 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. 16 And in very deed for this cause have I raised thee up, for to shew in thee my power; and that my name may be declared throughout all the earth. 17 As yet exaltest thou thyself against my people, that thou wilt not let them go?"

God sends Moses to tell Pharaoh: up to this point I have just been playing with you. Now, I am going to bring the fulness of my wrath upon you, and it shall break the hearts of all the Egyptians. Moses tells Pharaoh: God has raised Pharaoh up, and set him upon the throne of Egypt, for the very purpose of manifesting to Pharaoh, to Egypt, and to the whole world, that he is truly God of heaven and earth, and there is none like him in power and majesty.

18 "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. 19 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. 20 He that feared the word of the LORD among the servants of Pharaoh made his servants and his cattle flee into the houses: 21 And he that regarded not the word of the LORD left his servants and his cattle in the field. 22 ¶ 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. 23 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. 24 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. 25 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. 26 Only in the land of Goshen, where the children of Israel were, was there no hail."

The seventh plague is hail. Such hail as destroyed every living thing that was above ground in Egypt. Again, the land of Goshen, where God's people are, is separated and does not suffer the plague. We notice that some, of the Egyptians, are starting to believe the Lord, and they do as instructed. They keep their people and cattle inside, so they are not killed in the plague.

Re 16:21; 17 ¶ "And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done. 18 And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great. 19 And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath. 20 And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. 21 And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great."

These plagues are a reminder to us: the plagues of Egypt are descriptive, of what will happen at the end of time, when God brings judgment upon earth for the very last time. The great devastations that God will bring upon mankind, to manifest and make mankind know, there is a God in heaven, who is Lord over all.

27 And Pharaoh sent, and called for Moses and Aaron, and said unto them, I have sinned this time: the LORD is righteous, and I and my people are wicked. 28 Intreat the LORD (for it is enough) that there be no more mighty thunderings and hail; and I will let you go, and ye shall stay no longer. 29 And Moses said unto him, As soon as I am gone out of the city, I will spread abroad my hands unto the LORD; and the thunder shall cease, neither shall there be any more hail; that thou mayest know how that the earth is the LORD'S. 30 But as for thee and thy servants, I know that ye will not yet fear the LORD God. 31 And the flax and the barley was smitten: for the barley was in the ear, and the flax was balled. 32 But the wheat and the rye were not smitten: for they were not grown up. 33 And Moses went out of the city from Pharaoh, and spread abroad his hands unto the LORD: and the thunders and hail ceased, and the rain was not poured upon the earth. 34 And when Pharaoh saw that the rain and the hail and the thunders were ceased, he sinned yet more, and hardened his heart, he and his servants. 35 And the heart of Pharaoh was hardened, neither would he let the children of Israel go; as the LORD had spoken by Moses."

Pharaoh now admits; he and his people are sinners and God is righteous. Pharaoh asks for a reprieve from the plague. Moses tells Pharaoh: I will stop the plague, but I know you will still not let God's people go, because

of the hardness of your heart. I know that you do not really fear the Lord, you are only sorry about the plagues you are suffering under.

As we think of all that has transpired in Egypt at this point; we understand that Egypt has been decimated by the plagues. Most of their cattle and crops are destroyed, and many people have died. However, we point out; it is not only the heart of Pharaoh that is hardened, it is the heart of his servants also.

This explains to us why the unsaved world is not receptive, to the preaching of the gospel Jesus Christ. Not only has their leader, the antichrist, hardened his heart against God; but those, who are servant to him, have hardened their hearts also.

This reminds the children of God: we are to be thankful to God, that God has intervened in our lives, and has humbled our hearts in servant obedience to him, in the work of regeneration. Thanks, and praise to God the Father, and God the Son, for sending God the Holy Ghost to do an effectual work in our hearts and minds. Hallelujah! Amen!