

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: Reaching Out to Leaders Who Can Change the World.

October 2013

Moses: Learning To Lead God's Way

Lesson #5: Plagues That Preach

INTRODUCTION

What do you think most people's reaction would be to a miracle? Why?

OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION

Note: Notice that each plague affected all the Egyptians and none of them softened the Pharaoh's heart. The first nine can be arranged in three groups: harassed people (1-3), caused pain (4-6) and terrified them (7-9). Each was directed at a specific Egyptian deity.

Read Exodus 7

1. Why do you think God initiated the plagues? vv. 7:3-5; Joshua 2:10-11
2. Why was the Nile an important place to start the lesson?

Read Exodus 8

3. The second plague (frogs) affected the Egyptians' perception of the goddess Heqet, the goddess of fertility and childbirth. How do you think the magicians could duplicate this miracle? Mt 24:24
4. What effect did plague three (gnats) have on the magicians? (19)
5. The Egyptians thought the gods had no power outside of their own territory. How did plague four (flies) affect the Israelites in the land of Goshen? (22,23)
6. How did the Israelites feel about Moses now? About God?
7. How did this plague affect Pharaoh? (25, 28)
8. Why didn't Moses give in to the Pharaoh's suggestions?
9. Why do you think the Pharaoh was so stubborn?
10. What counterfeits to God's power are in today's world? How do they affect our faith?
11. When God judges, he does a thorough job. What light do the plagues shine on the eternal fate of those who stubbornly refuse to turn to God? Ro 1:24-28, Jn 3:17,18
12. Is God singling out the Israelites because they are the "best" or because they are chosen? Why?
13. How does that make you feel about *your* relationship with God?

APPLICATION

Who do you know that needs to hear about God's judgment, power and love?

We may think of judgment as an ugly word, especially in our "overtolerant" society. But God's judgments reflect His flawless justice, His perfect standards of right and wrong. The plagues in Exodus 7-10 clearly and graphically display His condemnation of wrong and his deliverance of the oppressed who look to Him for help.

Moses, by Chuck Swindoll, p. 87