

Sermon Outlines

Exodus 8 - The Plague of Frogs

Introduction

- 1) When Moses first went to Pharaoh with the command of the Lord, “Let my people go” (Ex. 5:1; 7:16), his retort was, “Who is the Lord that I should let them go?”. It is important to get a right understanding of his response. To the Egyptians, Pharaoh was god and also being the ruler over multiple domains were multiple other gods, Ra, etc. To Pharaoh, the God of Moses and the Israelites was just another god who had no rights to get involved with the government of Egypt. The response of God was to let Pharaoh learn who the God of Israel was. God will show Himself superior to all the gods of Egypt, using them against the Egyptians.
- 2) One of the chief gods of Egypt was Heqet, the female counterpart of Khnum. In ancient Egypt Khnum’s responsibility was in the making of the human body while Heqet is responsible for breathing a Ka into an inanimate being, after which the child is placed in the mother’s womb. This, in particular, Heqet was the god of fertility and abundance. This god had the likeness of a woman with a frog’s head. Two other things are of note about frogs and ancient Egypt:
 - a) Frogs were a blessing for agriculture, they ate the bugs which would have destroyed the crops, so frogs were good for business.
 - b) They were also good for eating, i.e frogs legs, so they were part of the national diet.
- 3) The Egyptians did the same as Moses and this only meant a bigger problem, for now there were the frogs from God as a plague, and those of the enchanters belittling that of the Lord. In time Pharaoh had had enough and sent for Moses. He wanted Moses to pray to the Lord, thus recognizing in (Ex. 8:8) the judgment came from God.

The Relationship Between Moses and Pharaoh

- 1) When Moses went to Pharaoh he said “Glory over me, when shall I entreat for thee?” I understand this to indicate, in his case I am your servant, so I will do your bidding, “When do you want the frogs removed?” One would have thought Pharaoh would have said “Right now” but he did not say that, his answer was “tomorrow: (Ex. 8:10).
 - a) Pharaoh was in a difficult situation in decision making. The frog was a god and there was her male counterpart. Could he risk offending the two gods? If they were offended there could be no crops and that would be devastating to the health and economy of Egypt. On the other hand, could he have the frogs increasingly flourish throughout the entire country? It was a major decision, something perhaps he would have to think about.
 - b) He wanted to be free from the plague, but not just yet.

Application

Is it possible a judgment can come from God because of personal, assembly national sin? It is known it is wrong, an act of defiance, of dishonour to the God of Heaven, and we want to be free from it, but not yet! Tomorrow a new leaf will be turned, but not yet. God says:

- a) Remember:
 - i) The separation it brings (Isa. 59:2; Jer. 5:25).
 - ii) The shame it brings (Lk. 15:15-18).
- b) Reckon:
 - i) Reckon yourselves dead to sin, live free from the dominating power of sin as king (Rom. 6:11, 12).
- c) Remember:
 - i) God will never give a command to do something He has not given the enablement to do.
 - ii) The man with the withered hand, “stretch forth thy hand” (Mk. 3:5); the paralytic, “Rise up and walk” (Mk. 2:9).

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- d) Refuse to compromise:
 - i) Eve compromised (Gen. 3:1-6)
 - ii) Barnabas compromised (Gal. 2:13)
 - iii) Peter compromised (Mk. 14:54)

Evangelical Application

- 1) There are those who know all the works in the world will never give peace to the heart.
 - a) Has anyone ever met any one who thought they had done enough to:
 - i) Balance the wrongs done.
 - ii) Give out a perfect righteousness before God.
 - iii) God's commentary (Rom. 3:10-18).
- 2) Can one risk putting the matter of salvation off for another day, saying "Tomorrow"?
 - a) There is no room for compromise.
 - b) God does not compromise, it is Heaven or Hell for eternity.
- 3) Reckon:
 - a) Take spiritual inventory of ones self using the word of God as the standard, using the Ten Commandments, which have I never broken?
 - b) When ought one get saved?
 - c) What if I refuse like Pharaoh, then like Pharaoh the judgment of God will fall upon the individual.

**May God grant us good understanding as He, by His Holy Spirit, deigns to guide us into all truth.
John 16:13**

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