

WEEKLY WORSHIP GUIDE



Exodus 8:1-15--October 20th, 2024

Sermon Recap:

Plagues- Frogs

I. The Gods we Worship

- In each of the plagues, the Lord is challenging Pharaoh's authority and Egypt's belief system.
- V.2-the Lord has decided to dismantle the rule of Egypt by means of frogs.
 - Hept- the goddess of fertility and the giver of life was represented in the image of a squatting frog. Thus, frogs were sacred in Egypt.
 - This is a providential judgment against Egypt.
 - Hept aided the Egyptians in childbirth, serving as a midwife. This is justice for Pharaoh's attempt to use Hebrew midwives to slay Israelite babies.
 - The Lord is swallowing up the Egyptians goddess of fertility and the giver of life. There is none like Him.
- V.7- Once again, the magicians/sorcerers are able to replicate the plague (contributing to the chaos), but are unable to stop it. Pharaoh has had enough.

II. The Prayers we Offer

- V.8-12- Pharaoh turns to Moses, asking him to pray for the frogs to be removed.

a. In Salvation

- Pharaoh acknowledges the Lord (by name) and that he alone sent the plague and he alone has the power to remove the plague.
 - There was no humble repentance, only a request. He exhibited that he knew about God, but did not know God.
 - There was no repentance in Pharaoh's life, so there was no relationship. Therefore, Pharaoh didn't have God's ear. Therefore, Pharaoh didn't have a prayer.
- Salvation starts with prayer.

b. In His Sovereignty

- God is sovereign in prayer. Moses gives Pharaoh the upper hand, asking when he would like the frogs gone.
- Moses cries out in faith to the Lord. Prayer is an expression of faith.
 - He does not pray for Pharaoh or for Egypt, but for the glory of God. His glory is at stake. "Remove the frogs, that your power would be displayed and your name would be made great."
 - Prayer is the means by which God exercises his sovereignty, brings his plans and purposes to fruition.

III. The Mercy we Need

- The Lord has shown Pharaoh a mercy that we all need.
 - There was a warning before the plague. That was mercy.
 - The plague was removed. That was mercy.
- Pharaoh heard the warning and refused. He witnessed the justice in the plague and hardened his heart. When the warning (mercy) was offered again, he refused mercy again.
 - He received mercy and assumed there would always be more. He took mercy for granted, going back on his word and refusing to release the Israelites.
- We, too, take mercy for granted. But like the gradual progression of the plagues, in the same way Jesus washed Judas' feet, there is still time to repent.

Discussion Questions:

- How is God challenging Pharaoh and Egypt?
- How are frogs significant to the Egyptians?
- How was the plagues an act of providential judgment?
- Was Pharaoh's acknowledging of the Lord's name an act of submission? Why or why not?
- What does Pharaoh asking Moses to pray imply about his own faith?
- How did letting Pharaoh choose when the frogs would be removed reveal the power of God?
- How do we make sense of the sovereignty of God the need for and responsibility to pray?
- How is prayer powerful in the life of a believer?
- How did the Lord show mercy to Pharaoh?
- How did Pharaoh respond to the Lord's mercy?

Application:

- How does our culture worship Hekt?
- What false gods are you prone to worship?
- What does your prayer life reveal about your faith?
- How does your prayer life reveal the power and sovereignty of God (current prayers/answered prayers)?
- In what ways has God shown you mercy recently?
- How have you responded to that mercy?

