

/Let us begin with the fourth lecture on Exodus. / From chapter 7, it records the ten plagues God poured down onto Egypt. / God told Moses that he made Moses like God to Pharaoh.

/Please read verse 1. / Then the LORD said to Moses, "See, I have made you like God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron will be your prophet.

/This meant that God would grant divine authority to Moses. / If one obeys God, he gives such authority to him.

/God was going to show through Moses his salvation, judgment, and divine works.

/If we obey God's commands and do God's works, / he will lift us up and give us power so that we are respected by all people.

/Respecting God's servants and receiving them as if they are angels bring blessings. / Moses was not to become arrogant, even if God made him like God before Pharaoh and the Israelites.

/In Numbers 12:3, we can see that Moses was the most humble man on the earth. / God abandons a person when he or she becomes arrogant. / We must be careful that a seed of arrogance does not grow in us.

/Verse 2. / You are to say everything I command you, and your brother Aaron is to tell Pharaoh to let the Israelites go out of his country.

/God's command was simple. / It was for Moses to tell Aaron the things God told Moses. / Then Aaron was to tell it to Pharaoh. / Then God would take care of what came after.

/Works that God commands us may look simple. / It may also look foolish. / Still, obedience brings power. / Worrying and not obeying is disbelief.

/Here, Aaron was not to do the works entrusted to Moses. / Everyone has work entrusted to

him. It is the same for the church. / Each pastor has his job, as well as elders and deacons.

/Each member has his own job, and it is important to maintain that order. / The politics in the church refer to church politics. / Church politics is based on God's politics.

/God's politics is a good one that is mentioned in the Bible. / The politics the world and other people do is one that is based on greed. / God's church should always do good politics.

/The best way to follow the Bible. / Then the church will be peaceful and full of God's grace.

/Verses 3-4. / But I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and though I multiply my miraculous signs and wonders in Egypt, he will not listen to you. Then I will lay my hand on Egypt and with mighty acts of judgment I will bring out my divisions, my people the Israelites.

/God said that he was going to harden Pharaoh's heart. / Pharaoh would not let the Israelites go. / Still, God told Moses to go to Pharaoh and tell him what he said.

/This shows how little we should care whether people will listen to us or not. / When God said he was going to harden Pharaoh's heart, / it did not mean that he was going to make a soft heart into a hardened heart.

/Naturally, all people have hardened hearts in God's eyes. / Therefore, whenever God entrusts work to someone, he makes his heart meek and soft.

/What God meant when he said that he was going to harden Pharaoh's heart / is that he was going to leave Pharaoh's heart as it was. / God was going to leave Pharaoh's heart hardened as it was by human nature.

/God did not mean that he was going to harden Pharaoh's heart on purpose. / God called the Israelites his division, his people. / Israel is God's division and his people.

/God's division fights the good fight of faith. / What tools are used in battle? / First, God's

commands. / Then believers have to just go out and fight with it.

/“We are weak, unskilled, and unwise.” We do not need to say such words. / When we move forward with obedient hearts, we will surely be victorious.

/Verse 5. /And the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD when I stretch out my hand against Egypt and bring the Israelites out of it."

/The Egyptians will at last know that God is the LORD when he stretched out his hand against the Egyptians and delivered the Israelites. / In the eyes of the Israelites, God was the God of salvation.

/To the Egyptians, God was the God of judgment. / To Moses and Aaron, God was the God of power. / The LORD is the God of covenant.

/Verses 6-7. / Moses and Aaron did just as the LORD commanded them. Moses was eighty years old and Aaron eighty-three when they spoke to Pharaoh.

/Moses and Aaron obeyed God's commands as it was. / Aaron was the older brother of Moses. / He was older by three years. / Still, Aaron served Moses well. / He respected God's order.

/A pastor may be younger than believers. / However, believers must have obedient hearts and know that God appointed the pastor. / Of course, since pastors are human, they have flaws in their personalities. / Still, God helps when believers support pastors.

/Verses 8-12. / The LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "When Pharaoh says to you, 'Perform a miracle,' then say to Aaron, 'Take your staff and throw it down before Pharaoh,' and it will become a snake." So Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and did just as the LORD commanded. Aaron threw his staff down in front of Pharaoh and his officials, and it became a snake. Pharaoh then summoned wise men and sorcerers, and the Egyptian magicians also did the same things by their secret arts: Each one threw down his staff and it became a snake. But Aaron's staff swallowed up their staffs.

/God told Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and tell Aaron to throw down his staff." / "Pharaoh will tell you to perform a miracle." / When Pharaoh said this, Aaron was to throw down his staff.

/Thus, Moses obeyed and threw down the staff, and it turned into a snake. / Yet, the magicians did the same thing. /The magicians had the ability to turn their staffs into snakes.

/However, the snake of Moses' staff ate the Egyptians' snakes. /God's works are more powerful than the works of man.

/Verse 13. / Yet Pharaoh's heart became hard and he would not listen to them, just as the LORD had said.

/Pharaoh's heart became hard and he did not listen to Moses.

/Verses 14-15. / Then the LORD said to Moses, "Pharaoh's heart is unyielding; he refuses to let the people go. Go to Pharaoh in the morning as he goes out to the water. Wait on the bank of the Nile to meet him, and take in your hand the staff that was changed into a snake.

/God knew that Pharaoh's heart would be hardened and that he would not let the people go. / God told Moses to go to Pharaoh in the morning.

/Then he would meet Pharaoh at the Nile. / Moses then went to the Nile with the staff of God to meet Pharaoh. / When he obeyed the first command, it seemed that God's work was failing.

/Pharaoh did not obey God's word. / Regardless, Moses' job was to continue to obey.

/Verses 16-18. / Then say to him, 'The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, has sent me to say to you: Let my people go, so that they may worship me in the desert. But until now you have not listened. This is what the LORD says: By this you will know that I am the LORD: With the staff that is in my hand I will strike the water of the Nile, and it will be changed into blood. The fish in the Nile will die, and the river will stink; the Egyptians will not be able to drink its water.'

/Moses told Pharaoh, "Let my people go, that they may serve God in the desert." / "With If you do not let my people go, I will strike the water of the Nile, and it will be changed into blood."

/"The fish in the Nile will die, and the Egyptians will not be able to drink its water." / There are kids who do not listen to what they are taught. / There are kids who never listen, no matter how many times we repeat ourselves.

/It is the same for God's word that is taught in the church. / Hardly anybody becomes upright after being taught once. / There are those who do not obey even after decades of believing in Jesus.

/Obedience can be God-given grace. / Children do not encounter troubles if they obey their parents. / They are not disciplined with rods.

/A child is more likely to succeed in the future if he listens well to his parents and teachers. / This was the same for Pharaoh. / Things would have been better if he listened to God's words and did what Moses commanded.

/Verse 19. / The LORD said to Moses, "Tell Aaron, "Take your staff and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt-- over the streams and canals, over the ponds and all the reservoirs"-- and they will turn to blood. Blood will be everywhere in Egypt, even in the wooden buckets and stone jars."

/God commanded Moses and Aaron, "Stretch your staff over the waters of Egypt, over the streams, canals, ponds, and reservoirs."

/God said that the waters would turn to blood. / Even the waters in jars would turn into blood.

/Verses 20-21. / Moses and Aaron did just as the LORD had commanded. He raised his staff in the presence of Pharaoh and his officials and struck the water of the Nile, and all the water was changed into blood. The fish in the Nile died, and the river smelled so bad that the Egyptians could not drink its water. Blood was everywhere in Egypt.

/When Moses and Aaron did as God commanded, all the water turned into blood. / The fish in the water died and the Nile smelled bad. / The body of water that gave life to the people turned into water that brought death upon people.

/People misunderstand that disobedience is okay, but it leads to death. / What seemed like happiness would turn out to be misfortune, / and what seemed to benefit in one's life would bring harm.

/One might think that something is the path to life, but it will turn into the path of destruction. / When believers disobey, they will pass through the valley of the shadow of death.

/Verse 22. / But the Egyptian magicians did the same things by their secret arts, and Pharaoh's heart became hard; he would not listen to Moses and Aaron, just as the LORD had said.

/It seems that Pharaoh's magicians did the same thing. / People can perform magic. / However, what is the difference between God's work and man's work?

/God's work brings life, / while man's work brings death.

/Verses 23-25. /Instead, he turned and went into his palace, and did not take even this to heart. And all the Egyptians dug along the Nile to get drinking water, because they could not drink the water of the river. Seven days passed after the LORD struck the Nile.

/People began to search for drinking water here and there.

/Next, chapter 8. / Chapter 8 is about the plague of frogs, gnats, and flies. / The first plague was water turning into blood. / The second plague was the plague of frogs.

/Please read verses 1-2. / Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and say to him, 'This is what the LORD says: Let my people go, so that they may worship me. If you refuse

to let them go, I will plague your whole country with frogs.

/God told Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and tell him what I say." / God said, "If you refuse to listen to me, I will plague Egypt with frogs.

/Verses 3-6. / The Nile will teem with frogs. They will come up into your palace and your bedroom and onto your bed, into the houses of your officials and on your people, and into your ovens and kneading troughs. The frogs will go up on you and your people and all your officials.'" Then the LORD said to Moses, "Tell Aaron, 'Stretch out your hand with your staff over the streams and canals and ponds, and make frogs come up on the land of Egypt.'" So Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt, and the frogs came up and covered the land.

/God warned Pharaoh that swarms of frogs would come up from the Nile. / It would be in the palace, / in the bedrooms, on beds, / in the houses of servants and people, / and in ovens and kneading troughs. / All of Egypt would be covered with frogs.

/The frog was one of the gods that the Egyptians worshipped. / The god they worshiped brought suffering onto them. / What are the other gods that humans worship?

/Some worship money. / Some worship fame and glory.

/Some parents love their children more than God and worship them. / Yet, these would eventually plague them.

/Verses 7-8. / But the magicians did the same things by their secret arts; they also made frogs come up on the land of Egypt. Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and said, "Pray to the LORD to take the frogs away from me and my people, and I will let your people go to offer sacrifices to the LORD."

/Pharaoh's magicians did the same. / Man can perform wonders as well. / They can do many fascinating things. / Still, they would not be God's work.

/Don't humans make fascinating things? / For example, we made great dams, sent rockets into space, and created extremely detailed machines. / Still, they are not God's works.

/Like such, Pharaoh's magicians caused confusion about God's works through their works. / Yet, there was an important difference between God's work and their work. / They could make the frogs come up from the water, but they could not get rid of it.

/Pharaoh immediately called Moses and Aaron. / He pleaded with them to completely get rid of these frogs. / He said, "If you do so, I will let the Israelites go." / However, Pharaoh was not being sincere.

/Verses 9-11. / Moses said to Pharaoh, "I leave to you the honor of setting the time for me to pray for you and your officials and your people that you and your houses may be rid of the frogs, except for those that remain in the Nile." "Tomorrow," Pharaoh said. Moses replied, "It will be as you say, so that you may know there is no one like the LORD our God. The frogs will leave you and your houses, your officials and your people; they will remain only in the Nile."

/Moses asked Pharaoh, "When do you want the frogs to be gone?" / Pharaoh answered, "Tomorrow."

/Moses did so and the frogs were gone the next day. / The frogs came out of the houses and fields, and they all died.

/Verses 12-14. / After Moses and Aaron left Pharaoh, Moses cried out to the LORD about the frogs he had brought on Pharaoh. And the LORD did what Moses asked. The frogs died in the houses, in the courtyards and in the fields. They were piled into heaps, and the land reeked of them.

/The people then gathered the dead frogs and its bodies were heaped high. / The stench of the dead carcasses smelled.

/The land became miserable because of disobedience towards God. / However, Pharaoh's heart became hardened when he saw that there was relief.



/Verse 15. / But when Pharaoh saw that there was relief, he hardened his heart and would not listen to Moses and Aaron, just as the LORD had said.

/“God, if you do this, I will obey your commands.” / “If you help me, I will do the things I promised I would do.” / However, man boasts about himself when things go well.

/They then forget the promises they made with God. / Believers go before God in times of trouble. / They cry out and weep before him. / However, when God does help them, they forget the works God has done for them.

/Who are these people? / You and I. / We easily forget God’s help. / We all are naturally arrogant people.

/We must be clearly aware of who we are. / God uses weak people like us.

/Verses 16-17. / Then the LORD said to Moses, "Tell Aaron, 'Stretch out your staff and strike the dust of the ground,' and throughout the land of Egypt the dust will become gnats." They did this, and when Aaron stretched out his hand with the staff and struck the dust of the ground, gnats came upon men and animals. All the dust throughout the land of Egypt became gnats.

/God told Moses to bring his staff and order Aaron to strike the dust of the ground. / Then, all the gnats came up from the land of Egypt. / All the dust of the earth became gnats.

/Gnats are similar to fleas. / Some scholars believe they are mosquitos. / Gnats are tiny organisms that plague people.

/Verses 18-19. / But when the magicians tried to produce gnats by their secret arts, they could not. And the gnats were on men and animals. The magicians said to Pharaoh, "This is the finger of God." But Pharaoh's heart was hard and he would not listen, just as the LORD had said.

/Pharaoh's magicians could not imitate this. / They said, "This is the finger of God." / The gnats stuck to men and animals and tormented them.

/The agony they felt was inexpressible. / They could not sleep. / Their skins were all bitten and swollen.

/Verses 20-21. / Then the LORD said to Moses, "Get up early in the morning and confront Pharaoh as he goes to the water and say to him, 'This is what the LORD says: Let my people go, so that they may worship me. If you do not let my people go, I will send swarms of flies on you and your officials, on your people and into your houses. The houses of the Egyptians will be full of flies, and even the ground where they are.

/God told Moses to rise up early and go to Pharaoh. / God told him to tell Pharaoh, "Let my people go."

/God warned, "If you do not let my people go, I will send swarms of flies." / God said that the swarms of flies would fill all the houses of the Egyptians. / These flies are terrifying like beetles.

/Verses 22-23. / "'But on that day I will deal differently with the land of Goshen, where my people live; no swarms of flies will be there, so that you will know that I, the LORD, am in this land. I will make a distinction between my people and your people. This miraculous sign will occur tomorrow.'"

/However, the land of Goshen, where the Israelites lived, would be exempt from the plague. / This showed that the things that were happening were God's works. / God's plagues only fell on the lands where the Egyptians lived.

/Verses 24-25. / And the LORD did this. Dense swarms of flies poured into Pharaoh's palace and into the houses of his officials, and throughout Egypt the land was ruined by the flies. Then Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and said, "Go, sacrifice to your God here in the land."

/God sent great swarms of flies to the Egyptians. / Where did these flies come from? /

Nothing is impossible with God. / The houses of Pharaoh, his officials, and the Egyptians were filled with flies.

/Even before the plague was over, they could bear it no longer. / Then Pharaoh immediately called Moses and Aaron. / Pharaoh told Moses, "Go, sacrifice to your God here in the land." / How did Moses respond?

/Verses 26-27. / But Moses said, "That would not be right. The sacrifices we offer the LORD our God would be detestable to the Egyptians. And if we offer sacrifices that are detestable in their eyes, will they not stone us? We must take a three-day journey into the desert to offer sacrifices to the LORD our God, as he commands us."

/Pharaoh told Moses to offer sacrifices to God in Egypt. /However, Moses refused the offer. / This was the compromise Pharaoh came up with.

/However, God's will was not for people to serve him in Egypt. / The Egyptians hated worshipping God. / Then Moses told him that they would go on a three-day journey outside Egypt and worship God there.

/The world offers compromises as we continue to hold onto our faith. / Our brothers, friends, and acquaintances offer us compromising suggestions. / They tell us, "I will do this, so you compromise your faith a little."

/They say, "If you compromise your faith, I will not withhold my help." / However, one compromise of faith is equal to failure, and God will leave us. / People tell us to yield the truth even when we do work at church.

/They suggest ways to make church more fun. /They want to make the church a fun church, one that is loved by the world. / However, God is not pleased when we accept such compromising suggestions.

/Verse 28. / Pharaoh said, "I will let you go to offer sacrifices to the LORD your God in the desert, but you must not go very far. Now pray for me."

/Pharaoh said, “You must not go very far.” / He also said, “Pray for me.”

/Read verse 29. / Moses answered, "As soon as I leave you, I will pray to the LORD, and tomorrow the flies will leave Pharaoh and his officials and his people. Only be sure that Pharaoh does not act deceitfully again by not letting the people go to offer sacrifices to the LORD."

/Moses said, “I will do what you said and plead with the LORD that the swarms of flies will be gone by tomorrow.”

/Then he added, “Only be sure that Pharaoh does not act deceitfully again.” / Moses went out and prayed to God, and God heard his prayer.

/Verses 30-32. / Then Moses left Pharaoh and prayed to the LORD, and the LORD did what Moses asked: The flies left Pharaoh and his officials and his people; not a fly remained. But this time also Pharaoh hardened his heart and would not let the people go.

/Moses prayed to God, and God heard Moses’ prayer and removed the flies from Egypt. / The sky became clear. / Houses became clean. / The palace became clean as well.

/The people were freed from agony. / However, Pharaoh forgot God’s command. / He forgot what he promised to Moses. / Believers of Jesus should not forget promises they make to God.

/We must not forget the tears we cried in faith in the past. / We must not forget our promises to God, promises such as, “I will do this if God helps me.”

/We must not fool ourselves and think that we succeed on our own. / “I prospered because I worked hard.” / “I worked hard and that is the reason for my success.” / We must not forget God in this way.

/We will conclude this lecture here. Thank you.