

Exodus 11 The Last Plague

The story of Exodus is our story. We are in it.

Jesus sets us free from slavery to sin.

Jesus took the wrath of God and the judgment of God that we see demonstrated in the plagues.

Jesus is the Passover lamb that we'll look at next week.

Jesus is God in our midst that we'll see most clearly with the Tabernacle.

The story of the Exodus helps us to make sense of what God has done and is doing in our lives today. Looking back at it from the perspective of thousands of years ago, knowing that Exodus is a precursor of the gospel, we can learn this: God's kingdom will prevail. God's kingdom will be attacked but will prevail.

God is sovereign over the future. To be clear, the Exodus is not circumstantial. It is the sovereignty of God. Notice how God points to Himself or a person or a group with certainty in this section. This comes out with the word, "will."

I *will* bring...I *will* go...firstborn *will* die...there *will* be loud wailing...then you *will* know
The officials of Egypt *will* come...Pharaoh *will* refuse to listen

God not only predicts the future, He makes it happen. This is not a collection of circumstances that just happened to fall into place. God made it happen.

God is sovereign over people – His enemies and His friends.

All the power of Pharaoh is no match for the God of Israel.

The false gods of Egypt have no power compared to the God of the Bible.

Then the LORD said to Abram, "Know for certain that your offspring will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs and will be servants there, and they will be afflicted for four hundred years. But I will bring judgment on the nation that they serve, and afterward they shall come out with great possessions.
Genesis 15:13-14 (ESV)

By the time the last plague occurs, Pharaoh and the Egyptians have clearly seen the power and supremacy of God. If there was any kind of belief on Pharaoh's part that this god or that god compelled him to brutally rule the Israelites, all of those gods are defeated. They have been routed by the God of Israel. There is nothing left to hide behind.

God sovereignly chose Jesus to receive the judgment due to us.

One of the things that the plagues teach us is the wrath of God against sin. That's not a popular term these days. God's wrath is His natural, normal response to sin. All of this anger and wrath and hostility toward sin which is clearly demonstrated in the plagues – all of that is a picture of what Jesus absorbed while He was on the cross.

From the sixth hour until the ninth hour darkness came over all the land. About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?"--which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Matthew 27:45-46

Two things Jesus experienced that He had never experienced before:
Separation from God AND the presence of sin within Him.