

## Moses—Exodus 9

### Plagues of Livestock, Boils, Hail

#### I. Additional Scriptures...

1. 9:3... **Murrain**—“A very grievous murrain - Or “pestilence;” but the word “murrain,” i. e. “a great mortality,” exactly expresses the meaning. This terrible visitation struck far more severely than the preceding, which had caused distress and suffering; it attacked the resources of the nation” (Barnes).
2. 9:9... **Blains**—“ only in Exo 9:9, Exo 9:10): Pustules containing fluid around a boil or inflamed sore. It is an Old English word “bleyen,” used sometimes as a synonym for boil. Wyclif (1382) uses the expression “stinkende bleyne” for Job's sores. The Hebrew word is from a root which means that which bubbles up.”
3. 9:16... Rom 9:17
4. 9:20... Prov 13:13
5. 9:31... “**for the barley was in the ear, and the flax was bolled**; or in the stalk, quite grown up, and so the ears of the one were beat off, and the stalks of the other battered with the hail, and broken and destroyed.” [Gill].
6. 9:34... Rom 2:4-5.

#### II. Chronology.

BIBLE PERIOD: **Egyptian Bondage.**

#### III. Summary.

Plagues number 5, 6, and 7 are recorded in this chapter. First we read about the plague of a “very grievous murrain.” Our English term, “mortality,” is perhaps closest in meaning to this word, “murrain.” All the cattle of the Egyptians died as a result of this terrible disease. However, God had protected the cattle of the children of Israel and none of their cattle died from the murrain. Pharaoh found out that there were no dead cattle belonging to the children of Israel. Secondly, we read about the plague of boils. The magicians were unable to stand before Moses because of the boils. The third plague was a disastrous hail which destroyed the crops of the land. God gave instructions to the Egyptians to gather in all cattle and stay inside. The ones who feared the Lord obeyed and did not suffer any damage (v. 20). Of course, there was no hail in the land of Goshen (v. 26). Pharaoh requests that Moses intreat the Lord on his behalf, but then his heart was hardened and he would not let the children of Israel go.

#### IV. Outline.

1. The plague of the very grievous murrain (Ex 9:1-7).
2. The plague of boils (Ex 9:8-11).
3. The plague of fiery hail (Ex 9:12-35).

#### V. Questions.

##### True or False

01. \_\_\_\_\_ Cattle were the only animals the Egyptians lost from the murrain plague.
02. \_\_\_\_\_ The magicians were excluded from the plague of the boils.
03. \_\_\_\_\_ There were some Egyptians who feared the word of the Lord.
04. \_\_\_\_\_ No hail came down in the land of Goshen.
05. \_\_\_\_\_ After the hail, Pharaoh said he would let the people go.

**Multiple Choice (Select the BEST Answer)**

06. \_\_\_\_\_ What did the Egyptians who had no regard for the word of the Lord do during the hail plague: (a) left their cattle in the field; (b) brought their cattle in from the field; (c) prayed.
07. \_\_\_\_\_ How many of the cattle of the children of Israel died: (a) about 500; (b) 100; (c) not one.
08. \_\_\_\_\_ The plague of boils not only affected men, but also even: (a) fish; (b) beasts; (c) birds.
09. \_\_\_\_\_ Pharaoh was raised up for the reason of God showing through him His power and that God’s name might be: (a) respected; (b) declared; (c) known.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ During the hail plague, the barley was in the ear and the flax was: (a) ripe; (b) balled; (c) ready.

**Fill in the Blanks**

11. The ones who feared the word of the Lord in Egypt made their servants and cattle \_\_\_\_\_ before the coming of the hail.
12. “And the Lord did that thing on the morrow, and all the cattle of Egypt \_\_\_\_\_.”
13. “... and the hail smote every \_\_\_\_\_ of the field, and \_\_\_\_\_ every tree of the field.”
14. Prov \_\_\_\_: \_\_\_\_... “Whoso \_\_\_\_\_ the word shall be destroyed: but he that feareth the \_\_\_\_\_ shall be rewarded.”
15. Toward the end of the chapter is stated that Pharaoh \_\_\_\_\_ yet more.

*Each Question is worth 7 Points*

**My Score is:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Answers will be found on next week’s handout*

**ANSWERS to Lesson 01-57...** [01—True, Ex 7:25; 02—True, Ex 6:6; 03—False, Ex 7:7; 04—True, Ex 7:1; 05—True, Ex 6:20; 06—b, Ex 6:8; 07—a, Ex 7:21; 08—c, Ex 6:1; 09—a, Ex 7:9; 10—d, Ex 6:16; 11—Amram, Ex 6:20; 12—stank, Ex 7:21; 13—multiply, Ex 7:3; 14—Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, Ithamar, Ex 6:23; 15—swallowed, up, Ex 7:12.]

**VI. Lessons & Applications.**

- And the Lord shall sever between the cattle of Israel and the cattle of Egypt: and there shall nothing die of all that is the children’s of Israel** (Ex 9:4). What a great demonstration of miraculous power! To prevent the spreading of disease among cattle today, exceptionally strict laws and regulations are put into force. Animals are killed and their carcasses burned to prevent the spread of “mad cow disease.” Here is one part of a nation with deadly disease in cattle which killed ALL of the cattle and nearby in the same nation are healthy cattle. The “severing” part of this plague makes it the more powerful demonstration of God’s power.
- And the magicians could not stand before Moses because of the boils, for the boil was upon the magicians** (Ex 9:11). Even those who were supposed to have some kind of power—those who were competing against the demonstrations of Moses’ God—find themselves with no power to combat this plague. How powerful is God Almighty? Cf. Gen 35:11.
- ...that thou mayest know that there is none like me in all the earth** (Ex 9:14). What was the purpose of these plagues? Why did God allow Pharaoh to continue in this contest? The answer is clear. This contest will demonstrate the unique nature of the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. There is no one who can stand against Him! His truth and His way is right and there is no man who can defeat His will. The unique God

revealed in Exodus is the same God Who has revealed the pattern for the church in the New Testament. There should be no surprise that the church is one and only one (Eph 4:4-6). There is none like it! Why do some seem to resist the concept of the UNIQUENESS of the church? Why is this concept hard for many to understand?

4. **...for this cause have I raised thee up** (Ex 9:16). Paul makes an argument based upon this text in Romans 9:17.
5. **He that feared the word of the Lord among the servants of Pharaoh made his servants and his cattle flee into the houses...** (Ex 9:20). Here is something different connected with this particular plague of the hail. In verses 18-19, warning was given about what would happen tomorrow. The ones who had been convinced by the previous plagues—the ones who feared the word of the Lord—took appropriate action to prepare for the disaster that was to be. Those who did not fear the word of the Lord suffered. Matthew 25:1-13 provides a warning about what will take place on Judgment Day. If we are wise, like some of Pharaoh's servants, and like the wise virgins, we will be prepared for the Day of Judgment. Otherwise, we will figuratively be "knocking on a closed door." It is very interesting that the difference between the two positions is whether or not we REGARD (or respect) the Word of the Lord.
6. **And Pharaoh sent, and called for Moses and Aaron, and said unto them, I have sinned this time...** (Ex 9:27). There are some confessions of sin that are "extorted on the rack," as evidently this one is which have no validity whatsoever. Verse 35 shows us that this confession of sin by Pharaoh was not true. We can be sorry about getting caught or sorry about suffering consequences of sin and this does not lead to genuine and true repentance. Repentance is more than sorrow for sin, it involves a turning away from sin—a changing of the mind! True godly sorrow will produce repentance (2 Cor 7:10), but there is a "sorrow of the world," as is seen here in the example of Pharaoh.
7. **And when Pharaoh saw that the rain and the hail and the thunders were ceased, he sinned yet more, and hardened his heart** (Ex 9:34). How predictable Pharaoh is becoming (v. 30)! He still is determined to resist the Lord. His heart has not yet been sufficiently moved to understand where he stands and what he must do. So many people resist the word of the Lord just as Pharaoh is doing here. It is a sad thing to observe, but it happens very often.

VII. Seek-A-Word Puzzle.

Q A Z X S W E D C A V C X Z B V R T Y H  
 F V B G T Y H N U S L U F D N A H Q A Z  
 X C M C C M J U Y H T G B V F R E D C W  
 X C O V B O N M U E U P O N B E A S T E  
 W S S X C D U E D S C V F R T G B N H Y  
 Y H E N B G T L R F V C D E W S X Z A Q  
 W S S X C D E R D F V B G T Y B U J M N  
 N T G B R F V E D N C X S W Q A O Z X C  
 A V B N M K H G F D O E R T G B N I Y H  
 M N M T G B V F R E D T C D E W S X L Q  
 N W S X C D E E R F V B S N H Y U J M I  
 O K M H Y N C R F V C D E T W S X C D E  
 P R F V B A B G T Y H N M J A U J Y H N  
 U B G T N R F V M A G I C I A N S E D C  
 W S X R W S C V B G T Y H N J U D R F V  
 D C U D D E R F V B G T Y H N M J U I K  
 R F E U W S X C D E R F V B G T Y H N U  
 R F V S P R I N K L E V F R T G B N H Y  
 Y H N T R F V B G T Y H N M J U I O L N  
 E D E G Y P T I A N S E D C V F R T H N

[The highlighted words can be found above. They may be backwards, diagonal, upside down, etc. See if you can find them all. The more you use the words of the Bible, the greater blessed you will be! You might be surprised at how much this little exercise will help you retain important truths. THANK YOU for the good effort you are putting forth in Bible study. DRL]

**Exodus 9:8-11...** And the LORD said unto Moses and unto Aaron, Take to you **handfuls** of **ashes** of the **furnace**, and let Moses **sprinkle** it toward the heaven in the sight of Pharaoh. <sup>9</sup>And it shall become small **dust** in all the land of Egypt, and shall be a **boil** breaking forth *with* blains **upon man**, and **upon beast**, throughout all the land of Egypt. <sup>10</sup>And they took ashes of the furnace, and stood before Pharaoh; and Moses sprinkled it up toward heaven; and it became a boil breaking forth *with* blains upon man, and upon beast. <sup>11</sup>And the **magicians could not stand** before **Moses** because of the boils; for the boil was upon the magicians, and upon all the **Egyptians**.