

# The 10 Plagues (part 2)

EXODUS CHAPTER 8-10

# Consequence of Unbelief



- ▶ There is always consequence in sinning against God with **unbelief** (Heb. 3:19)
- ▶ These plagues first caused people to **struggle** (1-2)
- ▶ Then these plagues moved from annoying to **suffering** (3-6)
- ▶ Eventually these plagues caused **fear** & terror (7-9)
- ▶ The ultimate plague at the end would cause all these three and more...

# It Causes Inconvenience and Pain



- ▶ Besides inconvenience and physical pain, there were other **consequences** as well:
- ▶ For example, there were financial consequences
- ▶ First, it was only their **livestock**
- ▶ Then came the **hails** that destroyed far more
- ▶ Finally it was the **locusts** that ate everything
- ▶ Once again the consequences were progressive

# And It Was Getting Darker...

- ▶ The sky was covered with the worse **storm** ever...
- ▶ Then, the sky was darkened again with **locusts**...
- ▶ After that, it was entirely dark with **no light** whatsoever...
- ▶ Finally, at the darkest of night, the **angel** of death came
- ▶ (1 John 1:5-6) The further away from God, the darker it gets. How far are you?



# God Separates His Own

- ▶ Nevertheless, among God's people there were no flies, no locusts, and above all, there was light. (Exo. 8:22-23)
- ▶ This does not mean that God's people **never suffer**, rather He does not "plague" His own people (Eze. 30:19; James 1:17)
- ▶ Nevertheless, Pharaoh was not going to let them go so easily



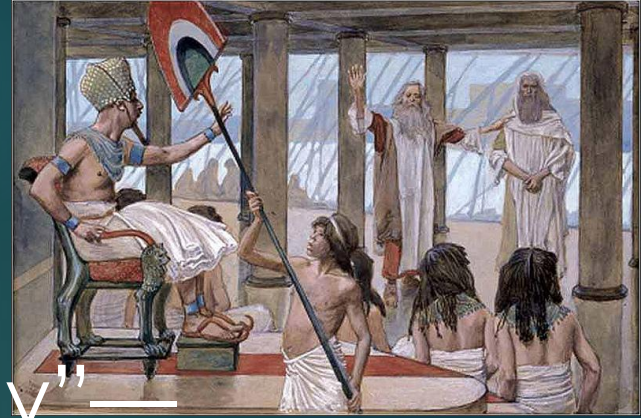
# Pharaoh Was Trying to Hold On



- ▶ Interesting to see how Pharaoh **resisted** letting the people go (as a picture of the world)
- ▶ (8:25) First, he told them to worship their God “within the land”—**mixing** Egyptian worship with the truth (never really left the world)
- ▶ We should go to the world to love the people and share our faith with them. Nevertheless, the **world** should not be in the church.

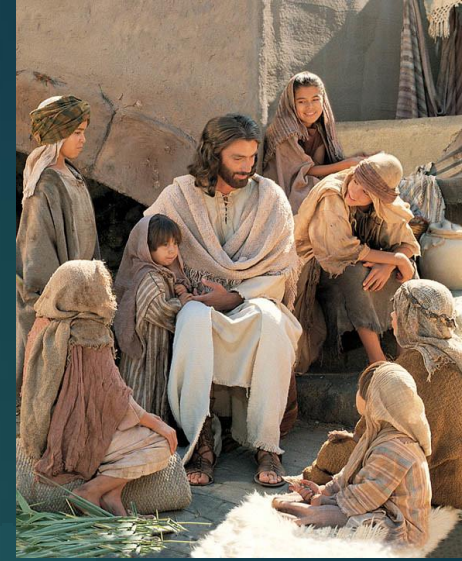
# The World is Right Behind Us

- ▶ Second, (8:28) “must not go very far away” — this is the desire of the devil, never wanting us to walk **far away** from sin even when we turn our backs to the world
- ▶ (Gal. 4:3; 9; Col. 2:8) The devil wants us to believe that we **cannot** leave the world’s principle and system behind. For one reason or another we “need” the world and its principles.



# The World Wants Our Children

- ▶ Third, the **children** were not allowed to go worship the Lord (10:8-11)
- ▶ The devil knows he cannot get us back from being God's children (John 10:28-29) but he may still be able to **enslave our children**, just like Pharaoh did not want to let the children go
- ▶ Slavery does not always involve **chains**, it could be entertainment, education, etc.





- ▶ Finally, Pharaoh wants to hold back their **flocks** (10:24) either as compensation or collateral. Therefore God's people must go back to Egypt if they want to claim these back.
- ▶ Today such control comes in two forms. Either we believe we **need** the world to “provide” for our needs instead of God.
- ▶ Or we **want** what the world offers and willingly go back to be slaves



# Conclusion

- ▶ There is always a **consequence** in unbelief (Heb. 3:19). Yet God still extends His **mercy** to anyone that turns away from his unbelief (1 Tim. 1:13-16).
- ▶ Even though the world may want to **bind** our flocks, our reliance, or even our children, we serve a **deliverer** that is greater than the world (Eph. 2:1-4; 1 John 4:4)
- ▶ Are you willing to **turn** to your Deliverer today?