

I. The nine plagues: blood, frogs, gnats, flies, livestock plague, boils, hail, locusts, darkness

II. Structures: God reveals himself in redemption *even more* than in creation

A. Triplets, progress in each (vs. creational pairs)

B. Magicians and gods (7:11,22; 8:7-14,18-19; 9:11)

C. defeat of the gods

D. Increase in severity

E. Differentiation between the Egyptians and Israelites (8:22; 10:23; Psalm 112:4)

III. Pharaoh vs. God

A. I count thirteen times that Pharaoh's heart was hardened. (key: 10:13)

B. What is going on here? (Proverbs 20:5)

C. Do the plagues bother us? (Romans 9:20; Psalm 115:3)

D. Human rebellion against God destroys ...

E. Why does God allow human rebellion? In order to show his own power before the whole earth. He will do so by overthrowing it in human hearts, in history, and in the final judgment.

F. Opposition to God destroys the self: Pharaoh is not even consistent in his stubbornness.

G. Pharaoh's opposition to God destroys his own kingdom

IV. God's greatness is shown above all in the redemption of his people.

A. "For by now I could have put out my hand and struck you and your people with pestilence, and you would have been cut off from the earth. But for this purpose I have raised you up, to show you my power, so that my name may be proclaimed in all the earth." (9:15-16)

B. The ninth plague sets the stage perfectly.