

Show Me Your Glory

Lessons from the Life of Moses

Lesson 4 Exodus 7–8

As Moses stepped forth, putting feet to his faith, God began to fulfill all that He promised Moses He would do. If Moses still felt intimidated to enter Pharaoh's presence with such a bold message, the Lord was about to make Moses seem *like God* to Pharaoh.

Read Exodus 7–8. Today we will look at Exodus 7:1–7 in detail.

Day One: Signs, Signs, Everywhere Are Signs!

Moses and Aaron now approached the royal throne of Pharaoh to deliver the message from the mouth of God.

1. Moses would be *as God* to Pharaoh, but what role would Aaron play? vv. 1–2
 - a. Explain some of what this position would entail.

 - b. What was the command Pharaoh heard each time Moses and Aaron met with him? See Exodus 5:1.

2. How did God determine to make himself known throughout the land of Egypt?
v. 3
 - a. As God's power was displayed, what would happen to Pharaoh's heart?

3. Would Pharaoh be willing to listen? What would be the result? vv. 4–5

Look closer . . .

The issue of Pharaoh's hard heart is a difficult one for us to understand. We must remember that Pharaoh had a sinner's heart when he first encountered God. He was a prideful man, accustomed to abusing his power before the people. Determined to follow his own course, Pharaoh hardened his own heart at times, while at other times God steeled what was already there. But God did not force him to follow evil, nor did He prevent him from repenting if Pharaoh chose to do so.

- a. For what purpose did God make Pharaoh ruler over Egypt? See Exodus 9:16.

- b. Challenge: What convincing argument did the Apostle Paul use in his defense of God's justice regarding this matter? See Romans 9:14–21.

Selah . . . (Pause and think about it.) How does a human heart become hardened? What can God do to soften a hard heart?

Because God is sovereign, righteous and merciful, we must trust His ways even when we do not understand them.

- ❖ What do you learn about God's ways in Isaiah 55:6–11? What do you learn about His Word?

Moses and Aaron continued to do all that the Lord commanded them to do (vv. 6–7). At the time they spoke to Pharaoh, Moses was eighty years old and Aaron was eighty-three. God was not finished with them; He still had a work for them to do. At an age when most people are well into retirement, these two men were about to make history!

Heartbeat . . . (Memory verse.) “So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.” Isaiah 55:11

Day Two:

Aaron's Rod

Pharaoh's question, "*Who is the Lord, that I should obey His voice?*" (Exodus 5:2) was about to be answered. Pharaoh and the false gods of Egypt were about to be overruled by *Jehovah*, proving indisputably that He is the God of all gods! The suffering of Israel at the hands of overbearing taskmasters and the harsh cruelty of Pharaoh would prove to hurt Egypt as well as God's people. God would now begin a series of plagues to inflict His judgment in order to right this terrible injustice.

Read Exodus 7:8–25 for review.

1. What would Pharaoh ask of Moses and Aaron that would set God's signs and wonders in motion? vv. 8–9
 - a. Recall the sign God gave to Moses in Midian which would now be performed by Aaron in Pharaoh's presence. See Exodus 4:1–5.
2. What did the magicians of Pharaoh's court do when Aaron cast down his rod? What was Aaron's rod able to do that the others were not? vv. 10–12

The cobra snake was highly regarded as the Egyptian symbol of immortality. Whether these magicians used tricks or evil spirits to charm the snakes, Aaron's rod proved more powerful by swallowing up the others.

3. What was the end result that God had foretold—for what purpose? vv. 4 and 13
4. The New Testament teaches that Satan, God's enemy, is capable of duplicating—or counterfeiting—God's signs and wonders for his evil purposes. Look up the following verses and note *why* these counterfeits are displayed.
 - a. Mathew 24:24
 - b. 2 Thessalonians 2:1–10
 - c. Revelation 13:11–18
5. Imitation is one of Satan's most effective tactics used to oppose God's work. Name some of the *imitations* you see on display in the world today.

Review this week's memory verse.

Day Three:

The Plagues Begin

The plagues were progressive, meaning each was more severe than the preceding; and leading up to the last, and most terrible, which stands alone. These plagues were God's judgment upon Egypt for their worship of false gods: "*Against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the Lord*" (Exodus 12:12b).

Read Exodus 7:14–8:15. Record your answers, citing the verses where you find them.

The First Plague: Waters Become Blood (7:14–25)

- a. What truth did God reveal to Moses about Pharaoh?
- b. When and where was Moses instructed to find Pharaoh?
- c. What message were Moses and Aaron to repeat to Pharaoh?
- d. What did the Lord command Moses to tell Aaron to do?
- e. What was the affect of this judgment upon . . .
 - *the land?*
 - *the people?*
 - *the magicians?*
 - *Pharaoh?*

The Second Plague: Frogs (8:1–15)

- a. What message were Moses and Aaron to repeat to Pharaoh?
- b. What did the Lord command Moses to tell Aaron to do if Pharaoh refused?
- c. What was the affect of this judgment upon . . .
 - *the land?*
 - *the people?*
 - *the magicians?*
 - *Pharaoh?*

Review this week's memory verse.

Day Four:

The Plagues Continue

Read Exodus 8:16–32. Record your answers, citing the verses where you find them.

The Third Plague: Lice (8:16–19)

Pharaoh's refusal to let the Israelites go ushered in the third plague, which arrived without an announcement from Moses and Aaron. It was bad enough that the frogs invaded every home throughout Egypt, but this time the lice would invade their bodies!

- a. What did the Lord command Moses to instruct Aaron to do?

- b. What was the affect of this judgment upon . . .
 - *the land and animals?*

 - *the people?*

 - *the magicians?*

 - *Pharaoh?*

The animals that were sacred to the Egyptian people were also smitten with the lice. How could these animal deities who were worshipped as gods help the people if they could not protect themselves?

The Fourth Plague: Flies (8:20–32)

This time Pharaoh, showing a sign of relenting, will resort to trickery, devising a compromise with Moses.

- a. Where and when was Moses instructed to find Pharaoh?

- b. What message were they to repeat to Pharaoh?

- c. What did God command Moses to do?

- d. What was the affect of this judgment upon . . .
 - *the land?*

 - *the people? (Note the difference between God's people and the Egyptians.)*

 - *Pharaoh?*

- e. What kind of compromise did Pharaoh attempt to make?

Day Five:

Praying with Purpose

Selah . . . Be still and consider how to *work out* in your daily life what God has *worked into* your heart through your study of His Word. Then pray each aspect through.

❖ **A Point Pondered:** Is there an example from the lesson or a truth from Scripture that has taken on a new meaning this week? Please note it below.

❖ **A Path Pursued:** Knowledge must be applied in order to make a difference. Name one thing can you act upon in obedience to the Holy Spirit's leading.

❖ **A Promised Possessed:** If God has spoken a particular verse or word of hope to your heart, write it down and pray it back to Him.

❖ **A Praise Proclaimed:** God loves to hear you praise Him! What aspect of God's character particularly blessed you this week? Will you praise Him today?

❖ **A Prayer Presented:** Write out the most pressing request on your heart and lift it to the Lord.

Other requests:

Notes