

Salvation and Freedom From Sin's Slavery

This week – continuing our lessons which teach the almighty saving power of Jesus Christ.

“Today, if you hear His (God’s) voice, harden not your hearts”.

Hebrews 3v15.

Bible Readings for this week:

(Choose a regular time each day to read the bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	Exodus 7v1-13 (Sign Miracles before Pharaoh)	
Monday	Exodus 7v14-25 (The Miraculous Plagues begin)	
Tuesday	Exodus 8v1-15 (More Plagues, Pharaoh’s heart hardened)	
Wednesday	Exodus 8v16-32 (More Plagues, Pharaoh’s heart hardened)	
Thursday	Exodus 9v1-21 (Plague 8, God hardens Pharaoh’s heart v12)	
Friday	Exodus 9v22-35 (Plague 9, Pharaoh’s heart hardened)	
Saturday	Psalm 105v26-37 (God’s Sovereign Power Praised)	

Important Lesson for us Today: Can and does God perform miracles today? **Yes**, because He never changes. **BUT** a careful study of God’s Word shows that He only performed these miracles at special times, through selected faithful men. We use the term ‘Sign Miracles’, as they were to authenticate the person God used – e.g., Moses, Elijah, The Apostles. These men were also used of God to write Scripture under the inspiration of God, The Holy Spirit. The Lord Jesus Christ performed many miracles to demonstrate that He is God. Now that we have The Bible, God’s completed Word, we have all we need to know, so we no longer need men working miracles today. God can still answer prayer in a miraculous way – e.g., to heal a sick person etc. **BUT** He does not use men in the way He did in the Bible. **The greatest miracle that God performs today** is that of the Holy Spirit quickening (renewing a spiritually dead heart) to cause the person to repent and believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour.

The quickening work of the Holy Spirit is the New Birth. Born from above. **Read Ephesians 2v1-10.**

Hymn 185 encouraging us to come to our Sovereign God for peace and rest for our soul:

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| 1. Sovereign Ruler of the Skies!
Ever gracious, ever wise!
All my times are in Thy hand,
All events at Thy command. | 5. Plagues and deaths around me fly,
Till He bids I cannot die:
Not a single shaft can hit
Till the God of love thinks fit. |
| 2. He that formed me in the womb,
He shall guide me to the tomb;
All my times shall ever be
Ordered by His wise decree. | 6. O Thou gracious, wise and just,
In Thy hands my life I trust:
Thee, at all times, will I bless;
Having Thee, I all possess. |

EDT Bible/College Class Take Home Sheet

This sheet is given to remind you of the lesson and to encourage you to read your Bible.

Resisting The Lord – The Ten Plagues

• Background to Today’s Lesson.

- God had heard the cry of His people for deliverance from slavery in Egypt.
- Moses, now aged 80, was called by The Almighty, Sovereign and Gracious God, ‘**I AM THAT I AM**’, to go to Egypt to tell Pharaoh, “**Let My People Go**”.
- God gave Sign Miracles, His promised help, and help of his brother, Aaron.

• Moses and Aaron Faithfully Present God’s Demand to Pharaoh.

- **A Reasonable request** – ‘Let My People Go, for 3 Days, to Worship Me’. God calls us to worship Him. Do we answer as Pharaoh did? ‘**Who is the Lord, that I should obey His voice?**’, or say, ‘**Why should I listen to God?**’

• God Backs Up His Demand with 10 Powerful Plagues.

- We learn from God’s dealing with Pharaoh that it is dangerous to resist the Lord God, setting our hearts against Him in unbelief. **Consider each plague:**
 - **River Nile Turned to Blood** – Once life-giving water, now bringing death. This disgusting sight reminds us of the deadly consequences of our sin.
 - **Frogs Everywhere** – Frogs were a symbol of life and fertility. Now loathed. We can ask God to remove terrible things but **not** keep our promise to Him.
 - **Gnats and Lice** – Detested by Egyptians, seen as ‘**the finger of God**’, Ex 8v19. Disappointments, life tragedies are allowed by God to bring us back to Him.

The following only happened to the Egyptians; the Hebrews were not affected:-

- **Flies** – disease and death. Pharaoh tries to bargain with God. Exodus 8v28. God asks us to obey Him fully and not compromise by holding onto favourite sins.
- **Cattle Disease** – Pharaoh’s heart was hardened. If we constantly dismiss the Lord now, there may come a time when He will no longer plead with us.
- **Boils** – God, out of mercy, used Pharaoh as a warning to us to not resist Him.
- **Hail** – During our life things we depend upon for happiness may be removed.
- **Locusts** – A warning - living for the pleasures of this world can take us over.
- **Darkness** – Do not ‘scream out’ in your heart to God, “**Go away, leave me alone, leave me in darkness**”. **Rather, cry out for light and life in Christ.**

We will look at the 10th Plague next week.

• Do not Harden Your Heart Against The Lord. Today is the Day of Grace

- If we come in repentance and faith God will not cast us out. **Read John 6v37.**

We must all bow before the Sovereign God. The Apostle Paul wrote, “**What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid. For He saith to Moses, I will have mercy on Whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on Whom I will have compassion**”.

Romans 9 vs 14,15.