

## Exodus 10

**What did the Lord tell Moses to do (v. 1)?** Go visit Pharaoh again even though I have hardened his heart as well as his officials' hearts. I'm going to show him the miracles (the ten plagues) that I can do.

**What was His reasoning (v. 2)?** God's reasoning for hardening Pharaoh's heart and sending these plagues was so the Israelites and future generations would believe in God's sovereignty and tell of His power. The phrase "that you/they may know that I am the Lord" occurs many times in the Old Testament. It means that the Israelite people would know that God is the Lord and would respond appropriately to Him,<sup>1</sup> i.e., God would ultimately get the glory that He alone deserves.

**What message from God did Moses carry to Pharaoh (v. 3)?** Humble yourself before Me and let My people go.

**What would be the consequences if Pharaoh refused Moses request (vv. 3-4)?** God would send locusts as the next plague.

**What would be the extent of the locust infestation (vv. 5-6)?** They would be all over the place including inside their houses!

**How did Pharaoh's officials advise him (v. 7)?** Pharaoh's servants seem to have been ready and willing to acknowledge God. Their advice to Pharaoh reflects their extreme distress. It also fulfilled God's prediction that the Egyptians would acknowledge His sovereignty (7:5; 8:19; 9:20; 12:33). Pharaoh's magicians had failed him (8:19), and now his officials turned against him.<sup>2</sup>

Such extensive economic disaster caused Pharaoh's officials to realize that retaining their Israelite slaves was not worth the price: Egypt, they said, is ruined.

**What did Pharaoh then tell Moses and Aaron (v. 8)?** Pharaoh gave in to Moses' request and said they could go. However, Pharaoh sensed they might leave for good if they took all their family members and animals.

**How did Moses answer Pharaoh (v. 9)?** Our whole community will be going including our children and animals. We are going to worship and celebrate and we need everyone there.

**How did Pharaoh respond to Moses statement (vv. 10-11)?** He said Moses' plan was evil. He then gave permission for the Israelites to leave Egypt to worship God but it was conditional – only the men could go. Then Moses and Aaron were kicked out of Pharaoh's presence.

**How did the Lord respond to Pharaoh's actions (v. 12)?** He was faithful to His word. He told Moses to stretch out his hand and He would bring the swarms of locusts that He had promised to send.

**What did Moses do and what was the result (vv. 13-15)** He did exactly what the Lord had instructed him and the locust plague arrived. The locusts devoured every living plant and greenery in the entire country. There were so many locusts that the ground looked black.

**How did Pharaoh respond to the plague (vv. 16-17)?** Pharaoh repented of his sin again (9:27) and pleaded for relief, but his sincerity seemed questionable.

**What did Moses do then (vv. 18-19)?** He prayed and asked God to remove the locusts which He did. He sent them into the Red Sea to drown.

**What happened to Pharaoh's heart (v. 20)?** In response to Moses' request, the Lord hardened Pharaoh's heart and he would not let the Israelites go.

**What was the next miracle Moses did in accordance with the Lord's direction (vv. 21-22)?** When Moses extended his hand, the land was draped with a thick cloak of darkness ... for three days, except in the land of Goshen where the Israelites lived. Since Goshen was spared, it could not have been an eclipse of the sun. Some try to explain the supernatural in terms of the natural, e.g. the darkness was caused by a sandstorm. No, this was a miracle directly from the hand of God. God flipped the light switch over the Egyptians.

**What was the impact of the darkness (v. 23)?** None of the Egyptians could leave their houses for three days. They couldn't see anything right in front of them it was so dark. But the Israelites had light in their homes.

**When Pharaoh summoned Moses, what did he tell him (v. 24)** Pharaoh said the families of the Israelites could leave Egypt, but they had to leave their flocks and herds behind. Pharaoh was obviously worried that once the Israelites left Egypt they may never return. He thought this latest compromise would guarantee their return.

**What objection did Moses raise in response to Pharaoh's latest condition (vv. 25-26)?** If they left their animals behind, there would be nothing to sacrifice to God, and sacrifice was the main reason for their leaving. And they wouldn't know which animals to sacrifice until they got there.

**What did the Lord do next and what was Pharaoh's response (v. 27)?** He hardened Pharaoh's heart and Pharaoh wouldn't let the Israelites go.

**What did Pharaoh say to Moses (v. 28)?** Pharaoh told Moses to get out of his sight and he never wanted to see him again. He even threatened Moses when he said if Moses came back he would kill him.

**How did Moses reply to Pharaoh (v. 29)?** I will do exactly what you have asked. I will never come back to see you again.

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<sup>1</sup> Dr. Thomas L. Constable, Notes on Exodus, 2023 Edition (published by <http://planobiblechapel.org/soniclight/>), 94

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., 95