

## EXODUS Lesson 09

Exodus Chapter 9

*Distributed by: KJV Bible Studies*

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*Memory verses for this week: Lev 26:3 If ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments, and do them; Lev 26:4 Then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit.*

**Introduction:** We continue our study on Exodus this week. In last week's lesson, we studied about the second through fourth plagues that God put on the Egyptians using Moses as His spokesman. The second plague was the plague of the frogs, followed by the lice, and then the flies.

This week we cover the next three plagues as Pharaoh refuses to let the people go to serve God. The former plagues were against persons, but the following are against property and persons.

### I. The Fifth Plague - Murrain upon the Livestock

*Exo 9:1 Then the LORD said unto Moses, Go in unto Pharaoh, and tell him, Thus saith the LORD God of the Hebrews, Let my people go, that they may serve me.*

*Exo 9:2 For if thou refuse to let them go, and wilt hold them still,*

*Exo 9:3 Behold, the hand of the LORD is upon thy cattle which is in the field, upon the horses, upon the asses, upon the camels, upon the oxen, and upon the sheep: there shall be a very grievous murrain.*

Again God sends Moses back to Pharaoh with his demand. As before, the demand was to "Let my people go" and the purpose was that "that they may serve me." The importance of this phrase cannot be over emphasized. While we do not deny that God's love, mercy, and grace was extended to Israel, yet even this is for His glory. The main purpose of the salvation of the sinner is for God's glory. God saves sinners that they might serve Him. See 8:1, 20; 9:1, 13; 10:3.

*I Cor. 10:31, Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.*

*Col 3:17, And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.*

*I Pet. 4:11, If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and*

*ever. Amen.*

*Rev. 1:5-6, And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood; And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.*

*Rev. 4:11, Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.*

You wouldn't say that Pharaoh was a quick learner as God had did exactly what he had said the four previous times. If he again refused to obey, this refusal would result in the plague. "Murrain" means a pestilence or plague.

Animals have always suffered because of man's sin. This is sometimes in how man fails to treat them properly, but it also is part of the fall of man there in the garden of Eden when Adam and Eve sinned.

*Rom. 8:22, For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.*

This was another blow against idolatry, since cattle were considered sacred in Egypt. The Egyptians worshiped the bull Apis, and the calf Mnevis.

This plague would further show the power and resources of God, and it also showed God's judgment upon man's works. The beasts were harnessed and labored for man.

*Prov. 21:4, An high look, and a proud heart, and the plowing of the wicked, is sin.*

*Exo 9:4 And the LORD shall sever between the cattle of Israel and the cattle of Egypt: and there shall nothing die of all that is the children's of Israel.*

*Exo 9:5 And the LORD appointed a set time, saying, To morrow the LORD shall do this thing in the land.*

*Exo 9:6 And the LORD did that thing on the morrow, and all the cattle of Egypt died: but of the cattle of the children of Israel died not one.*

*Exo 9:7 And Pharaoh sent, and, behold, there was not one of the cattle of the Israelites dead. And the heart of Pharaoh was hardened, and he did not let the people go.*

As had been the case of the plague of the flies, this plague would not fall on the cattle of the Jews. Separation meant life for the cattle of the Israelites. In verse 5, the Lord sets the time which would be on the morrow.

God has perfect timing, unlike man. God operates on a schedule that is perfect and it is not rushed or ever out of time like our schedules.

Just like in all the other promises God ever made, we see that Pharaoh's failure causes the plague to be executed. The result is that the cattle die. The "all" of verse 6 must be understood in the light of "in the field" of verse 3. (See v. 19, 21; and 10:25 for proof of this.)

The death of the animals caused Pharaoh's heart to be further hardened. I mentioned last week that when the Lord deals with a man's heart, he can respond to God in repentance and be saved, or he can reject and when he does, he gets even harder than he was before.

*Prov. 28:14, Happy is the man that feareth alway: but he that hardeneth his heart shall fall into mischief.*

*Prov. 9:10, The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.*

*Eph. 4:18, Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart.*

## **II. The Sixth Plague - Boils on Man and Beast**

*Exo 9:8 And the LORD said unto Moses and unto Aaron, Take to you handfuls of ashes of the furnace, and let Moses sprinkle it toward the heaven in the sight of Pharaoh.*

*Exo 9:9 And it shall become small dust in all the land of Egypt, and shall be a boil breaking forth with blains upon man, and upon beast, throughout all the land of Egypt.*

*Exo 9:10 And they took ashes of the furnace, and stood before Pharaoh; and Moses sprinkled it up toward heaven; and it became a boil breaking forth with blains upon man, and upon beast.*

The ashes of the furnace were sprinkled towards heaven there in verse 8. Egypt in its fiery persecution of Israel is called a furnace. (Deut. 4:20; 1 Kings 8:51)

*Isa. 48:10, Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction.*

*Jer. 11:4, Which I commanded your fathers in the day that I brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, from the iron furnace, saying, Obey my voice, and do them, according to all which I command you: so shall ye be my people, and I will be your God.*

This furnace may have been the altar in Egypt upon which human sacrifice was made, to the god Typhon. Verse 9 records how that boils and running sores came upon man and beast. This plague shows the true spiritual condition of man.

No ointment can quench the pain of sin, but only the applied blood of Jesus Christ can do it. When we are saved, we are born again and given a new spiritual man.

*Isa. 1:6, From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment.*

So this plague was implemented. God promised that if they disobeyed Him in the land of Canaan, the same kind of plague would fall upon them.

*Deut. 28:27, The LORD will smite thee with the botch of Egypt, and with the emerods, and with the scab, and with the itch, whereof thou canst not be healed.*

*Deut. 28:35, The LORD shall smite thee in the knees, and in the legs, with a sore botch that cannot be healed, from the sole of thy foot unto the top of thy head.*

*Exo 9:11 And the magicians could not stand before Moses because of the boils; for the boil was upon the magicians, and upon all the Egyptians.*

*Exo 9:12 And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh, and he hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had spoken unto Moses.*

The results of the plague begin to show as the false religionists were unable to stand. When things are going well, there is minimal difference that is detectable from the Christian to the lost. But when things go bad, the difference in how we accept things is 180 degrees apart. The Christian knows that God is in control and has no fear. Jeremiah likened a man who trusts in God to a tree planted by a river.

*Jer 17:7 Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is.*

**Jer 17:8** *For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.*

I was reading yesterday about how that people in the 1400's through the 1800's chose the tree to use as the mast on the huge sail ships. They would go out into a forest, and find a tall straight tree on a high hill. Then they would cut all the trees down that were near it, and wait a year to see if it could on its own withstand all the winds and storms. If a year later it was still standing, that was the tree that became the mast of the ship.

I think God many times takes our lives and separates us for a specific work, and then tests to see if we are what it takes to do the job. If we fail the early tests, if we don't have the deep roots like that tree near the river, we may never be chosen to do the big tasks. Moses was trained for 40 years, then taught patience and obedience for 40 years, and then at 80 was now used in a powerful way by

God.

These magicians could not stand in the day of testing. This is prophetic of the last days and God's judgment upon false religion.

*Rev. 16:2, And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image.*

This plague made it impossible for the Egyptians to bath and stay clean, and this was a big thing to them. If you remember, they were devoted to keeping themselves clean. Although the plague was promised by God, the heart of Pharaoh hardened. We need to be careful to respond properly to God when we are being dealt with.

I know from personal experience that failing to respond can bring very negative results into our lives. I have a friend down in Olney who is convinced that his son was non-responsive to God in his teenage years, and he died in his early twenties in a horrible car crash. He believes he could have lived a long and productive life, but turned his back on the Lord and paid a horrible price.

*Prov. 29:1, He, that being often reprov'd hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.*

*Pro 3:1 My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments:*

***Pro 3:2*** *For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.*

*Pro 3:3 Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart:*

*Pro 3:4 So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.*

*Pro 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.*

*Pro 3:6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.*

### **III. The Seventh Plague - Grievous Hail**

*Exo 9:13 And the LORD said unto Moses, Rise up early in the morning, and stand before Pharaoh, and say unto him, Thus saith the LORD God of the Hebrews, Let my people go, that they may serve me.*

*Exo 9:14 For I will at this time send all my plagues upon thine heart, and upon thy servants, and upon thy people; that thou mayest know that there is none like me in all the earth.*

I am extremely impressed by Moses. You don't see ongoing argument with the Lord about having to make these further demands. When God prepares a man or woman for the work of the Lord, He always provides all that is needed to accomplish God's goal.

Moses goes back again and this time makes another demand with a warning. The demand to let Israel go as had it had been each time before. (God's purpose never changes). God has a glorious purpose in this all as Pharaoh is about to learn that there is none like Jehovah.

*Exo 9:15 For now I will stretch out my hand, that I may smite thee and thy people with pestilence; and thou shalt be cut off from the earth.*

*Exo 9:16 And in very deed for this cause have I raised thee up, for to shew in thee my power; and that my name may be declared throughout all the earth.*

Verse 15 shows that Pharaoh will be cut off. Different people have different purposes in the scheme of things. Judas Iscariot's purpose was to betray Jesus Christ. Pharaoh was raised up to show God's sovereign power.

*Rom. 9:17, For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth.*

Other cruel rulers have had to learn the same lesson. We as Christians have the scriptures and all these examples to teach us that we might not have to make so many mistakes in our lives.

*1Co 10:9 Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents.*

*1Co 10:10 Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.*

**1Co 10:11** *Now all these things happened unto them for **ensamples**: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.*

*1Co 10:12 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.*

*Dan. 4:30-33, The king spake, and said, Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty? While the word was in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, saying, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from thee. And they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field: they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and seven times shall pass over thee, until thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will. The same hour was the thing fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar: and he was driven from men, and did eat grass as oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till his hairs were grown like eagles' feathers, and his nails like birds' claws.*

*Acts 12:21-23 And upon a set day Herod, arrayed in royal apparel, sat upon his throne, and made an oration unto them. And the people gave a shout, saying, It is the voice of a god, and not of a man. And immediately the angel of the Lord smote him, because he gave not God the glory: and he was eaten of worms, and gave up the ghost.*

God's name would be declared throughout all the earth.

*Exo 9:17 As yet exaltest thou thyself against my people, that thou wilt not let them go?*

*Exo 9:18 Behold, to morrow about this time I will cause it to rain a very grievous hail, such as hath not been in Egypt since the foundation thereof even until now.*

*Exo 9:19 Send therefore now, and gather thy cattle, and all that thou hast in the field; for upon every man and beast which shall be found in the field, and shall not be brought home, the hail shall come down upon them, and they shall die.*

*Exo 9:20 He that feared the word of the LORD among the servants of Pharaoh made his servants and his cattle flee into the houses:*

*Exo 9:21 And he that regarded not the word of the LORD left his servants and his cattle in the field.*

*Exo 9:22 And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch forth thine hand toward heaven, that there may be hail in all the land of Egypt, upon man, and upon beast, and upon every herb of the field, throughout the land of Egypt.*

*Exo 9:23 And Moses stretched forth his rod toward heaven: and the LORD sent thunder and hail, and the fire ran along upon the ground; and the LORD rained hail upon the land of Egypt.*

Moses now brings the promise of hail. Not just a small hail, but a hail as had never been seen before in all the land. Pharaoh was warned to protect man and beast. (This is God's mercy at work). God could have just brought the destruction, but in his mercy he warns them.

Note the difference in the Egyptians. Those who feared the Lord got their servants and cattle into houses. But those who feared not the Lord ignored the warning. For a 100 years Noah preached about the flood, and people rejected the warning. But the flood still came. Today we preach the gospel, and many flee to the Lord for safety and are saved. But those who reject the Lord will face destruction and eternal separation for a loving and caring Heavenly Father.

Verse 22 reveals how this came to place. Moses was to stretch forth his hand toward heaven and it would begin the execution of the plague. The command was from God, and his servant responds. The obedience is immediate as Moses stretches forth that rod toward heaven and the destruction came.

*Exo 9:24 So there was hail, and fire mingled with the hail, very grievous, such as there was none like it in all the land of Egypt since it became a nation.*

*Exo 9:25 And the hail smote throughout all the land of Egypt all that was in the field, both man and beast; and the hail smote every herb of the field, and brake every tree of the field.*

*Exo 9:26 Only in the land of Goshen, where the children of Israel were, was there no hail.*

*Exo 9:27 And Pharaoh sent, and called for Moses and Aaron, and said unto them, I have sinned this time: the LORD is righteous, and I and my people are wicked.*

As Pharaoh had been warned, there was terrible destruction. We see typification here as this foreshadows the coming tribulation destruction. (Rev. 8:5, 7; 11:19;

16:18)

Thunder symbolized the voice of God.

*Psa 29:3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters: the God of glory thundereth: the LORD is upon many waters.*

*Psa 29:4 The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.*

*Joh 12:28 Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again.*

*Joh 12:29 The people therefore, that stood by, and heard it, said that it thundered: others said, An angel spake to him.*

*Joh 12:30 Jesus answered and said, This voice came not because of me, but for your sakes.*

The result this time was a shaken Pharaoh. Finally he speaks the truth. Pharaoh's true confession is recorded in verse 27 where he acknowledges the righteousness of God and the wickedness of himself and his people. Like Balaam, Saul, and Judas, he confessed but did not repent. Having a knowledge of truth does not save a man or a woman. We must repent and come to God in faith for salvation.

*Num 22:34 And Balaam said unto the angel of the LORD, I have sinned; for I knew not that thou stoodest in the way against me: now therefore, if it displease thee, I will get me back again.*

*Matt. 27:3-4, Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders. Saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood. And they said, What is that to us? see thou to that.*

This points out the danger of easy believism based on fear or love, without repentance. The prodigal son made a true confession and proved his repentance by a change of conduct.

*Luke 15:18, 20, I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.*

David also proved his confession was sincere by his repentance.

*II Sam. 12:13 And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.*

*Psa. 51:4 Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou*



*judgest.*

*Exo 9:28 Intreat the LORD (for it is enough) that there be no more mighty thunderings and hail; and I will let you go, and ye shall stay no longer.*

*Exo 9:29 And Moses said unto him, As soon as I am gone out of the city, I will spread abroad my hands unto the LORD; and the thunder shall cease, neither shall there be any more hail; that thou mayest know how that the earth is the LORD'S.*

*Exo 9:30 But as for thee and thy servants, I know that ye will not yet fear the LORD God.*

*Exo 9:31 And the flax and the barley was smitten: for the barley was in the ear, and the flax was balled.*

*Exo 9:32 But the wheat and the rie were not smitten: for they were not grown up.*

Pharaoh makes a request to Moses. Ask that the thunderings and hail stop, and I will let you go. Moses' consent is given and the reason given. "...that thou mayest know...."

***Psa 24:1 A Psalm of David. The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.***

*I Cor. 10:26, For the earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof.*

Moses shows spiritual insight and says he knows that Pharaoh would not yet fear the Lord. Verses 31 and 32 show the extent of the damage. The flax and barley were destroyed, but the wheat and rie were not as they were not yet grown up.

*Exo 9:33 And Moses went out of the city from Pharaoh, and spread abroad his hands unto the LORD: and the thunders and hail ceased, and the rain was not poured upon the earth.*

*Exo 9:34 And when Pharaoh saw that the rain and the hail and the thunders were ceased, he sinned yet more, and hardened his heart, he and his servants.*

*Exo 9:35 And the heart of Pharaoh was hardened, neither would he let the children of Israel go; as the LORD had spoken by Moses.*

Moses does as he promised he would do, and the plague ends. But the results are just as Moses had earlier indicated. Again Pharaoh is hardened in heart and there is no repentance. Again he refuses to let the Israelites go.

### **Study Questions**

1. State the fifth, sixth, and seventh plagues in their proper order

Murrain on the cattle  
Boils on man and beast  
Grievous Hail

2. What was the chief purpose behind God's demand, "let my people go?"

That the Jews might serve him and give God the Glory. Secondly it was to teach Pharaoh who was in charge and who ruled the universe.

3. What is God's main purpose in saving sinners?

The main purpose of the salvation of the sinner is for God's glory. God saves sinners that they might serve Him.

4. How did the Egyptians highly esteem cattle?

Cattle were considered sacred in Egypt. The Egyptians worshiped the bull Apis, and the calf Mnevis.

5. What effect has man's sin had upon the animal world?

Animals have always suffered because of man's sin. This is sometimes in how man fails to treat them properly, but it also is part of the fall of man there in the garden of Eden when Adam and Eve sinned.

6. Did each and every one of the Egyptian's cattle die in the plague?

Yes, but none of the Israelites.

7. How does the plague of boils illustrate the true condition of man?

The boils and running sores came upon man and beast. This plague shows the true spiritual condition of man. No ointment can quench the pain of sin, but only the applied blood of Jesus Christ can do it.

8. Name some of the things of God's purpose in the seventh plague.

1. To cut off Pharaoh and the Egyptians from the rest of the world.
2. To show Pharaoh there is none like unto God.
3. To show God's Power
4. To lift up the name of God and declare it through out the earth.
5. To demonstrate God's mercy by allowing those who got inside houses and those that housed their animals to be saved from destruction.

9. Why did God warn Pharaoh to protect man and beast from the seventh plague?

To show his mercy.

10. Did any of the Egyptians heed the warning given? If so who?

Those who believed God did.

\* Base outline for lessons by permission from:

**THE BOOK OF EXODUS**

**By E. L. Bynum**

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*Prov 4:18 But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.*

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