

/Today we will begin the fifth lecture on Exodus. / Chapter 9 is about three plagues: plagues on livestock, plague of boils, and plague of hail. / God plagued Pharaoh and Egypt with a disease.

/Please read verses 1-3. / Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and say to him, 'This is what the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, says: "Let my people go, so that they may worship me." If you refuse to let them go and continue to hold them back, the hand of the LORD will bring a terrible plague on your livestock in the field-- on your horses and donkeys and camels and on your cattle and sheep and goats.

/God was going to send a severe plague upon Pharaoh and Egypt because Pharaoh refused to let God's people go.

/Previous plagues of water turning into blood, the plague of frogs, gnats, and flies / were all agonizing to the people. / However, this time, the severe plague on the livestock and other animals would bring about an economic loss to Egypt.

/God first punishes the people who interfere and oppose of God's works and the movement of salvation, and then punishes them with economic problems.

/Verses 4-6. / But the LORD will make a distinction between the livestock of Israel and that of Egypt, so that no animal belonging to the Israelites will die.'" The LORD set a time and said, "Tomorrow the LORD will do this in the land." And the next day the LORD did it: All the livestock of the Egyptians died, but not one animal belonging to the Israelites died.

/However, God told Moses that he would keep the livestock of the Israelites from the plague. / God protects his people and church in the midst of troubles.

/God's people are at peace in the midst of sufferings and are safe in the midst of persecutions. / In Deuteronomy 28:4, / it says that God blesses the children, crops, livestock and its young of those who obey God's commands.

/We must stand where God stands. / We must make discernments and ask questions like, "Does this please God or man?" or "Is this for God or for me?" when we try to decide on something.

/When we choose the side God loves, we will eventually gain success, even if it brings momentary loss to ourselves and even if we are hated by people.

/Verse 7. / Pharaoh sent men to investigate and found that not even one of the animals of the Israelites had died. Yet his heart was unyielding and he would not let the people go.

/Pharaoh received a report that the plague did not strike the land the Israelites were living. / His heart became more hardened and did not let the Israelites go.

/In Psalm 49:20, / it says that people who have wealth but no understanding will perish. / Also in Proverbs 29:1, / it says that a man who is often reproofed but remains stiff-necked will be suddenly destroyed.

/What does “stiff-necked” mean? / It means arrogant. / It means stubborn in heart. / This is why Jesus searched for those whose hearts were meek, and He said, “I am gentle and humble in heart.”

/Verses 8-12. / Then the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "Take handfuls of soot from a furnace and have Moses toss it into the air in the presence of Pharaoh. It will become fine dust over the whole land of Egypt, and festering boils will break out on men and animals throughout the land." So they took soot from a furnace and stood before Pharaoh. Moses tossed it into the air, and festering boils broke out on men and animals. The magicians could not stand before Moses because of the boils that were on them and on all the Egyptians. But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart and he would not listen to Moses and Aaron, just as the LORD had said to Moses.

/God told Moses about the sixth plague. / He told Moses to take handfuls of soot from a furnace and toss it in the air. / Moses tossed it in front of Pharaoh.

/Then the soot of the furnace became boils that came upon people and the livestock. / Boils is a terrible skin disease. / The people and the animals were in great pain. / The magicians of Egypt were not able to rid of this.

/We must not forget that opposing God's works can bring sudden destruction. / Not only the unbelievers, /but the believers can also be arrogant and oppose of God's work, and give the leaders of the church a hard time.

/Because pastors are also human, he can have faults. / Even so, God is pleased when they cooperate with one another. /Elders are like pastors' shields.

/Deacons and members of the church should be cooperative and obedient. / The church should be united as one in Jesus. / God will punish without any warning if one harms God's salvation movement and his works.

/Verses 13-14. / Then the LORD said to Moses, "Get up early in the morning, confront Pharaoh and say to him, 'This is what the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, says: Let my people go, so that they may worship me, or this time I will send the full force of my plagues against you and against your officials and your people, so you may know that there is no one like me in all the earth.

/Before God warned Moses about the seventh plague, God told him to present himself to Pharaoh and tell him once more, "Let my people go."

/God told Moses that the plague sent to Egypt would become a shock to Pharaoh and Egyptians.

/Verses 15-16. / For by now I could have stretched out my hand and struck you and your people with a plague that would have wiped you off the earth. But I have raised you up for this very purpose, that I might show you my power and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.

/"Plague" refers to an infectious disease. / If God chose to strike Egypt with a plague, Pharaoh would have been wiped off from the earth. / Proverbs 16:4 / says that God works out everything to its proper end.

/This applies to the wicked as well. / Instead of hating the wicked, we must have compassionate hearts towards them.

/The church and the believers must trust that God is leading them, and wait and endure patiently until the end. / God is not pleased with our complaints and resentment. / Also, we must not be discouraged or disheartened.

/Verses 17-19. / You still set yourself against my people and will not let them go. Therefore, at this time tomorrow I will send the worst hailstorm that has ever fallen on Egypt, from the day it was founded till now. Give an order now to bring your livestock and everything you have in the field to a place of shelter, because the hail will fall on every man and animal that has not been brought in and is still out in the field, and they will die."

/God told Pharaoh who still remained arrogant that he was going to bring very heavy hail to fall on Egypt. /God even told Pharaoh and his servants how they could escape.

/The hail would fall down about this time tomorrow and the people and livestock that were outside were to be brought into safety.

/If they stayed in a shelter, they would live, but if they didn't, they would not escape the plague. / God gave the obedient people a way to escape.

/In verses 20-21, some of the servants of Pharaoh heard this and hurried into houses.

/Verses 20-21. / Those officials of Pharaoh who feared the word of the LORD hurried to bring their slaves and their livestock inside. But those who ignored the word of the LORD left their slaves and livestock in the field.

/There were some among the servants of Pharaoh who listened to the words of Moses and hurried their livestock and people inside, and some did not. / What was the result of this?

/Verses 22-24. / Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward the sky so that hail will fall all over Egypt-- on men and animals and on everything growing in the fields of Egypt." When Moses stretched out his staff toward the sky, the LORD sent thunder and hail, and lightning flashed down to the ground. So the LORD rained hail on the land of Egypt; hail fell and lightning flashed back and forth. It was the worst storm in all the land of Egypt since it had become a nation.

/Verses 25-26. / Throughout Egypt hail struck everything in the fields-- both men and animals; it beat down everything growing in the fields and stripped every tree. The only place it did not hail was the land of Goshen, where the Israelites were.

/Lightning flashed down with the hail. /It rained hail on all the land and animals. /When Moses stretched out his staff toward the sky, thunder and lightning flashed to the ground.

/Thunder came down along with the hail. / The plague fell upon not only the people and livestock, but also on the crops. / However, the land of Goshen, where the Israelites lived, was safe from the plague.

/Verses 27-28. / Then Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron. "This time I have sinned," he said to them. "The LORD is in the right, and I and my people are in the wrong. Pray to the LORD, for we have had enough thunder and hail. I will let you go; you don't have to stay any longer."

/Pharaoh summoned Moses in a hurry. / He said, "The LORD is in the right, and I and my people are in the wrong." / However, this was Pharaoh's little trick to exempt himself from punishment from God.

/Pharaoh said, "The LORD is in the right," but he was not sincere. /There is a tremendous difference between liking a church and believing in Jesus.

/There is also a great difference between saying, "I respect the pastor," and helping with God's works. / God is not pleased when we rely on people.

/Verses 29-30. / Moses replied, "When I have gone out of the city, I will spread out my hands in prayer to the LORD. The thunder will stop and there will be no more hail, so you may know that the earth is the LORD's. But I know that you and your officials still do not fear the LORD God."

/When Moses went out and stretched his hands to the LORD, the plague stopped. / Pharaoh and the servants returned to the way they were when the plague stopped.

/People fear God in times of disaster and great calamities. / Even we believers repent and obey God's word when are being disciplined.

/Yet, when things go well and are in peace, we forget God, and this is man's nature. / What do we need to do in order for us to not forget God?

/The Bible tells us to be awake. /A believer who is awake is, first, one who prays. / Second, he is one who holds onto God's word. / Holding onto God's word is the same as obeying God's word.

/We must obey God's word. / We must believe with our hearts / and move into action with our bodies. / A believer who is awake is one who prays. / A believer who is awake can always walk with God.

/Verses 31-32. / (The flax and barley were destroyed, since the barley had headed and the flax was in bloom. The wheat and spelt, however, were not destroyed, because they ripen later.)

/Because hail and fire fell down at the same time, everything withered and died. /There was nothing to eat. /However, God kept the wheat and spelt safe.

/When the plague stopped and the wheat and spelt grew, Pharaoh and the Egyptians became hard-hearted. / What did God show us through these plagues?

/God showed us that God hates those who constantly disrupt God's plan of salvation. / Constant disruption will surely bring about God's judgment.

/Two plagues are mentioned in chapter 10. / These were the plagues of locusts and darkness. / God once again warned the hard-hearted Pharaoh through Moses.

/Please read verses 1-2. / Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh, for I have hardened his heart and the hearts of his officials so that I may perform these miraculous signs of mine among them that you may tell your children and grandchildren how I dealt harshly with the Egyptians and how I performed my signs among them, and that you may know that I am the LORD."

/Why did God leave Pharaoh's heart hardened? / It was to show God's power. / God's power is revealed through hardships.

/In Ezekiel 3:7-11, / the prophet was told to proclaim God's words even though the people were not willing to listen. / Whether they listened or not, Ezekiel was to speak God's words. / Those who will listen would listen, and those who will not listen would not listen.

/God would show compassion to those who listened, and God's judgment would fall upon those who did not. / In 1 Corinthians 9:16, / the apostle Paul said that woe is on him if he does not preach the gospel.

/We must spread the gospel to everyone. / Do not expect many people to believe and return to God. / Leave the results to God.

/Verse 3. / So Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said to him, "This is what the LORD, the

God of the Hebrews, says: 'How long will you refuse to humble yourself before me? Let my people go, so that they may worship me.

/Moses and Aaron went up to Pharaoh and told him, "How long will you refuse to humble yourself before the LORD?" / "Let my people go, / that they may worship God."

/The Israelites were God's people. / Though we live in this world, our home is in heaven and our nation is God's kingdom.

/Though we are of this world, we are God's people, ruled by God. / We must be believers who participate in God's works, even if we may face losses in the present.

/Verses 4-6. / If you refuse to let them go, I will bring locusts into your country tomorrow. They will cover the face of the ground so that it cannot be seen. They will devour what little you have left after the hail, including every tree that is growing in your fields. They will fill your houses and those of all your officials and all the Egyptians-- something neither your fathers nor your forefathers have ever seen from the day they settled in this land till now.'" Then Moses turned and left Pharaoh.

/God warned through Moses that he would bring locusts into the country. / God warned that the locusts would eat everything that was left after the hail. / The locusts would eat all the plants and trees in the fields.

/The locusts would fill the houses of Pharaoh, his servants and the people. / It will become so fearful that nothing like it will have ever been seen before. / The servants of Pharaoh were shocked to hear this.

/Verses 7-8. / Pharaoh's officials said to him, "How long will this man be a snare to us? Let the people go, so that they may worship the LORD their God. Do you not yet realize that Egypt is ruined?" Then Moses and Aaron were brought back to Pharaoh. "Go, worship the LORD your God," he said. "But just who will be going?"

/The servants of Pharaoh told him, "Egypt is ruined." / The country's economy became a mess. / Its economy plummeted.

/The Egyptians had nothing to eat. / Thus, Pharaoh asked Moses, "Who will be going to worship

the LORD your God?"

/Pharaoh was going to allow the people to go, but on one condition. / He was going to let the people go, but with a condition.

/Verses 9-11. / Moses answered, "We will go with our young and old, with our sons and daughters, and with our flocks and herds, because we are to celebrate a festival to the LORD." Pharaoh said, "The LORD be with you-- if I let you go, along with your women and children! Clearly you are bent on evil. No! Have only the men go; and worship the LORD, since that's what you have been asking for." Then Moses and Aaron were driven out of Pharaoh's presence.

/Moses' response was clear. / "Everyone will go out and serve the LORD." / All men and women and all the people, as well as their livestock would go out to serve the LORD.

/What was Pharaoh's reply? / Pharaoh said, "No." / "Do not take the young. Take the men only."

/This condition was meant to make them return to Egypt. /God told Pharaoh through Moses that he was going to send another plague to Egypt.

/Verses 12-13. / And the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over Egypt so that locusts will swarm over the land and devour everything growing in the fields, everything left by the hail." So Moses stretched out his staff over Egypt, and the LORD made an east wind blow across the land all that day and all that night. By morning the wind had brought the locusts;

/A strong wind came with the eighth plagues, the plague of locusts. / God called the locusts by wind.

/Verses 14-15. / they invaded all Egypt and settled down in every area of the country in great numbers. Never before had there been such a plague of locusts, nor will there ever be again. They covered all the ground until it was black. They devoured all that was left after the hail-- everything growing in the fields and the fruit on the trees. Nothing green remained on tree or plant in all the land of Egypt.

/God called the locusts. / There was no plague like this before. / The land became black because of the great number of locusts.



/The locusts ate all the plants and trees that was left after the hail. / Pharaoh was surprised and called Moses.

/Verses 16-17. / Pharaoh quickly summoned Moses and Aaron and said, "I have sinned against the LORD your God and against you. Now forgive my sin once more and pray to the LORD your God to take this deadly plague away from me."

/When God sent the plague, Pharaoh said to Moses, "Forgive my sin." / "I am in the wrong." / Pharaoh pleaded, "Please save my life." / Did Pharaoh really have a change in heart?

/Verses 18-19. / Moses then left Pharaoh and prayed to the LORD. And the LORD changed the wind to a very strong west wind, which caught up the locusts and carried them into the Red Sea. Not a locust was left anywhere in Egypt.

/Verse 20. / But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he would not let the Israelites go.

/God drove the locusts out with the west wind. / The locusts all went into the Red Sea. / The land cleared up and no locust was seen again.

/The plague ended. / Pharaoh heart became hardened again. / Pharaoh did not have faith. / Pharaoh just wanted to escape from his momentary troubles. / Hence, God warned Moses that he would send another plague.

/Verses 21-22. /Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward the sky so that darkness will spread over Egypt-- darkness that can be felt." So Moses stretched out his hand toward the sky, and total darkness covered all Egypt for three days.

/God told Moses to stretch his hand toward the sky. / Then, darkness would spread over Egypt for three days. / The sun did not disappear.

/God sent darkness onto the land. / God did not cover the sun with clouds. / Darkness fell on the land. / Nothing is impossible for God.

/Verse 23. / No one could see anyone else or leave his place for three days. Yet all the Israelites had light in the places where they lived.

/However, there was light where the Israelites lived. / God gives light to those who fear and obey God. / We must give thanks to God for light from the sun, the moon, and the stars.

/Yet, more importantly, God becomes the spiritual light that lights up our hearts. / God leads us with his light. / This light is the truth.

/The light shines upon those who obey God. / God shows us the truth.

/Verse 24. / Then Pharaoh summoned Moses and said, "Go, worship the LORD. Even your women and children may go with you; only leave your flocks and herds behind."

/Pharaoh called Moses and told him to go out and serve the LORD. / However, there was one condition. / They were to leave the flocks and herds behind.

/Pharaoh said, "Even your children may go with you." / However, he told Moses to leave the flocks and herds of sheep and goats behind.

/Then Moses spoke again in verses 25, 26.

/Verses 25-26. / But Moses said, "You must allow us to have sacrifices and burnt offerings to present to the LORD our God. Our livestock too must go with us; not a hoof is to be left behind. We have to use some of them in worshipping the LORD our God, and until we get there we will not know what we are to use to worship the LORD."

/Moses did not give in and compromise. / He did not compromise the truth. / Moses said that if he could take the sheep and oxen, he will not go.

/He said that they would take everything if they left the country. / In Revelation 22:18,19, / it says, "I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book."

/It says that to anyone who adds to God's words, God will add to him the plagues that are written

in the book. / To anyone who took away from the words of God, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city.

/We follow and trust God's word as it is. / The Bible may not be compatible with one's intellect. / It may not agree with one's experience. / It may not be objective or scientific.

/Still, we must believe and follow God's word. / We believe that God created the entire universe. / We believe that God rained down manna from the sky.

/We believe that God divided the Red Sea. / We believe that Jesus walked on water. / We believe that Jesus fed five thousand people and other tens of thousands with two fish and five loaves of bread.

/Jesus calmed the wind and the storm with His words. / Believing all this is our faith. / This is not idolatry. / It is holy faith God that gives us.

/Verses 27-29. / But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he was not willing to let them go. Pharaoh said to Moses, "Get out of my sight! Make sure you do not appear before me again! The day you see my face you will die." "Just as you say," Moses replied, "I will never appear before you again."

/Pharaoh told Moses, "Get out of my sight! Make sure you do not appear before me again!" / Pharaoh was angry because Moses refused his proposed condition.

/We must never agree to compromise to anything when we obey God's word. / Have a drink just this one time. / Do not go to church this one time. / Bow down to an idol just this one time. / A one time allowance of any of these things is failure.

/We must never compromise our faith, and we must hold onto our faith. / Pharaoh warned Moses, "The day you see my face you will die."

/Pharaoh threatened Moses. / Pharaoh threatened to kill him. / We must not be afraid of anything, and we must become believers who keep our faith.

/Here we will conclude the fifth lecture. /Thank you.

