

Morning Sermon March 28, 2021

“Water to Blood, Water to Wine,” – Exodus 7:17; John 2:6-10

I. The first plague was both an example and taste of God’s perfect justice –

An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, a river for a river, water for water –

¹⁷ Thus says the LORD: “By this you shall know that I *am* the LORD. Behold, I will strike the waters which *are* in the river with the rod that *is* in my hand, and they shall be turned to blood. ¹⁸ And the fish that *are* in the river shall die, the river shall stink, and the Egyptians will loathe to drink the water of the river.” ’ ” Exodus 7:17–18 (NKJV)

1. The Nile was a weapon Pharaoh had used against God’s people –

²² So Pharaoh commanded all his people, saying, “Every son who is born you shall cast into the river, and every daughter you shall save alive.” Exodus 1:22

2. The Nile, though death to many Israelite babies, was the river God used bring about the salvation of His chosen deliverer –

² And a man of the house of Levi went and took as *wife* a daughter of Levi. ² So the woman conceived and bore a son. And when she saw that he was a beautiful *child*, she hid him three months. ³ But when she could no longer hide him, she took an ark of bulrushes for him, daubed it with asphalt and pitch, put the child in it, and laid *it* in the reeds by the river’s bank. ⁴ And his sister stood afar off, to know what would be done to him. Exodus 2:1-4

3. The deliverer, named for his being drawn from the river, would be raised in Pharaoh’s own house –

¹⁰ And the child grew, and she brought him to Pharaoh’s daughter, and he became her son. So she called his name Moses, saying, “Because I drew him out of the water.” Exodus 2:10 (NKJV)

4. They had feared Israel’s boy babies because they had feared they would become a mighty army –

⁸ Now there arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. ⁹ And he said to his people, “Look, the people of the children of Israel *are* more and mightier than we; ¹⁰ come, let us deal shrewdly with them, lest they multiply, and it happen, in the event of war, that they also join our enemies and fight against us, and so go up out of the land.” Exodus 1:8-10

5. Yet, it is their own mighty army that, like the Israelite boy babies, is downed in water –

¹⁵ Then Moses and the children of Israel sang this song to the LORD, and spoke, saying: “I will sing to the LORD, For He has triumphed gloriously! The horse and its rider He has thrown into the sea! Exodus 15:1 (NKJV)

A. Here the pharaohs of Egypt, are like Haman, who hung on the gallows he built for Mordecai –

⁹ Now Harbonah, one of the eunuchs, said to the king, “Look! The gallows, fifty cubits high, which Haman made for Mordecai, who spoke good on the king’s behalf, is standing at the house of Haman.” Then the king said, “Hang him on it!” ¹⁰ So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the king’s wrath subsided. Esther 7:9-10

B. This death, previewed first by the bloody river, was previewed too in the death of Egypt’s first born, and is part of God’s ways –

¹⁵ He made a pit and dug it out, and has fallen into the ditch *which* he made. ¹⁶ His trouble shall return upon his own head, and his violent dealing shall come down on his own crown. Psalm 7:15–16 (NKJV)

6. The blood in the river also was a victory over Egypt’s false god’s, some of which were related to the Nile River –

A. Sobek- was the crocodile god.

B. Osiris – the so-called ruler of the entire earth was said to have the Nile as his bloodstream.

C. Hapy – was the god of creation and fertility, was thought to live by the Nile, a river so full of life and bringing fertility, and yet –

The song was song to the Nile itself, which was also considered “a god” - “*Hail to thee, o Nile, that issues from the earth and comes to keep Egypt alive!*” Just part of the Hymn sung to the Nile -

Yet, Happy. Could not have been happy when the True and Living God did what He did to the Nile - Exodus 7:17–18 (NKJV)

II. As Moses’ God clearly was and is superior to all the so called “gods” of Egypt, so Christ is superior to Moses -

¹⁶ And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses, *but* grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. John 1:16-17 (NKJV)

1. While the blood in the Nile brought death, Jesus’ blood brings life –

⁵³ Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Whoever

eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. ⁵⁵ For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. John 6:53-55 (NKJV)

2. *While Moses made water into blood, Jesus made water into wine –*

⁶ Now there were set there six waterpots of stone, according to the manner of purification of the Jews, containing twenty or thirty gallons apiece. ⁷ Jesus said to them, “**Fill the waterpots with water.**” And they filled them up to the brim.

⁸ And He said to them, “**Draw some out now, and take it to the master of the feast.**” And they took it. ⁹ When the master of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom.

¹⁰ And he said to him, “Every man at the beginning sets out the good wine, and when the *guests* have well drunk, then the inferior. You have kept the good wine until now!” John 2:6–10 (NKJV)

A. *This wine is a good thing –*

¹⁴ He causes the grass to grow for the cattle, And vegetation for the service of man, That he may bring forth food from the earth, ¹⁵ And wine that makes glad the heart of man, Oil to make *his* face shine, and bread *which* strengthens man’s heart. Psalm 104:14-15 (NKJV)

B. *Notice, it is wine, oil and bread God gives, He gives us all good things and Jesus came and died to give us abundant LIFE –*

¹⁰ **The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.** ¹¹ **“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.** John 10:10–11 (NKJV)

III. *The Palm Sunday connection, something children can see, even when others might not –*

¹⁴ Then *the* blind and *the* lame came to Him in the temple, and He healed them. ¹⁵ But when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying out in the temple and saying, “Hosanna to the Son of David!” they were indignant ¹⁶ and said to Him, “Do You hear what these are saying?” And Jesus said to them, “**Yes. Have you never read, ‘Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have perfected praise?’**” Matthew 21:14–16 (NKJV)

1. *We are healed by Christ’s stripes; we are redeemed by His precious blood –*

⁵ But He *was* wounded for our transgressions, *He was* bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace *was* upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. Isaiah 53:5 (NKJV)

knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, *like* silver or gold, from your aimless conduct *received* by tradition from your fathers, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. 1 Peter 1:18-19 (NKJV)

A. *Not everyone sees this, they don’t believe, He is doubly despised, eye has not seen ... –*

⁵³ Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? Isaiah 53:1 (NKJV)

³ He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, *our* faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. Isaiah 53:3 (NKJV)

⁹ But as it is written: “*Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.*” 1 Corinthians 2:9 (NKJV)

B. *But God reveals these things to His people, even to children –*

¹⁰ But God has revealed *them* to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. 1 Corinthians 2:10 (NKJV)

This is a reference to the cross, not Heaven - 1 Corinthians 2:1 (NKJV)

2. *We rejoice in the Wonderful Things accomplished by Christ’s love, cross and blood –*

To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, ⁶ and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him *be* glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Revelation 1:5-6

A. *Note His blood washes our sins AWAY!*

B. *He not only saves us from sin and hell, but makes us kings and priests!*

C. *Wine, which is called “a mocker” is a blessing to believers in Christ –*

²⁰ Wine is a mocker, Strong drink is a brawler, and whoever is led astray by it is not wise. Proverbs 20:1 (NKJV)

26 And you shall spend that money for whatever your heart desires: for oxen or sheep, for wine or similar drink, for whatever your heart desires; you shall eat there before the LORD your God, and you shall rejoice, you and your household. Deuteronomy 14:26

D. *Yet the wine of unbelievers is HELL –*

¹⁰ he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. ... Revelation 14:10– (see also verse 11) (NKJV)

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