

029 More Plagues

MEMORY VERSE: "The Lord is in the right" Exodus 9:27

SCRIPTURES: Exodus 9; 10

AIM: To teach about true repentance.

Again God sent Moses to Pharaoh to warn him a disease would come and kill all the animals: cows, horses, camels, donkeys, flocks and herds. But the Israelites' animals would not be touched.

The Lord announced this would happen the next day and it did. But still Pharaoh's mind remained unchanged and he would not let the people leave.

Next God told Moses to take ashes from the stove and throw them in the air right in front of Pharaoh. If he wouldn't listen, God would send boils on the people and animals. Pharaoh didn't listen and the people suffered badly from the boils.

Then God said, "Get up early in the morning and tell Pharaoh I'm going to send a hail storm such as has never happened before. Tell your people to get in their houses or they will die. Of course, if he lets the people go and worship this won't happen. But I will show My power to prove that I am God."

Then God said to Moses, "Point your hand toward heaven and cause the hail to fall throughout all of Egypt. When Moses did this, there was hail and lightning and thunder so terrible it would be hard to describe. Some of the people hurried indoors and were safe; others didn't believe and went outside and were killed.

All of Egypt lay in ruins. Everyone in the fields was killed and trees and crops were ruined. The only place where no hail had fallen was in Goshen where the people of Israel lived.

Wouldn't you think God had sent enough plagues to make Pharaoh listen? But no; Pharaoh's heart was still stubborn.

Moses told Pharaoh God would send locusts that would eat the crops that were left. Pharaoh refused to let the people go even when the ground and everything else was covered with grasshoppers. Even the people in his court said, "Let the people go. Can't you see He has almost ruined us?"

"Well," said Pharaoh to Moses, "who will go?"

"All of us," said Moses. "And our property and animals, too. We will take everything with us."

"Oh no, I won't let you go," said Pharaoh. "The men may go but leave the others."

But after the locusts came, Pharaoh said, "I promise I will let the people go as soon as you get rid of these locusts."

So Moses talked to God and He caused a strong east wind to blow the locusts away.

Of course, Pharaoh changed his mind again. And God sent darkness like black, black night so the people could hardly move.

Now Pharaoh was afraid.

"Go!" he said. "Get your people out of here. I don't want to ever see you again! You may go, but leave your herds behind," Pharaoh added.

"No," said Moses.

Pharaoh should have listened to God! The next plague was the worst one of all.

Pharaoh acknowledged his sin and promised to repent and change, but his actions showed he had not really changed.