

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 07 Mar..... Ex 1-4..... Compassionate Action
- 2) 14 Mar..... Ex 5-10..... **Divine Purpose**
- 3) 21 Mar..... Ex 11-13..... Amazing Deliverance
- 4) 28 Mar..... Ex 13-15..... Persevering Faith
- 5) 04 Apr..... Luke 24..... Easter Sunday
- 6) 11 Apr..... Ex 15-18..... Tested Devotion
- 7) 18 Apr..... Ex 19-24..... What Are Your Ground Rules
- 8) 25 Apr..... Ex 25-31..... Why do You Worship?
- 9) 02 May..... Ex 32-34..... What If You Falter?
- 10) 09 May..... Ex 35-40..... How Do You Contribute?
- 11) 16 May..... Lev 1-16..... Do Right When You Do Wrong
- 12) 23 May..... Lev 17-22..... Stay Away from Perverted Practices
- 13) 30 May..... Lev 23-27..... Show Others Godly Grace

INTRODUCTION

- God is a Miracle-working-God, but His miracles do not need to break the Laws of Physical Science
 - ♦ God can providentially use earthquakes, tsunamis, fire, tornadoes, famine & disease, war, etc to tear down old nations and build up new ones
 - ♦ God probably used natural events providentially “controlled” to bring the plagues upon Egypt
 - ♦ If God were to break the laws of physics on a daily basis then we could not trust our natural world to be reliable. For example, if the Sun were to stand still every other day or rivers were to stop flowing because some Christians somewhere prayed for such events so a friend could believe we could not trust any natural law
- Who hardened Pharaoh’s heart?
 - ♦ 10x by God (4:21; 7:3; 9:12; 10:1, 20, 27; 11:10; 14:4,8,17)
 - ♦ 10x by Pharaoh (7:13, 14, 22; 8:15, 19, 32; 9:7,34,35; 14:5)
 - ♦ Either way, God gave Pharaoh a choice to comply, so in the end, Pharaoh is held accountable for his actions

Passage	Comments
Ex 8	Plague #2 – Frogs.....8:1-15 • Frogs leave the polluted rivers in droves Plague #3 & #4 – Gnats & Insects8:16-32 • Gnats & Insects swarm due to frog carcasses (gnats) and frogs not eating them
Ex 9	Plague #5 – Egyptian Livestock Die 9:1-7 • Israeli livestock were spared (possibly due to distance from the disease or better sanitation) Plague #6 – Boils9:8-17 • It could’ve been chicken pox or shingles Plague #7 – Hail9:18-35 • Icy hail and fiery embers are common fallout after a major volcanic eruption
Ex 10	Plague #8 – Locusts..... 10-20 • 10:7 – the Egyptians are wearing down Plague #9 – Darkness.....10:21-29 • The last straw, yet Pharaoh’s heart gets harder

CONCLUDING REMARKS

- It is possible God used the eruption of Mt Thera on the Greek island of Santorini (~1500BC) in the Mediterranean Sea to deliver the plagues on Egypt and even lead to the parting of the Red Sea via a tsunami
http://www.grahamphillips.net/Books/act_new.htm#country
- By providentially using natural events instead of violating His established physical laws of the universe to work miracles and wonders, God allows people to have wiggle room not to be forced to believe in His omniscient power

NEXT WEEK:

- Exodus 11-13 – The last plague and the march out of Egypt

Passage	Comments
Ex 5	Jewish-built structures • v7 – straw is removed The Jews were not tasked to build any pyramids, since few if any pyramids were made of straw/mud/clay; but they were made to build forts and other structures to hamper armies coming from the northeast Principle to Live By • Things will get worse before they get better Questions • Why would God wait 430 years? • Why would God invoke 10 plagues instead of starting with Plague #10?
Ex 6	Principle to Live By • 6:9 – It is hard for people to listen even to the Gospel message when they are in despair Aaron’s Genealogy is Recorded • 6:14-26 – Uhm! It must be important
Ex 7	Magic vs Miracle • 7:12 – “Aaron’s staff swallowed up their staffs” • 7:13 – Pharaoh’s heart was hardened Even if one were to rise from the dead this would not convince those who don’t want to be convinced Lk 6:31 Plague #1 – Water turned to Blood 7:14-25 • 7:22 = The magicians could also duplicate this • 7:23 – Pharaoh had no concern for this

The Back Pew – Jeff Larson



THE FIRST NINE PLAGUES Ex. 7:14-10:20
water into blood, frogs, gnats, flies, sick animals, boils, hail, locusts, and darkness.