



EXODUS FOR KIDS

GOD'S JUDGMENT

Hey kids, for the next two weeks we are going to be talking about the 10 Plagues from the book of Exodus. I'm pretty sure this is a story you have heard before, and I was wondering if you could name any of the 10 plagues. (They are water to blood, frogs, gnats, flies, dying livestock, boils, hail, locusts, darkness, death of firstborn sons.)

Can you imagine being an Egyptian during the time of the plagues? The Egyptians who did not believe in the Lord God of Israel, but they believed in the many gods. They also didn't follow God's ways, but did great wickedness in His sight. The Egyptians were also very powerful people, while the Hebrew slaves were not powerful at all.



So can you imagine the Egyptian's surprise when a Hebrew named Moses walked into the presence of Pharaoh (their super powerful king) and demanded that he let God's people go? I bet all the Egyptians laughed at the very thought! After all, what could these little Hebrew slaves possibly do to them?

And then their lives began to unravel! First, their precious Nile River turned into blood! This meant all the fish died and began to smell really, really bad! They had nothing to drink besides blood. Yuck! Then the days just kept getting worse. They were overcome with frogs, gnats, and flies! Just imagine if our whole house was filled with so many frogs that they were coming out of the oven and our cereal bowls! Yikes!

The bad things just kept getting worse. Their animals died, they got painful boils on their skin, storms of hail came, plant eating locusts showed up, darkness fell over the land, and then death. What would that have been like to experience all those terrible plagues?

Would you have been scared? Do you think you would have cried out in anger or frustration?

You see, we often think about the 10 plagues from the Israelites point of view. To them, they were great because they provided salvation from the Egyptians. But if you think about the plagues from the view of the Egyptians, they are not so great; in fact, they are terrible.

For the Egyptians, the plagues were not God's salvation; they were God's judgment. It was God's way of punishing them for all the wickedness they had done against His people. It was God's way of giving the Egyptians just what they deserved.

And this brings us to a very hard truth. We also deserve God's judgment because of our sins. God owes us death and punishment because we too have sinned against Him and have done evil in His sight. But this also brings us to some really good news! On the cross of Christ, God punished our sins through Jesus. For on the cross, Jesus took the wrath and punishment that we all deserve, so that whoever would believe in Him could have their sins forgiven and have eternal life!

So the scary news is God punishes sinners. But the really good news is that Jesus took our punishment from God so that all who trust in Him can be forgiven by God and loved forevermore!

Now let's close by thanking God for making a way to forgive us through His Son Jesus Christ!

