

# “THE PLAGUES OF EGYPT: THAT THOU MAYEST KNOW THAT THERE IS NONE LIKE UNTO THE LORD OUR GOD”

Pastor Jose Maldonado

Hillburn Drive Grace Baptist Church

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*“And he said, To morrow. And he said, Be it according to thy word: that thou mayest know that there is none like unto the LORD our God.” Exodus 8:10*

After speaking on 6 messages on “Contenting for the TRUTH against the Strongholds of Satan,” I would like to finally break into the 10 Plagues of Egypt and used this week and next as an introduction to our new series: “The Plagues of Egypt: That Thou Mayest Know That There Is None Like Unto The LORD Our God!” I believe that is the longest title I’ve ever given to a sermon in 26 years. This morning perhaps will be more on teaching than on preaching so bear with me as we seek to familiarize ourselves with the 10 plagues of Egypt. Though we are using Exodus 8:10 to introduce the 10 Plagues we will look at various parts of chapters 7 -12 this morning: We are going to preach on perhaps 6 of the most remarkable chapters in the entire Bible in chapters 7 – 12 of Exodus. No doubt the gospel will also be set forth as this is my main emphases; that is, I don’t share this story just to give you a historical narrative of the 10 Plagues, no my intent is to set forth the Omnipotent Sovereignty of God and to declare to you that there is no other God like the God of the Bible and that salvation is found only in this same God that delivered Israel from the oppression and bondage of Egypt.

Again, this is the SAME SOVEREIGN GOD who delivers sinners from their sins that is; from the oppression and bondage of sin. We have already in the prior series have made the comparison or similarity regarding the application that the book of Exodus is a book of redemption or deliverance which is a type of our spiritual salvation as Egypt is a type of the world, Pharaoh is a type of Satan and their deliverance is a type of our redemption in Christ. One of my favorite verses in Exodus is Exodus 6:6, *“Wherefore say unto the children of Israel, I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will rid you out of their bondage, and I will redeem you with a stretched out arm, and with great judgments.”* God redeems sinners with an omnipotent and sovereign stretched out arm.

These chapters 7 – 12 again are 6 of the most remarkable chapters in the Bible because they set forth or if you wish are embedded with unbelievable miracles performed by Moses and Aaron through the POWER of GOD against Pharaoh and Egypt and also against ALL THE gods of Egypt. Notice Ex.12:12, *“For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD.”* You have this phrase a few times in the book of Isaiah, *“...For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still....”* If you are outside Christ this morning there is great hope and expectation that God’s hand is stretched out still to redeem and save you from your sins.

Now, when you read through these 6 chapters of Exodus you will find various terms which are used to describe the means which God used to deliver Israel. There are 4 and the most common of course is the word plague or the 10 plagues of Egypt. Now amazing that this phrase, 'The Ten Plagues of Egypt' is not used anywhere in the Bible, but because we count them we know there were 10. As a matter of fact when God sent Moses to Pharaoh to deliver the people from Egypt He never told Moses that there would be 10 plagues: Notice Ex.4:21, "*And the LORD said unto Moses, When thou goest to return into Egypt, see that thou **do all those wonders** before Pharaoh, which I have put in thine hand: but I will harden his heart, that he shall not let the people go.*" Ex.4:17, "*And thou shalt take this rod in thine hand, wherewith **thou shalt do signs.***"

God never told Moses that there would be 10 plagues, signs or wonders. Now the 4 words that are used in describing these mighty and powerful acts of God are: Plagues, Signs, Wonders and Judgment. Let's read some of these quickly: Plague and or Plagues: Ex.11:1&12:13, 9:14. Sign or signs in Ex.8:23 & 10:1-2. Wonders in Ex.7:3 (In 7:9 the word miracle is used but it is the same Hebrew words as wonder) & 11:9 & 10 and Judgment and Judgments in Ex.7:4 & 12:12.

These plagues, signs, wonders and judgements were sovereign blows from God to set forth HIS omnipotent power in declaring that: "*...thou shalt know that I am the LORD...*" and to inflict judgment upon Egypt and Pharaoh for their disobedience to God and for their harsh treatment of Israel for so many years and for the killing of all the male children at the time Moses was born in Exodus 2. Oh my, please remember this one true principle enshrined in the Bible, Numbers 32:23, "*But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out.*"

Now, there is no doubt that the LORD could have delivered His people by one sudden action and display of His omnipotent power, but He choose to do did it in 10 plagues and one of the reasons for this was so that people would learn from this and not make the same mistake as Pharaoh and Egypt did but to repent and believe in the only true God! Therefore God sovereignly showed forth the EXTENT of His POWER in the FEARFUL SCOPE of HIS JUDGMENTS in order to UNEQUIVOCALLY and UNDENIABLY DECLARE: "*And in very deed for this cause have I raised thee up, for to shew in thee my power; and that my name may be declared throughout all the earth.*" (9:17 *As yet exaltest thou thyself against my people, that thou wilt not let them go?*) (Ex.9:16) Now every Christian should know that this is quoted by Paul in Romans 9 to make his irrefutable point regarding the Sovereignty of God: Romans 9:17 & 18, "*For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth. 18 Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth.*" So to those yet outside Christ, let me ask you this morning would you want God to deal with you in mercy or in the hardening of your heart? That's a hard question but it must be ask? Oh dear ones take heed and do not die without

Christ and find yourselves in the same place with Pharaoh, God is not interested in your religion, your works or anything, God wants your heart: As He says: My SON give my thine heart or we can also say My daughter give me thine HEART! I think you are starting to realize that the story of the 10 plagues is not just some historical narrative or some fable or myth in the history of mankind, no it is THE LIVING & TRUE GOD DEMONSTRATING HIS SOVEREIGN POWER so that sinners might repent and believe HIM as their only hope!

You know what is the saddest thing about the 10 plagues found in the book of Exodus? It's that so many try to explain them away by some natural phenomenon that happen and that they were no miracles, signs and wonders of God. The saddest of all is that some of those who would be called biblical scholars spend more time explaining away these miracles because of mother nature. I say this not so much regarding those who profess not to believe in God that is; atheists, agnostics and so forth because I would expect that from them, but speaking of those who do profess to believe in God and they seek to explain away these great miracles of God. This is also one of my reasons of introducing these 10 plagues to you this morning instead of just jumping into the first plague, because I, for one, believe that these 10 plagues were all miracles, signs, wonders and judgments of God. I confess that God acted in time and space, taking charge over HIS created nature and worked supernaturally to work in mighty power to perform that which could otherwise never have been done. Again, these 10 Plagues were displays of His SOVEREIGN POWER over all of creation and that they were NOT merely some extraordinarily phenomenon of severe occurrences of otherwise natural features of Egyptian life.

Now the word plague means a blow or a stroke in particularly used of God inflicting calamities against individuals or nations. The word plague is also used as a mark or spot upon the skin like a scab in leprosy. Sometimes we might hear people speaking about disasters and they preface it or qualify it with the phrase 'of Biblical proportion,' because since the plagues of Egypt, these plagues have been the standard of measuring world disasters.

Now, no doubt that the first sign of turning the ROD in a serpent and swallowing up all the rods of the magicians was a precursor to the 10 plagues which God sent to Egypt. It teaches that God uses means to fulfill His purpose. God could have performed everything He did without Moses and Aaron. There is a sense that we can say that God could save anyone without the gospel, but God has chosen to use the means or instruments of the gospel to the salvation of sinners. 2 Thess.2:13 & 14, "*But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth: 14 Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.*" Thus, God in HIS Sovereign wisdom choose to use mere men to perform His mighty acts and God can also do this in REVIVAL, where one person can be used to

commence that holy work of God, because God will use the instrumentality of means in the fulfillment of His work.

Therefore God chose to use Moses and Aaron to fulfill His will and in like manner He uses His ministers in the preaching of the gospel for the salvation of sinners. Again, what a blessing that God would use the agency of human servants and in this particular case Moses and Aaron in the fulfillment of His purpose of delivering Israel from Egypt. Remember that it is God who is at work here, HE is the principle CHARACTER of this narrative here and for that matter the whole book of the Bible. God is the one who is going to destroy all the false gods of Egypt. It is God HIMSELF that is going to send these plagues for the purpose of making His name known throughout the earth and to execute judgment on Pharaoh and on Egypt, because they would not obey the commands of God.

Even with all this truth, many still try to explain away these wonders and plagues as some simple occurrence in the natural features of life in Egypt. Consider the following quote by a Calvin Wittman in his sermon on the 10 plagues, *“These supposedly intellectual critics have come up with explanations which rob the plagues of their miraculous nature and explain them away by offering what are often farfetched explanations for the plagues. They say that the Nile turned red because of unusually heavy rainfall which brought red dirt from the Abyssinian and Ethiopian plateau into the river, turning it unusually red. This, they say, polluted the Nile, causing the fish to die and the frogs to all leave the river, which caused the unusual amount of mosquitoes or gnats. And they go on to explain how one after another was the result of mere natural occurrences. Numerous volumes have been written by those who desperately search for some natural way to explain these supernatural events.”* He also says the following to make a point: *“The same people who have problems believing that the plagues were miraculous have problems with God creating the earth from nothing, and doing it in 7 days. They have problems with Jesus walking on the water and Jesus rising from the dead. It has been my observation that those who are looking for a way not believe the Bible always manage to find a way to explain away what their lack of faith will not permit them to take at face value.”*

This is what we come against anytime we bring up glorious miracles found in the Bible, as many seek to willfully deny this to the detriment of their souls. Again as Paul says in Romans 1, they seek to suppress or hold down the truth and to exchange the truth for a lie but Paul powerfully says verse 21-23, *“Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. 22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, 23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.”* Thus, as we heard already we must be ready to **CONTEND** for the faith and to **CONTEND** for the truth.

You would be surprised that there are many commentaries that say that the plagues should be only understood in terms of the phenomena that had occurred naturally in Egypt. They believe that each successive plague is simply initiated by the one before it and when you put the whole sequence together it only repeats the seasonal cycle

which is determined by the annual flood of the Nile. What these are doing is that they are explaining away the judgment of God in order to suppress their own conscience. These try to explain away the supernatural work of the True and Living God and rewrite something to conform to the notion of a world view concept by removing any action of God and would rather just remove God altogether.

Now, so that you do not misunderstand or misconstrue me, in saying all this I do not mean that there were not any natural disasters as rainstorms, earthquakes, flooding or hurricanes in Egypt, no these things occurred time to time as they do in our day, but one of the keys of understanding these plagues as coming directly from God was that these plagues were without precedence in the application of the timing of the plagues which were all dictated by the LORD's command. The plagues did involve the aspect of nature and or natural forces, but all in a specific way that was totally designed and clearly distinctive and convincingly miraculous! In other words what stands out so clearly that each and every one of these plagues were started and finished when God said so, no not mother nature, but GOD! John Mackay in his commentary in Exodus say this, *"What we have is not a religious explanation of events that were going to happen anyway, but a series of divinely instituted and controlled events that were so structured as to display conclusively that the LORD was in control of all the forces of the world He had created."*

I must also emphasize again that this battle was not between Moses and Pharaoh, or Aaron and the magicians or Israel against Egypt, no it was a BATTLE between God and Satan, thus the battle between God and the gods of Egypt: Ex,12:12, *"For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD."* God was very clear in setting forth why He did this!

Thus, the day of redemption and the day judgment was to be enacted by the ushering in of the 10 Plagues. God would now deliver His people and God would bring His judgment upon Pharaoh and Egypt. God was now ready to execute justice: ready to judge Pharaoh and the Egyptians for their disobedience and for their wicked sin of killing innocence male children as God would NOW in HIS timetable was going to free Israel from the bondage of Pharaoh and Egypt. God was prepared to unleash a series of 10 plagues upon Egypt. These ten plagues would touch every Egyptian family; not a single Egyptian home would be left untouched.

In the end, Pharaoh would free Israel; so much so that he would demand that they leave Egypt immediately. Exodus 12:29-33, *"And it came to pass, that at midnight the LORD smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne unto the firstborn of the captive that was in the dungeon; and all the firstborn of cattle. 30 And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he, and all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt; for there was not a house where there was not one dead. 31 And he called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, Rise up, and get you forth from among my people, both ye and the children of Israel; **and go, serve the LORD**, as ye have said. 32 Also take your flocks and your herds, as ye*

have said, and be gone; and bless me also. 33 And the Egyptians were urgent upon the people, **that they might send them out of the land in haste**; for they said, We be all dead men.”

This was my introduction to my 3 points: So before we look at the plagues individually let us look at three things:

## **I. The Plagues were to Declare God's Power:**

## **II. The Plagues were to Deliver God's People:**

## **III. The Plagues were to Demonstrate God's Preeminence:**

First of all we have: **I. The Plagues were to Declare God's Power:**

All the plagues were specific in that they were by the definite hand of GOD, in other words they were on purpose by design in the demonstration of His SOVEREIGN POWER! God's POWER is seen and declared in the sending of these plagues. I have 8 things under this first point: The Plagues (1) They were **Predicted**. (2) They were **Planned**. (3) They were **Particular**. (4) They were **Partial**. (5) They were to **Punish**. (6) They were **Patterned** (7) They were **Purposeful** that is; they were decisive and fixed and (8) they were a **Prototype** of future judgment. Thus under our first point The Plagues were to Declare God's POWER because:

1. They were **PREDICTED**: Moses would clearly tell and predict the exact moment of the arrival and departure of the plagues which clearly sets them apart from any concept of natural occurrence. Again it is so sad that when you read some commentaries that say that the plagues should be only understood in terms of the phenomena that had occurred naturally in Egypt. They believe that each successive plague is simply initiated by the one before it and when you put the whole sequence together it only repeats the seasonal cycle which is determined by the annual flood of the Nile. What these are doing is that they are explaining away the judgment of God and the reason for this again is that they seek to suppress their own conscience. But again Moses would clearly predict the exact moment of the arrival and departure of the plagues: Ex.8:10, 23; 9:5, 18, 19 & 10:4. Then you have all the verses where Moses entreated the Lord to stop the plagues.
2. They were **PLANNED**: All the plagues were by the sovereign hand of God. Each one was increased or if you wish intensified beyond the normal

occurrence. God used each plague to show the fallacy of the gods which the Egyptians were worshipping and to teach them that He was the only True and Living God. In other words we shall see that each and every plague was specifically planned by God to utterly disprove, yea denounce the false gods of the Egyptians. For example the first plague of changing the water or if you wish the Nile into blood was a judgment against Apis the god of the Nile and also Isis the goddess of the Nile because in the minds and hearts of the Egyptians the Nile was the lifeline of Egypt and the means of its many false gods and religion which is the premise of the next point.

3. They were **PARTICULAR**: Each particular plague was against a god or gods of Egypt. We'll see later, but God used each and every one of the plagues to demonstrate His omnipotent almighty power, not only to Egypt but to the whole world. We shall see that each plague attacked all the various gods of Egypt for example again, the plague of darkness was against the Egyptians sun god Ra and Pharaoh was the representative or if you wish the theophany of it. They were polytheistic people, but the Hebrews of Moses and the Christians of our day are monotheistic, that is we worship ONE GOD, not a multiplicity of gods. Each particular plague proved the great fallacy of all their gods which is no different in our day, as Solomon would say, "There is nothing new under the sun..." Therefore in our day there are also many false gods whether it the god of the Hindu's, god of Buddhism, god of Taoism or the god of Sikhism or the god of the Muslims, and of all the cults of our day, but we must understand there is only ONE God and it is the GOD of the Bible you hold in your hands. The Gospel exposes all the false gods of our age. Christ in His Great High Priest prayer in John 17 says in verse 3, "*And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.*"
4. They were **PARTIAL**: Beginning with the fourth plague they were discriminate or partial in that the plagues of flies, murrain, hail and darkness did not occur in the land of Goshen. Ex.8:22 & 23; 9:4 – 6; 9: 25 & 26, and 10: 22 & 23. Then of course the last plague on the death of the first born, all those who put the blood on their door posts God said that "*...when I see they blood, I will pass over you and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you when I smite the land of Egypt.*" Ex.12:12 & 13. But notice again how that Israel was distinguished or differentiated from Egypt in Ex.11:4-7. Let me ask you this morning, does God see the blood of Christ applied to the door posts of your heart?
5. They were to **PUNISH**: The plagues were an holy indictment and judgement against the gods of Egypt but also against Pharaoh and the

Egyptians. Again Ex.12:12, “For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt ***I will execute judgment: I am the LORD.***” Numbers 33:4, “For the Egyptians buried all their firstborn, which the LORD ***had smitten*** among them: upon their gods also the LORD executed judgments.”

6. They were **PATTERNED**: The plagues were also set forth in a pattern, yet a very distinct pattern with each progressing in intensity. They can be divided in a series of 4:

(1). The first 3 plagues 1-3 produced: **Distress**: From the water being turned into blood; frogs and lice upon man and beast which created such discomfort: You couldn't drink the water or water your crops it was a complete contamination of water supply therefore the liveliness of the Nile was completely gone. Then the frogs came and you couldn't even go to bed because there were frogs everywhere plus their property was ruined and there was threat of disease and then you could not hide from the lice that was throughout the land of Egypt. Thus these first 3 plagues created awful distress:

(2). The next 3 plagues 4-6 produced: **Discomfort**: The next 3 plagues would produce awful discomfort anguish upon the people and land. There was great damage everywhere except of course in the land of Goshen. The 4<sup>th</sup> plague were flies which led to awful pollution and uncleanness. This particular plague also got the attention of Pharaoh as he willing to negotiate. This was also the first plague where God put a division between Israel and the Egyptians: “*And I will put a division between my people and thy people...*” Ex.8:23. Then in the 5<sup>th</sup> plague the livestock was killed and in the 6<sup>th</sup> plague was awful boils to which the magicians were not only not able to get rid of but they were so afflicted by that they could not stand before Moses as they were unable to stand, work or move about.

(3). The next 3 plagues 7-9 produced: **Destruction**: These 3 plagues brought forth destruction and devastation. The plague of grievous hail that thundered in Egypt. It was the worst thunderstorm ever in that land. This 7<sup>th</sup> plague caused both destruction and death as the result of hailstorms and lightening. Ex. 9:24 & 25, “*So there was hail, and fire mingled with the hail, very grievous, such as there was none like it in all the land of Egypt since it became a nation. 25 And ***the hail smote*** throughout all the land of Egypt all that was in the field, ***both man and beast; and the hail smote every herb of the field, and brake every tree of the field.***” The 8<sup>th</sup> plague brought*



forth the locusts. Whatever the hailstorm did not destroyed the locusts would wipe out their food supply. Ex.10:4 - 6, 14 & 15 *“Else, if thou refuse to let my people go, behold, to morrow will I bring the locusts into thy coast: 5 And they shall cover the face of the earth, that one cannot be able to see the earth: and they shall eat the residue of that which is escaped, which remaineth unto you from the hail, and shall eat every tree which groweth for you out of the field: 6 And shall fill thy houses, and the houses of all thy servants, and the houses of all the Egyptians; which neither thy fathers, nor thy fathers' fathers have seen, since the day that they were upon the earth unto this day. And he turned himself, and went out from Pharaoh. 14 And the locusts went up over all the land of Egypt, and rested in all the coasts of Egypt: very grievous were they; before them there were no such locusts as they, neither after them shall be such. 15 For they covered the face of the whole earth, so that the land was darkened; and they did eat every herb of the land, and all the fruit of the trees which the hail had left: and there remained not any green thing in the trees, or in the herbs of the field, through all the land of Egypt. ”* Then the 9<sup>th</sup> plague was the awful plague of darkness. This plague of darkness was so intense in that it produced such fear and dread in the hearts of the Egyptians because of the inability to see move or work. For 3 days there intense darkness so that they were all confined in the awful darkness, yea a darkness that could be felt. This plague was aimed at the chief Egyptian deity the sun god Re or Ra of whom Pharaoh was a representation.

- (4). The last plague # 10 produced: **Death**: This last plague was the death of the firstborn males. This totally devastated and overwhelmed Egypt because they were all affected by this plague as all the firstborn males would die. This plague was perhaps more devastating than the former ones because it included death in every Egyptian family. Ex.11:1, 4 – 6, *“And the LORD said unto Moses, Yet will I bring one plague more upon Pharaoh, and upon Egypt; afterwards he will let you go hence: when he shall let you go, he shall surely thrust you out hence altogether. 4 And Moses said, Thus saith the LORD, About midnight will I go out into the midst of Egypt: 5 And all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sitteth upon his throne, even unto the firstborn of the maidservant that is behind the mill; and all the firstborn of beasts. 6 And there shall be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as there was none like it, nor shall be like it any more.”* Ex.12:12 again, *“For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD.”* Ex.12:23, 29, 30; *“For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you. 29 And it came to pass, that at midnight the LORD smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne unto the firstborn of the captive that was in the dungeon; and all the firstborn of cattle. 30 And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he, and all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt; for there was not a house where*

*there was not one dead.*” Yes these 10 plagues were patterns which is seen in producing distress, discomfort, destruction and death and lastly # 7: the plagues:

7. They were on **PURPOSED**: They were not given arbitrarily or mere randomly no God sent these 10 plagues on purposed and in particular order as a judicial indictment and declaration in a fearful holy judgment against all the gods of Egypt and Pharaoh. Again these plagues were a demonstration of God’s supreme and omnipotent power to set forth that He and HE alone is the Living and True God. Again, these plagues were also a severe judgment against Pharaoh and the Egyptians for their cruel and harsh treatment of God’s people. Thus, these plagues would be the means of God causing Pharaoh to set His people free.
  
8. Lastly, but nonetheless, these plagues are a **PROTOTYPE**: of God’s future judgment. There is similarity between the plagues of Egypt and the plagues described in the book of Revelation which are poured out upon the earth in the last days which precede the coming and return of our Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is coming and we are often reminded in the Bible to be a ready people as we look forward to His return as a matter of fact Peter makes this very interesting point in 2 Peter 3:9-14, *“The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. 10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. 11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, 12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? 13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. 14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.”* Even Christ warned us to be watching and waiting until He comes again: Mark 13:32-37, *“Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is. 34 For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch. 35 Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: 36 Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. 37 And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.”* In Luke 21:34-36 Christ says, “And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. 35 For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. 36 Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.” Yes, so these plagues are also a type of the future judgement of God before Christ comes back. How about you, are you ready for Christ coming back, are you Watching are you Waiting or have the things of this world totally replaced your heart’s outlook

## of why you serve God?

God used the plagues to demonstrate His omnipotent, almighty power to all the earth and to proclaim His name. Therefore, the plagues were to Declare God's Power: "And in very deed for this cause have I raised thee up, for to show in thee **my power**; and that my name may be declared throughout all the earth" (Exodus 9:16). "Then the magicians said unto Pharaoh, **This is the finger [power] of God**: and Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he hearkened not unto them: as the LORD had said" (Exodus 8:19). "Did ever people hear the voice of God speaking out of the midst of the fire, as thou hast heard, and live? Or hath God assayed [ever tried] to go and take him a nation from the midst of another nation, by temptations [trials], by signs, and by wonders, and by war, and **by a mighty hand, and by a stretched out arm**, and by great terrors, according to all that the LORD your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes?" (Deut. 4:33-34).

I pray that you do not make the same mistake as Pharaoh but that you see your heart as God see's it. May God be pleased to speak to your heart this morning and that you would flee to God as your only hope. Isaiah 45:18, 21-23, "For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else. 21 Tell ye, and bring them near; yea, let them take counsel together: who hath declared this from ancient time? who hath told it from that time? have not I the LORD? and there is no God else beside me; a just God and a Saviour; there is none beside me. 22 Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else. 23 I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear." Isaiah 55:6 & 7, "Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: 7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

Come this morning in repentance towards God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ!  
Let's Pray and Let's Sing: