### LESSONS THIS QUARTER

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### INTRODUCTION

- God is a supernatural-miracle-working-God, and He is so powerful and sovereign He does not always need to break the physical Laws of Nature and Science (which He created) to work a wonder that would amaze us earth-bound, non-omniscient clumps of clay
- God often uses natural phenomena such as earthquakes, fire, tsunamis, tornadoes, war, famine & disease, and even plagues of all sorts to tear down old nations and build up new ones
- It is very possible God providentially used natural events, such as the eruption of Mt Thera on the Greek island of Santorini (~1500BC) in the Mediterranean, to deliver, many, if not all the plagues on Egypt, including the parting & drying of the Red Sea.
- The key difference between a supernatural and a providential event is the element of time. Recall that it took all night for the Red Sea to dry up for the millions to cross on dry ground. A supernatural event would have been instantaneous.
- Consider this. By providentially using natural events instead of violating His established physical laws of the universe to work supernatural miracles and wonders, God allows people to have wiggle room not to be forced to believe in Him.

###孓3 Sept 2017

#### Rod’s Sunday School Lesson

**Passage**

**Principle: Things Get Worse Before They Get Better**

- v.3. Why did Moses & Aaron ask for a 3-day trip, when they knew God intended to permanently free Israel? Since it caused extra grief and work for Israel, did they lie and speak their own words instead of God’s words? (i.e., they took matters into their own hands)? \(\text{cf }\) Ex 3:8; 8:27
- vv.7-21. 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 to hamper invading armies
- vv.22-23. Do we ever make similar complaints to God as Moses did? Why me, Lord? Where are you, Lord? Things are getting worse, Lord? This is not my fault, Lord. What are you going to do about it, Lord?
- What is God obligated to do for us? \(\text{Ps }\) 106:8

#### Examples:

- **"Yud" – "Y"**
  - Outstretched Arm or Hand
  - "Hey" – "H" Look or Behold
  - "Vav" – "W" Tent Peg or Nail

- **Principle for Consideration.** With change often comes a “Valley of Despair” where things get worse before they get better. This is why people oppose change. And when God is involved with changing something, there are lessons to be learned by His people and by any oppressors.

- **The Greatest Lesson Everyone Will Learn One Day is:** “My name will be GREAT among the nations” \(\text{Mal }\) 1:11

#### Exodus 6:3

**Judge of All the Earth** \(\text{Gen }\) 18:25
- King of Kings, Lord of Lords \(\text{Rev }\) 19:16
- Lord God Almighty \(\text{Ps }\) 89:8

### For more Names of God, go to link: Names of God

**His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace** \(\text{Isaiah }\) 9:6

God reveals His character often in His many names. He is called by 206 unique names throughout the Bible.

- **Some of the More Familiar Names of God**
  - Ancient Hebrew is a pictorial language read from right to left
  - Ancient Hebrew:
  - God Almighty (El Shaddai) \(\text{Gen }\) 17:1; Ex 6:3
  - God Most High (El Elyon) \(\text{Gen }\) 14:18
  - God of Peace \(\text{1Thes }\) 5:23
  - God of Retribution \(\text{Jer }\) 51:56
  - God of Truth \(\text{Is }\) 65:16
  - God Who Sees (El Roi) \(\text{Gen }\) 16:13

**JEHOVAH (יְהוָּה YHWH or Yahweh)** \(\text{Exodus }\) 6:3

- Judge of All the Earth \(\text{Gen }\) 18:25
- King of Kings, Lord of Lords \(\text{Rev }\) 19:16
- Lord God Almighty \(\text{Ps }\) 89:8
- Lord Our Maker (Jehovah-Hoseem) \(\text{Ps }\) 95:6
- Lord Who Heals (Jehovah-Rophe) \(\text{Ex }\) 15:26
- Lord Will Provide (Jehovah-Jireh) \(\text{Gen }\) 22:14
- Unknown Name (Only Jesus knows this name) \(\text{Rev }\) 19:12

YHWH (Yahweh) is portrayed below in ancient Hebrew.

(Do you see the obvious link to the Cross, which seemed hidden to all till Jesus came to die, and to Jews today?)
October 21, 2017

Rod's Sunday School Lesson
SS-Exodus-5-10-2017

Exodus 7

Why Don’t Jews Say G-d’s Name?

According to Rabbi Baruch S. Davidson, Jews have an absolute obsession with avoiding uttering G-d’s name. They don’t even spell it out fully when writing the English word for G-d. Actually, Jews are careful not to pronounce G-d’s names except when reading the Torah or prayers. Their caution is founded on their understanding of Commandment #3: “You shall not take His name in vain.” (source: http://www.chabad.org/)

Principle: Discerning Miracles, Magic, & Demonism

• vv3-5. Who hardened Pharaoh’s heart?
  - 10x by God (4:21; 7:3; 9:12; 10:1; 20:27; 11:10; 14; 14:8, 17)
  - 10x by Pharaoh (7:13, 14, 22; 8:15; 19; 32; 9:34, 35; 14:5)
• God gave Pharaoh a choice to comply. So, in the end, Pharaoh is held accountable for his actions
• God never acts unpredictably or without a purpose. Here, God intends to make Himself known to all of Egypt

• God’s Miraculous Wonders. Only God can work creative wonders – Ex nihilo (Latin, “out of nothing”) Ps 72:18
  - God performed His supernatural wonders for shock & awe purposes predominantly during 5 specific epochs: Creation week (6 days), Exodus (~40 yrs), Elijah/Elisha (~40 years), Jesus/Apostolic era (~40 yrs). In the future, Rev 11 shows 2 Witnesses working supernatural wonders for 1,290 days

• The rest of history, God works providentially, which is considerably more wondrous to ponder how He aligns people, nations, and events (earthly & astronomical) to accomplish His will down to the microsecond without turning anyone into a robot & without violating natural laws
• Are there exceptions of supernatural works outside of these 5 epochs? Yes, but they are rare, they occurred during the time of a prophet or judge, and not something we can bank on for our day. Examples: events in Daniel’s day; Sampson’s strength; and Isaiah’s extended day

• Man’s Magical Wonders. Pure tricks or slight of hand to deceive or amuse an audience.

• Demonic Wonders. The best Satan & his minions can do are called “lying wonders” (2Thess 2:9) for the sole purpose to deceive and destroy – and only with God’s approval. Satan cannot create something out of nothing as God can. Yet, his deceptive powers, signs, & wonders are good enough to deceive the world. 1Cor 13:1-16:15

Exodus 8

The 10 Plagues mapped to the Gods of Egypt

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<td>Water to blood</td>
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<td>Blood in all alike</td>
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CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS / CONSIDERATIONS

• God prefers that people, kings, and pharaohs heed His warnings in the 1st time. Our disobedience does not prevent God from making His Name known & accomplishing His will on schedule. We only hurt ourselves and those we oversee. Lesson to be learned: Always obey the 1st time. If not, don’t presume God will give you more chances to repent. Consider Ananias & Sapphira (Acts 5:1-9)

NEXT WEEK: Exodus 11-12. The last plague and the start of a new Calendar where the Passover, which points to the Cross, is initiated.

RESOURCES: Check out the following link: Exodus Decoded
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W8RxXBOHnIt=4m30s

Disclaimer: This is a secular rendition of various speculations of what could have happened to incite the Jewish Exodus from Egypt, but see if you can discern what is biblically feasible and not so biblical about it.

- Do not lie
- Things can’t get worse

OK, I was wrong.

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