

Evil Empire: The 10 Plagues, Islam and the Judgment of God

The 10 Plagues is one of the most epic and detailed stories in Scriptures. It provides a foundation for our understanding of God's judgment.

Before Moses returned to Egypt, God told him that He would "harden Pharaoh's heart" (Ex. 4:21). However, God did not execute that hardening until the plague of locusts (Ex. 10:1), the eighth plague. Pharaoh had already hardened his own heart seven times in the first seven plagues.

Each time Pharaoh was offered an opportunity for grace and forgiveness; and all seven times he responded with evil. Only after the "fullness" of Pharaoh's hardening his heart in his own free will did God harden his heart as an act of judgment.

Before Moses was sent into Egypt, God told him to throw his staff to the ground; it turned into a serpent (Ex. 4:3). This was a sign of Moses' spiritual authority over satanic forces, symbolized by the serpent. Yet there was another reason. God knew something that Moses didn't know.

Moses had been in the desert for 40 years. The situation had degenerated to the point that cabinet-level ministers so were involved in occult worship that they could turn sticks into serpents (Ex. 7:12), turn water to blood (Ex. 7:22) and raise frogs out of the Nile (Ex. 8:7). Witchcraft was so rampant that the Egyptian kings wore crowns with snakes on them. Therefore, God prepared Moses ahead of time with the power to repel those satanic spirits.

An Eye for an Eye

The death of the firstborn was the last and worst of the

plagues. Remember that the Egyptian pharaohs had been murdering innocent children already for 80 years (Ex. 1:16). God's judgment is always preceded by grace and always perfectly righteous (what you do to others will be done to you).

The murder of the Jewish children in Egypt was the first type of "Holocaust," later to be followed by Haman, Herod, Nazism and today, Islamic Jihad. Islam claims that Mohammed is the final prophet of God following all the biblical prophets, including Moses and Jesus. But ironically, these jihadis have more in common with the evil pharaohs than any Jewish, biblical prophet or apostle.

Jihadis want to bring judgment on Western society for the pervasive sins of corruption and sexual immorality. There is some truth in those accusations (compare Rev. 17:16-17). However, Islamists have raped thousands of innocent girls, which is also a form of sexual immorality; and committed murder and lied, which also transgresses the Ten Commandments. God's prophets must also obey God's moral laws themselves.

After the ten plagues in Exodus, the Egyptian armies were destroyed in the Red Sea. Those armies came with weapons ready to kill, pursuing the helpless multitudes that had been oppressed under brutal slavery for three generations. God's judgment was harsh because the crimes committed were so cruel.

Round Two

God is a judge; a righteous judge. The Scriptures remind us over and over again that God's judgments are perfectly righteous (Ps. 96:13, 98:9; Rev. 15:4, 19:11). God's judgment includes:

1. Moral Justice
2. Offer of Grace
3. Clear Warnings
4. Judicial Process

5. Moral Requirements for Prophets

Islam claims to bring the judgment of God, but does none of the above.

Pharaoh's Egypt in Moses' time was perhaps the most demonic empire in history. However, it would seem from prophetic Scriptures that such an evil empire would happen again. It will be even worse. It will be a worldwide, murderous, genocidal, demonic, tyrannical empire.

The Exodus from Egypt is recorded in the Bible not only as history but also as prophecy. What will happen in the end times will be similar to what happened in Egypt.

[**Note:** The Hebrew root (Ts-R-R) טרר is the same for the words Antichrist (*Tsorere*), Tribulation (*Tsarot*), and Egypt (*Mitsrayim*).] The story of the exodus provides a biblical framework for understanding God's judgments and plagues in the end times.

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