

The Journey
Series 03: Covenant
Week 21: God vs. Pharaoh

We are indebted to [Ethnos360](#) for providing the basis of these lessons

Review (Where We Have Been)

Key Thoughts from Last Week...

- Satan wanted to destroy the Israelites because He knew God had promised a soon-coming male offspring to crush him
 - God **called** Moses to deliver the Israelites from Egyptian slavery (even though he had many objections)
 - God **promised** Moses that He would deliver the Israelites
- Exodus 3:12 (ESV)** He said, “But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.”

BIG Idea

How will God accomplish this seemingly impossible act?

- God is supreme (nothing can diminish His authority. His Word is dependable, and His plans are unstoppable)
- God never fails (Satan has opposed God and convinced man to do the same, but God will never be defeated)
- God is all-powerful (these rebellious scenarios only serve to provide God a backdrop for displaying His mighty power.

Information (What We Need to Know)

The Battle between God and Pharaoh...

- Pharaoh refuses to let Israel go from Egypt (and didn't know the Lord's identity)
- Exodus 5:1 (ESV)** Afterward Moses and Aaron [*Moses' older brother*] went and said to Pharaoh, “Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, ‘Let my people go, that they may hold a feast to me in the wilderness.’” **2** But Pharaoh said, “Who is the Lord, that I should obey his voice and let Israel go? I do not know the Lord, and moreover, I will not let Israel go.”

Instead of the Creator, they worshiped creation, such as the Nile River, the sun, moon, animals and even Pharaoh. Satan had deceived them in the object of their worship.

- God affirms He will keep His promises (land, nation, leader); *Israel doubts*
Exodus 6:1 (ESV) But the Lord said to Moses, “Now you shall see what **I will** do to Pharaoh; for with a strong hand he will send them out, and with a strong hand he will drive them out of his land.” **6** Say therefore to the people of Israel, ‘I am the Lord, and **I will bring you out** from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and **I will deliver you** from slavery to them, and **I will redeem you** with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment. **7 I will take you to be my people**, and **I will be your God**, and you shall know that I am the Lord your God, who has brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. **8 I will bring you into the land** that I swore to give to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. **I will give it to you** for a possession. I am the Lord.” **9** Moses spoke thus to the people of Israel, but they did not listen to Moses, because of their broken spirit and harsh slavery.
- God sends 9 plagues on Egypt (Exodus 7-10); *Israel protected*
 - ✓ Summary of plagues
Nile River to blood; plagues of frogs, lice (gnats), and flies; Egyptians’ horses, cattle, sheep, camels, and donkeys became sick. Egyptians had terrible boils; Destructive hailstorm; a plague of locusts; three days of total darkness.
 - ✓ Meaning of plagues
Each plague was an attack on an Egyptian god. The Egyptians worshiped the Nile River (water into blood). They worshiped the sun (three days darkness).
- Pharaoh hardens his heart with each plague and refuses to let Israel go
 - ✓ Pharaoh and Egypt could have been saved if they had obeyed
God would have taught Pharaoh and his people the truth if they had been willing to listen. But Pharaoh refused to listen to God’s message through Moses.
 - ✓ Pharaoh became angrier after the 9th plague and threatened Moses
Exodus 10:28 (ESV) Then Pharaoh said to him, “Get away from me; take care never to see my face again, for on the day you see my face you shall die.”
- God sent a final plague (10th); *Israel prepares*
Exodus 11:1 (ESV) The Lord said to Moses, “Yet one plague more I will bring upon Pharaoh and upon Egypt. Afterward he will let you go from here. When he lets you go, he will drive you away completely. **4** So Moses said, “Thus says the Lord: ‘About midnight I will go out in the midst of Egypt, **5** and every firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die... **6** There shall be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as there has never been, nor ever will be again. **7** But not a dog shall growl against any of the people of Israel, either man or beast, that you may know that the Lord makes a distinction between Egypt and Israel.’”

How would Israel prepare for the death of the firstborn?

- ✓ Each home was to choose a lamb without blemish (10th day)

Exodus 12:3 (ESV) Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household. **5** Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats...

- ✓ The lamb would be killed (14th day)

Exodus 12:6 (ESV) ...and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.

Reminder of Adam and Eve clothed, and ram being sacrificed in place of Isaac

- ✓ The blood of the lamb would be placed on the lintel and doorposts of the home

Exodus 12:7 (ESV) Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it.

- ✓ They were to stay in their home (a way to trust that the blood would protect)

Exodus 12:22 (ESV) None of you shall go out of the door of his house until the morning. **23** ...the Lord will pass through to strike the Egyptians, and when he sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the Lord will pass over the door and will not allow the destroyer to enter your houses to strike you.

- ✓ Those who believed and obeyed would be protected

Exodus 12:12 (ESV) For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. **13** The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And **when I see the blood, I will pass over you**, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt. **14** "This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the Lord; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast." **28** Then the people of Israel went and did so...

"Rescue from the angel of death didn't happen by a prayer or a fasting or a good work; it was accomplished by a life given on behalf of others." – David Guzik

Application (What We Need to Do)

What happened to the Egyptians and Israelites?

- *Egyptians* experienced the death of every firstborn

Exodus 12:29 (ESV) At midnight the Lord struck down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of the livestock. **30** And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he and all his servants and all the Egyptians. And there was a great cry in Egypt, for there was not a house where someone was not dead.

- *Israelites* were spared this plague and Pharaoh told them to leave Egypt

Exodus 12:31 Then he summoned Moses and Aaron by night and said, “Up, go out from among my people, both you and the people of Israel; and go, serve the Lord, as you have said..”