

Exiting Egypt – Message 10 – Compromise, Confession and the Coming Judgment

Exodus 10:1-11 Now the LORD said to Moses, "Go in to Pharaoh; for I have hardened his heart and the hearts of his servants, that I may show these signs of Mine before him, ² and that you may tell in the hearing of your son and your son's son the mighty things I have done in Egypt, and My signs which I have done among them, that you may know that I am the LORD." ³ So Moses and Aaron came in to Pharaoh and said to him, "Thus says the LORD God of the Hebrews: 'How long will you refuse to humble yourself before Me? Let My people go, that they may serve Me. ⁴ Or else, if you refuse to let My people go, behold, tomorrow I will bring locusts into your territory. ⁵ And they shall cover the face of the earth, so that no one will be able to see the earth; and they shall eat the residue of what is left, which remains to you from the hail, and they shall eat every tree which grows up for you out of the field. ⁶ They shall fill your houses, the houses of all your servants, and the houses of all the Egyptians--which neither your fathers nor your fathers' fathers have seen, since the day that they were on the earth to this day.'" And he turned and went out from Pharaoh. ⁷ Then Pharaoh's servants said to him, "How long shall this man be a snare to us? Let the men go, that they may serve the LORD their God. Do you not yet know that Egypt is destroyed?" ⁸ So Moses and Aaron were brought again to Pharaoh, and he said to them, "Go, serve the LORD your God. Who are the ones that are going?" ⁹ And Moses said, "We will go with our young and our old; with our sons and our daughters, with our flocks and our herds we will go, for we must hold a feast to the LORD." ¹⁰ Then he said to them, "The LORD had better be with you when I let you and your little ones go! Beware, for evil is ahead of you. ¹¹ Not so! Go now, you who are men, and serve the LORD, for that is what you desired." And they were driven out from Pharaoh's presence.

Exodus 10:24 Then Pharaoh called to Moses and said, "Go, serve the LORD; only let your flocks and your herds be kept back. Let your little ones also go with you."

I. GROW: COMPROMISED WORSHIP

The Five Compromises in worship were Pharaoh's refusal, sacrifice in the Land, go but not far, Let the men Go, and go but leave your wealth. These are a constant struggle in the hearts of followers of Christ on Sunday after Sunday.

A. PHAROAH'S REFUSAL OVER WORK

Exodus 5:5 And Pharaoh said, "Look, the people of the land are many now, and you make them rest from their labor!"

Ex. 8:25 Pharaoh called for Moses & Aaron, and said, "Go, sacrifice to your God in the land."

B. SACRIFICE IN THE LAND

Hebrews 10:25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another; and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

Exodus 8:28 And Pharaoh said, "I will let you go, that you may sacrifice to the LORD your God in the wilderness; only you shall not go very far away. Intercede for me."

C. GO BUT NOT FAR

Exodus 10:7 & 11 ⁷ Then Pharaoh's servants said to him, "How long shall this man be a snare to us? Let the men go, that they may serve the LORD their God. Do you not yet know that Egypt is destroyed?"

¹¹ Not so! Go now, you who are men, and serve the LORD, for that is what you desired."

D. LET THE MEN GO

Exodus 10:24 Then Pharaoh called to Moses and said, "Go, serve the LORD; only let your flocks and your herds be kept back. Let your little ones also go with you."

E. GO BUT LEAVE YOUR WEALTH

Exodus 10:12-20 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the land of Egypt for the locusts, that they may come upon the land of Egypt, and eat every herb of the land--all that the hail has left." ¹³ So Moses stretched out his rod over the land of Egypt, and the LORD brought an east wind on the land all that day and all that night. When it was morning, the east wind brought the locusts. ¹⁴ And the locusts went up over all the land of Egypt and rested on all the territory of Egypt. They were very severe; previously there had been no such locusts as they, nor shall there be such after them. ¹⁵ For they covered the face of the whole earth, so that the land was darkened; and they ate every herb of the land and all the fruit of the trees which the hail had left. So there remained nothing green on the trees or on the plants of the field throughout all the land of Egypt. ¹⁶ Then Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron in haste, and said, "I have sinned against the LORD your God and against you." ¹⁷ Now therefore, please forgive my sin only this once, & entreat the LORD your God, that He may take away from me this death only." ¹⁸ So he went out from Pharaoh and entreated the LORD. ¹⁹ & the LORD turned a very strong west wind, which took the locusts away and blew them into the Red Sea. There remained not one locust in all the territory of Egypt. ²⁰ But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, & he did not let the children of Israel go.

II. KNOW: CONFESSING WRONGS

Pharaoh felt the judgment of God and wanted to lessen the pain of rebellion without really letting go of his rebellion.

A. Pharaoh's Imperfect Confession

1. Acknowledges Guilt

¹⁶ Then Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron in haste, and said, "I have sinned against the LORD your God and against you." ¹⁷ Now therefore, please forgive my sin

2. Includes Sincerity

3. Includes Repentance

Exodus 10:19 And the LORD turned a very strong west wind, which took the locusts away and blew them into the Red Sea. There remained not one locust in all the territory of Egypt.

B. God's Perfect Forgiveness

1. Demonstrates His power

2. It was Instant

3. It was complete – Not one locust remained

Exodus 10:21-29 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward heaven, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, darkness which may even be felt." ²² So Moses stretched out his hand toward heaven, and there was thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days. ²³ They did not see one another; nor did anyone rise from his place for three days. But all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings. ²⁴ Then Pharaoh called to Moses and said, "Go, serve the LORD; only let your flocks and your herds be kept back. Let your little ones also go with you." ²⁵ But Moses said, "You must also give us sacrifices and burnt offerings, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God. ²⁶ Our livestock also shall go with us; not a hoof shall be left behind. For we must take some of them to serve the LORD our God, and even we do not know with what we must serve the LORD until we arrive there." ²⁷ But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he would not let them go. ²⁸ Then Pharaoh said to him, "Get away from me! Take heed to yourself and see my face no more! For in the day you see my face you shall die!" ²⁹ And Moses said, "You have spoken well. I will never see your face again."

III. SHOW: COMPLETE JUDGMENT

Pharaoh completes his rejection of God's warnings, interventions and threatens Moses with death if he sees him again. Moses agrees that the next time will be complete judgment.

A. Total Darkness

²³ They did not see one another; nor did anyone rise from his place for three days.

B. Terrifying Darkness

Exodus 10:21 "darkness which may even be felt."

C. Timeless Darkness