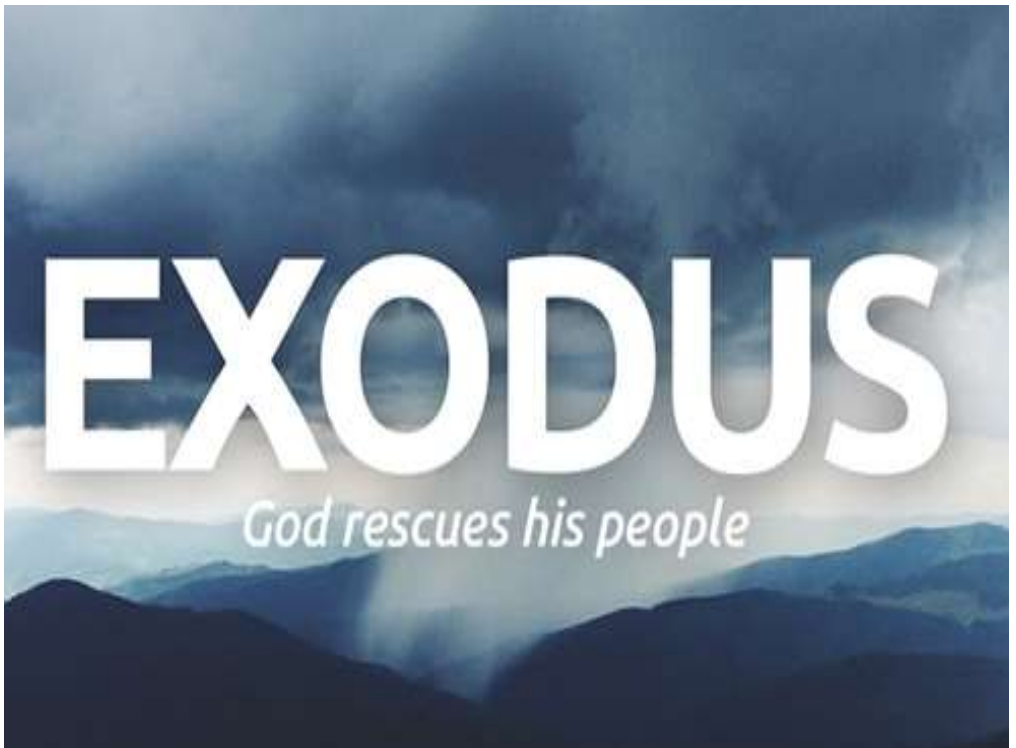


Let's Worship God

20th-25th January 2020

Exodus



EXODUS

Monday - Exodus 7:14-8:19 - The One, True God

Before the plagues were sent we are given an insight into what will happen, chapter 7:3-5. God will harden Pharaoh's heart but in the end all Egypt will know that He is the LORD. The 10 plagues will display the delivering power of God. This is a key event in Scripture. We could divide the plagues into 3 groups of 3 climaxing with the 10th plague. In each group of 3 the first plague is announced early in the morning, the second plague is announced in the palace ("go in to Pharaoh"), and the last plague in each group comes unannounced.

There is something very significant about these plagues. God is bringing his judgment on Pharaoh and is demonstrating his power over all the gods of Egypt. Numbers 33:4, "the Egyptians were burying all their firstborn, whom the LORD had struck down among them. On their gods also the LORD executed judgments." The plagues were deliberate judgments that struck at the heart of Egyptian worship and showed the LORD to be the one true God.

The first 3 plagues - Nile turning to blood, frogs, and gnats (lice) - demonstrate God's power over the Nile gods and over the earth. The river turned to blood for 7 days and becomes a stench to the people of Egypt. God makes a stink out of the gods and goddesses who control the Nile. The Nile also brought fertility, and one of Egypt's goddesses, Heqet, the goddess of fertility, was often depicted with the head of a frog. But only God the LORD could bring forth and remove frogs. Geb was on of Egypt's earth gods, but the LORD turns the dust of the earth into gnats, or lice. God is showing the Egyptians, and the Israelites, that he and he alone is God. They have to say, "this is the finger of God." We serve the same God today. God is still in control, and all other gods are as nothing before him.

Questions

1. What are some of the false gods which we can follow/worship today?
2. What confidence should the plagues give to us as we live in a world where people trust in false gods?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that God is the one, true God.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me," Exodus 20:5

Praise: Psalm 119: Part 20 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

EXODUS

Tuesday - Exodus 8:20-9:12 - God's People Spared

There were about 80 different false gods and goddesses in ancient Egypt, and each one had a specific role and function, but generally they can be placed into 3 groups. These gods and goddess controlled various aspects of - the Nile, the land, and the sky. In the next set of 3 plagues we see God sending flies, death of livestock, and boils. The earth is being brought under the judgment of God. God displays his power over Egyptian gods like Kheper (a flying beetle), Apis (a bull), and Imhotep (god of healing). Pharaoh, and all Egypt, is to know that God is "the LORD in the midst of the earth", verse 22. God, in his revelation, is giving an opportunity for the people of Israel to turn in repentance and faith. Although they will fail to take it.

God is also acting in the course of these events to show a distinction between Egypt and his own people in the land of Goshen (an area of Egypt). In verse 23 we are told that God is making a division between his people and the Egyptians. Where the Egyptians have suffered water turning to blood, frogs filling their houses, annoyance of gnats, infestation of flies, death of livestock and horrible boils, God's people have been kept free from these. There is no judgment for the people of God. God alone has the power over life, livestock and sickness. It is God alone who works out his great and mighty deeds on the earth. It is God alone who keeps and protects his people.

There is a distinction between those who belong to Christ and the world. We will not face the eternal judgment of Christ if we turn in repentance and faith. We are protected because he has already taken the punishment for us.

Questions

1. In what ways does God reveal he is in the midst of the earth? Where do we find the full revelation of God?
2. Why do you think it was important that God was showing Egypt that there was distinction between them and God's people?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that through Christ we escape the judgement of God.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me," Exodus 20:5

Praise: Psalm 119: Part 21 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

EXODUS

Wednesday - Exodus 9:13-10:29 - The One in Control

As the plagues continue there appears to be an increased intensity. But also there appears to be a greater hardening of Pharaoh's heart. The god worshipped most by Egyptians was Pharaoh himself. He was believed to have the heart of a god, and his son was the son of god. Also as Pharaoh he was seen as the one who had control over the created things. When Pharaoh ruled there was to be order and not chaos. But continually God shows that he is the one in control of all creation.

The next 3 plagues include hail, locusts, and darkness. The hail storm will show that there is no one like the LORD in all the earth, it will display his power, and cause his name to be proclaimed in all the earth. Not even the Egyptian weather gods could perform such wonders. The locusts devoured what remained after the hail storm. The Egyptians are in a desperate state. Pharaoh's servants even have the tenacity to question Pharaoh's reluctance to let the Israelites go! Egypt's gods, Min, Isis, and Anubis, the gods of fields and harvest, have no power. And then darkness comes over the land. A terrifyingly deep darkness. Amon-Re was the Egyptian god who was supposed to have life giving power when the sun rose every day. Pharaoh was considered the son of Re. But not even the biggest of all Egyptian gods could stand against the LORD. The earth is the LORD's (9:29).

How wonderful when we come to the New Testament that we are told in Colossians 1:16-17, "For by him (Jesus Christ) all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible... all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together." Jesus Christ is the one in whom the whole of creation holds together. He sustains the world by his word. This includes his power over all things, including the plagues of Egypt. All of this happens so that we may know he is the LORD in the midst of the earth.

Questions

1. What comfort do we find in knowing that Jesus Christ holds all things together?
2. Are there any areas in your life where you are trusting more in false gods than in the LORD?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that Christ is in control of all things.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me," Exodus 20:5

Praise: Psalm 119: Part 22 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

EXODUS

Thursday - Exodus 11 - Warning

Each plague struck at the heart of Egyptian worship. The plagues hit at the heart of every area of life that was supposed to be protected by Egypt's gods. God was clearly showing that he and he alone is God. He is the LORD in the midst of the earth. Yet each time Pharaoh refused to obey and bow the knee. So God acted as he had said he would. God does not make idle threats. God means what he says. However, there is one more plague that God will send. The plagues teach us that the mighty God does not lie. He does not make idle threats. God means what he says. It was now too late for Pharaoh, there was no request to let God's people go, only a statement of coming judgment.

Take warning. Listen. Respond. We need to tell people, make it clear to them that God's warnings of judgment are real warnings to be taken seriously. God is the LORD and he will not share his glory with another. If we continue to prioritize our time, energy, worship to anything or anyone other than God then we must see ourselves in the place of the Egyptians. However, as it is still today there is still time for us to repent. The final judgment has not yet arrived.

As the last plague unfolds in Egypt we are also pointed to the one who took the punishment for us, so that we might be saved and set free. In this last plague we will be pointed to Jesus Christ, the lamb of God, whose blood was shed for us. We must take a warning from these plagues. God does not give idle threats. Let us turn to the Father through Jesus Christ before the final judgment arrives. Do not harden your hearts.

Questions

1. How do God's mighty acts in Egypt encourage us when we are living in a world filled with false gods?
2. How does God's final pronouncement of judgment challenge us as we read his Word?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the salvation of family and friends.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

“You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me,” Exodus 20:5

Praise: Psalm 120 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

EXODUS

Friday - Exodus 12:1-28 - The Lamb That Was Slain

The final plague is approaching, but before it is sent the instructions of the Passover are given. In fact the instructions are given twice in this section. The LORD instructing Moses and then Moses gives the instructions to the people.

A lamb was to be taken for each household. It was to be a lamb without blemish, that is with no faults. The lamb was killed, roasted, and completely devoured, the blood spread on the door frames of the house.

God's people needed a perfect substitute and a perfect sacrifice. If they were to escape from the coming judgment of death then this was the only way. They had to take shelter under the blood of the lamb.

The Passover was also to be a continual remembrance for God's people. They were to remember the wonderful works that the LORD had done for them.

The need for a perfect substitute reminds us of our own spiritual state. We cannot save ourselves. We cannot escape the coming judgment of God by ourselves. We need a perfect lamb, one that became a sacrifice for sin, one whose blood was shed, and so one that becomes a substitute for us.

When Jesus began his public ministry John the Baptist declared, "Behold, the lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world."

It is only in Jesus Christ that we find refuge from judgment. It is only because his blood was shed for sin do we find that judgment will pass over us.

Now we remember his death and our redemption, not through a Passover meal, but in the Lord's Supper. When Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper he said, "Do this in remembrance of me." Every time we take the cup and the bread we do so in remembrance of him.

Questions

1. Why was it important for the people of Israel to remember this great event?
2. How are we commanded to remember the greater deliverance in Jesus Christ?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for the work of Christ.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me," Exodus 20:5

Praise: Psalm 121 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

EXODUS

Saturday - Exodus 12:29-51 - Deliverance and Judgment

"At midnight the LORD struck down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the dungeon." These are terrifying words. God's judgment on Egypt shows just how serious sin is. Sin deserves death. And there is no distinction between the rich and poor. From the throne of Pharaoh to the lowest prison, all are guilty and all deserve death. In chapter 4:22-23 God had told Pharaoh that Israel was his firstborn son, and that Pharaoh was to let his son go. If Pharaoh disobeyed then God will kill Pharaoh's firstborn son. God has kept his word. God has brought his judgment on a sinful, wicked people.

But this judgment has also brought about a great deliverance. God's people have been set free, and set free with great blessing (verses 35-36!). The LORD kept watch over his people and delivered them through judgment.

Through the judgment of the cross, God the Father has provided deliverance for all of his people. Not just deliverance, but we receive an abundance of blessing. In Jesus Christ we have every spiritual blessing; forgiveness of sin, love of God, adopted into his family, access to the Father, the fellowship of his people, eternal security, and the list could go on and on!

Our sin deserves the punishment of death and everlasting wrath, eternal separation from God. Yet, how wonderful, that God the Father sent God the Son to take the punishment that we deserve, so that we could be set free with an abundance of riches. The Father did not spare his own Son for us. The terrifying coming judgment for all who are guilty holds no terror for those who are in Jesus Christ. Where is your hope and confidence?

Questions

1. Why do we not like to think, or talk, about the final judgment of God?
2. What, or who, is our only hope and confidence?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me," Exodus 20:5

Praise: Psalm 122 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that
Ezra read from
the book of the Law
day after day
and that
the people of God
were filled with joy!**

Let's Worship God is produced
by the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Scotland.

If you have any queries please contact - rpchurchscotland@gmail.com