

## *The ways of the LORD (Exodus ch 5-10)*

- *God was seeking...*
  - *a people to be His*
  - *a leadership to guide His people*
  - *YOU & ME*

*Moses and Aaron brought together all the elders of the Israelites, and Aaron told them everything the LORD had said to Moses. He also performed the signs before the people, and they believed. And when they heard that the LORD was concerned about them and had seen their misery, they bowed down and worshipped. (Ex 4:29-31)*

# *I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt (12:12)*

## **Chapter 5**

### **Pharaoh:**

**Who is the LORD that I should obey him?**

**Slave drivers & Israel foremen**

**Increase the productivity**

**No supply of grain-get your own**

**Punish the Hebrew foremen**

**Foremen to Pharaoh**

**The leadership and the people falter**

- **Pharaoh versus the LORD**



# *The people falter & the LORD encourages & strengthens*

- *The promise of leaving bondage & slavery will happen*
- *I AM the LORD*
- *Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob*
- *Remember the covenant to give them Canaan*
- *I heard the people crying out, the promise again, but Israelites did not listen*
- *Lord to Moses: Go tell Pharaoh let my people go.*
- *Moses: why should he listen to me?*

# *The people falter & the LORD encourages & strengthens*

- *Say what-a genealogy?!!*
- *Note (6:14-27):*
  - *Only the first three of Jacob's sons are listed*
  - *The focus of the genealogy is on Levi*
  - *Both Aaron and Moses are descendants of Levi*
  - *The genealogy continues for rooting further significance to several descendants later on*
- *The immediate purpose in context*
  - *Encouragement to Aaron and Moses that they are part of the family of Jacob*
  - *It validates both of them to the people, a real encouragement for Moses in particular as it informs Pharaoh of his full background*

## *The people falter & the LORD encourages & strengthens*

- *The LORD lays out the plan for His covenant and specific plan for deliverance*
- *6:28-7:2*
- *Now when the LORD spoke to Moses in Egypt, he said to him, "I am the LORD. Tell Pharaoh king of Egypt everything I tell you. "But Moses said to the LORD, "Since I speak with faltering lips, why would Pharaoh listen to me?" Then the LORD said to Moses, "See, I have made you like God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron will be your prophet. You are to say everything I command you, and your brother Aaron is to tell Pharaoh to let the Israelites go out of his country.*

## *The people falter & the LORD encourages & strengthens*

- *But I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and though I multiply my miraculous signs and wonders in Egypt, he will not listen to you. Then I will lay my hand on Egypt and with mighty acts of judgment I will bring out my divisions, my people the Israelites. And the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD when I stretch out my hand against Egypt and bring the Israelites out of it." Moses and Aaron did just as the LORD commanded them. Moses was eighty years old and Aaron eighty-three when they spoke to Pharaoh.*



## The Way of the LORD in Deliverance (Ex 7:8-13)

- Before Pharaoh/officials
- Staff will become a **snake**
- Wise men, sorcerers, magicians
  - Did the same things
- Aaron's staff swallowed theirs
- The LORD
  - Pharaoh's heart is unyielding
  - He refuses to let the people go



## *The showdown begins!*

- *The Pharaohs claimed divine rights to rule*
- *The snake was a symbol of Pharaoh's authority and power*
- *The location & audiences*
- *How they would understand the sign and its message*
- *The memory of the snake in Eden*





## The LORD acts against the serpent king!



- *Ch 9:13 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. 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. You still set yourself against my people and will not let them go. Therefore, at this time tomorrow..*

	The LORD	Moses/Aaron Response	Location	Sign/Plague	Pharoah response	Magicians/Officials	The LORD	Israelites
	I AM							
	Let my people go!	Did as the Lord commanded	Palace	Staff to serpent	He did not listen	Wisemen could duplicate	Aaron's staff swallowed them up	
Triad 1	Let my people go!	Did as the Lord commanded	Bank of Nile	Water to blood everywhere in Egypt	Didn't listen, no concern	Magicians could duplicate		unknown
	Let my people go!	..there is no one like our Lord	Over the Nile	Frogs, in Pharoah's house, bed,etc	Entreat the Lord/then did not listen	Magicians could duplicate		unknown
	No warning given	Did as the Lord commanded		Gnats	Did not listen	..but they could not duplicate		unknown
Triad 2	Let my people go!	..but do not be deceitful	as he comes out to the water	Flies	Entreat the Lord/then did not listen	no mention		Goshen not included
	Deadline given	Did as the Lord commanded	stood before Pharoah	Livestock disease	Gathered info on Israel, did not listen	no mention		Israel's animals will not die
	No warning given	Did as the Lord commanded		Boils	Did not listen	..magicians had boils	..still you exalt yourself against My people	unknown
Triad 3	Let my people go!	Did as the Lord commanded	stood before Pharoah	Hail	I have sinned, we are wicked, but sinned again	.some protected animals..		Goshen not included
	the God of the Hebrews	Did as the Lord commanded	stood before Pharoah	Locusts: their land destroyed	..hurriedly, forgive my sin this once, entreat..hardened heart	Let the men go!		unknown
	No warning given	Did as the Lord commanded		Thick darkness for 3 days	refused, get away from me, do not see my face again!	no mention		unknown

# The mysteries of a hardened heart

Exodus Reference	Title	Hebrew Word	Hebrew Tense	Greek Word (LXX)	Greek Tense	Interpretation with Pronoun
7:03	The Lord to Moses	( <i>hāzaq</i> ) קִזְּחַ "to make firm"	Hiphil (causative, "I will harden")	σκληρύνω ( <i>sklērynō</i> )	Future active ("I will harden")	God says "I will harden Pharaoh's heart."
7:13	Staff to serpent	( <i>hāzaq</i> ) קִזְּחַ	Qal perfect (completed passive, "was hardened")	σκληρύνω ( <i>esklynthē</i> )	Aorist passive	Pharaoh's heart was hardened (no direct agent named).
7:14	Staff to serpent (cont.)	"( <i>kābēd</i> ) "to be heavy" כָּבֵד	Niphal perfect (passive, "is unyielding")	βαρύνω ( <i>bareúō</i> )	Perfect passive	Pharaoh's heart is unyielding/heavy.
7:22	Water to blood	( <i>hāzaq</i> ) קִזְּחַ	Qal imperfect (ongoing)	σκληρύνω ( <i>esklynthē</i> )	Aorist passive	Pharaoh's heart was hardened (passive description).
8:15	Frogs	( <i>kābēd</i> ) כָּבֵד	Hiphil perfect (causative, "he made heavy")	βαρύνω ( <i>ebarynēsen</i> )	Aorist active	Pharaoh hardened his own heart.
8:19	Gnats	( <i>hāzaq</i> ) קִזְּחַ	Qal imperfect	σκληρύνω ( <i>esklynthē</i> )	Aorist passive	Pharaoh's heart was hardened (passive).
8:32	Flies	( <i>kābēd</i> ) כָּבֵד	Hiphil imperfect	ἐβαρύνθη ( <i>ebarynthē</i> )	Aorist passive	Pharaoh hardened his heart (active).
9:07	Livestock	( <i>kābēd</i> ) כָּבֵד	Niphal perfect (passive, "was hardened")	ἐβαρύνθη ( <i>ebarynthē</i> )	Aorist passive	Pharaoh's heart was hard/unmoved.
9:12	Boils	( <i>hāzaq</i> ) קִזְּחַ	Hiphil imperfect (causative)	ἐσκληρύνεν ( <i>esklērynen</i> )	Aorist active	The LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart.
9:34	Hail (Pharaoh sees relief)	קָבַד מְּוֹד + ( <i>kābēd</i> ) כָּבֵד <i>kabed me'od</i> , "heavily" ("hardened")	Hiphil imperfect (active causative)	ἐβάρυνε ( <i>ebáryne</i> )	Aorist active	Pharaoh and his servants hardened their hearts.
9:35	Hail (summary)	( <i>hāzaq</i> ) קִזְּחַ	Qal imperfect	ἐσκληρύνθη ( <i>esklynthē</i> )	Aorist passive	Pharaoh's heart was hardened (passive summary).
10:20	Locusts	( <i>hāzaq</i> ) קִזְּחַ	Hiphil imperfect (causative)	ἐσκληρύνεν ( <i>esklērynen</i> )	Aorist active	The LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart.
10:27	Darkness	( <i>hāzaq</i> ) קִזְּחַ	Hiphil imperfect (causative)	ἐσκληρύνεν ( <i>esklērynen</i> )	Aorist active	The LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart.

# The mysteries of a hardened heart

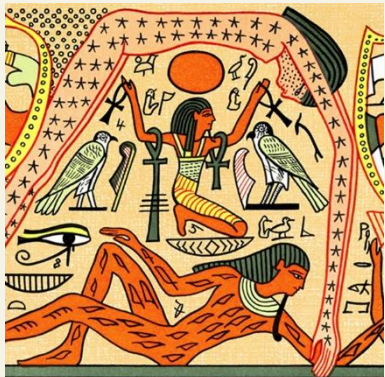
- *God's sovereign purpose*
- *God seeks by creating opportunity for all to come*
- *Pharaoh's opportunities*
- *And growing resistance*
- *To total resolve & rejection*

Exodus	Event	Interpretation
7:03	The Lord to Moses	God says "I will harden Pharaoh's heart."
7:13	Staff to serpent	Pharaoh's heart was hardened (no direct agent named).
7:14	Staff to serpent (cont.)	Pharaoh's heart is unyielding/heavy.
7:22	Water to blood	Pharaoh's heart was hardened (passive description).
8:15	Frogs	Pharaoh hardened his own heart.
8:19	Gnats	Pharaoh's heart was hardened (passive).
8:32	Flies	Pharaoh hardened his heart (active).
9:07	Livestock	Pharaoh's heart was hard/unmoved.
9:12	Boils	The LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart.
9:34	Hail (Pharaoh seeks relief)	Pharaoh and his servants hardened their hearts.
9:35	Hail (summary)	Pharaoh's heart was hardened (passive summary).
10:20	Locusts	The LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart.
10:27	Darkness	The LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart.

# The upper and lower story

*Against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD.*

- **Back to Eden**
- **The attacks by the LORD against the gods of Egypt & their gods**



Water to Blood	Hapi: god of the Nile
Frogs	Heqet (frog-headed goddess of fertility and childbirth).
Gnats/Lice	
Flies	Khepri (scarab-headed god of rebirth and creation, associated with flies and beetles).
Livestock Disease	Apis (bull god), Hathor (cow goddess), and others tied to cattle.
Boils	Sekhmet (goddess of healing), Serapis (healing deity), Imhotep (patron of physicians).
Hail	Nut (sky goddess), Shu (air god), Tefnut (moisture goddess).
Locusts	Seth (god of storms, chaos, protector of crops).
Darkness	Ra (sun god), the chief deity.
Death of the Firstborn	Pharaoh himself, viewed as the son of Ra, and protector of Egypt.





## Lessons today for us from:

- **The Hebrew people of YHWH**
  - His covenant with Israel
  - Prophecy to Abraham about the four hundred years & slavery
  - Identity in YHWH preserved in Goshen
- **TRUST IN GOD AND HIS PROMISES**
  - The Covenant of Salvation in Christ
  - The Building of His People- the Church



## *Lessons today for us from:*

- **Moses**

- *Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh?*
- *I am slow of speech and tongue; please send someone else!*
- *Expect the response of fear when we hear God's calling*
- *Appropriate the LORD's promise: "I will be with you"*

- **Aaron**

- *The LORD: Go to desert & meet Moses-he did.*
- *Informed the elders of the Israelites, -he did*
- *The Christian mission is a shared and blessed by the LORD together*
- *Appropriate that we are not alone in His work*

## Lessons today for us from:

- **Pharaoh**
  - *Every opportunity to turn to the LORD of All*
  - *First refusal can become the road that leads to destruction*
  - *Appropriate obedience rather than resistance*
- **Egyptian Leadership**
  - *The LORD: they aligned themselves to the wrong leader until it was too late*
  - *Appropriate the world view that aligns with Him first, only and always*
- **The Body of Christ**
  - *Begins with the One who was up on a cross to bring salvation*
  - *Continues for the One who adopted those who accept Him into His family*
  - *Hopes in the Promise of the LORD for an eternal destiny in His kingdom*