

# Righteous Judgment

## Some tough issues to deal with

- Are the judgments harsh for a loving God?
- Who hardens the heart?
- Where do you live, whose camp are you in?
- Guilt, fear, or conviction?
- What is the point?

## Review

### Exodus 7

- **7:1-7** The plan.
  - The point is v5.
  - The coming plagues are an attack on the gods of Egypt. Pharaoh was seen as the chief of the gods, controlling the other gods.
  - God is going to show who is in charge. **God is loving and just. Everyone gets what they deserve. Anything else is mercy and grace.**
- **7:8-13** The opening games. Not what Moses and Aaron expected.
- **7:14-25** Nile to blood.
  - A warning is given.
  - Nile. Source of life, food, water, cleaning, commerce.
  - An attack on the god of the Nile. Not "as" blood, actual blood everywhere.
  - **7:22** The priests could duplicate, indicating to pharaoh that he was still in control. But why didn't they turn the water back?
  - Did God do the hardening personally? Did He create the circumstances that did the hardening? Did God just predict it? Did the king do it in response to circumstances? Could he have repented? Was it involuntary?
  - This isn't hard to swallow, but it is hard to wrap our brains around.
    - **God doesn't force anyone to do anything against their will. God is sovereign and has determined everything in advance. All that we can do is deal with what is in front of us at the moment.**
    - From the king's perspective, he had a choice, and he did choose. Even that served the plan of God. Same is true for us today.

### Exodus 8

- **8:1-15** Frogs
  - A warning is given.
  - Frogs worshipped as representative of a god or gods. They couldn't just kill them. God is in control, the king is not.
  - **8:5** At some point all the blood was turned back into water, either by God or natural processes.
  - **8:7** A word on magic. It's real. Lying signs and wonders. Not tricks, real miracles intended to get your attention off of God. But again, why didn't they make the frogs go away?!

- 8:8 The king relents, kinda.
- 8:15 as the LORD said. I'm sure that's for Moses and Aaron.
- 8:16-19 Lice
  - No warning.
  - Egyptians were clean freaks. Would have impacted priests in particular.
  - This time the priests could do nothing.
- 8:20-32 Flies
  - Warning given.
  - 8:22-23 Difference! Will not impact the Hebrews. They are exempt through to the 10th.
    - Where do you live? Who's camp are you in? It should be obvious, not by your style so much as your groove. (emperors new groove quote).
    - People ought to be able to tell because of the power of God's love evident in your life. Exposure to things leaves signs. If you have been exposed to God's love your life will express God's love.
  - Like horse flies.
  - 8:25+ The king tries to offer a compromise.
    - Egypt a type of the world, pharaoh a type of Satan, offering compromise on living your life for Jesus. Watch out for compromise!
    - Don't test how close to the line you can live. Like seeing how close to cheating on your spouse you can get. Where is the love?

## Exodus 9

- 9:1-7 Livestock
  - Warning. Differentiation.
  - Livestock, again Egyptian gods took the forms of animals, or human bodies and animal heads.
- 9:8-12 Boils
  - No warning, probably differentiation
  - Boils an issue of purity and cleanliness, mainly for priests
- 9:13-35
  - Warning, differentiation
  - Hail mingled with fire? Had to be from God.
  - 9:27-28 Guilt, fear, or conviction?
    - Guilt is pressured into the decision, no genuineness behind it.
    - Fear is scared into it because of consequences. Once safe there is still no genuineness behind it.
    - Conviction is a genuine sense of being guilty, of fearing for what you have done, and a desire to change or be changed. Psalm 51:16-17.
  - Again, God vs gods and pharaoh.

## Exodus 10

- 10:1-20 Locusts
  - Warning, most likely differentiation.
  - Even the servants pressure the king, but no genuine repentance.
- 10:21-29 Darkness
  - No warning, differentiation.

- Darkness felt. Not just cloud cover or fog, supernatural something. Attack on Ra, sun god, father of pharaohs. Literally could not see the person next to them.
- Sacrifices are an issue because they are embodiment of gods.
- Ever felt light? Not sunshine which we don't feel here anyway. Ever felt the presence of the Spirit?
  - Not contrived emotionalism. Me and 1k kids.
  - Genuine presence of God. Should be, can be a regular thing for us. Others will see it and be drawn to it.

## Wrap up

- Remember, the point of all this is **7:5** (repeated later).
- There are two ways to do this.
  - Judgments. Happened before, will happen again. These judgments will be repeated in the end with the same kinds of results.
  - Being an example of walking in the light. Only possible in Jesus.
- Are you saved? Ever felt, now feeling the conviction of the Spirit? Repentance is the Windex of our soul and the Holy Spirit. It let's the light in and out.
- Who is your heart? Where do you live?
- The Lord wants you to know that He is the Lord, that He loves you, that you have a choice. What are you going to do?