

Exodus 9

What did God command Moses to do again (v. 1)? Go to Pharaoh and demanded the release of the Israelites so they could go and worship their God.

If Pharaoh refused Moses' request, what would the consequences be (vv. 2-3)? The hand of the Lord would bring a terrible plague on all their livestock in the field.

What distinction would the Lord make (v. 4)? The animals belonging to the Israelites would not be affected. So it would be a discriminating judgment that could not be explained by natural phenomena. All attempts to explain the plagues on naturalistic grounds dash themselves against the rocks.¹

What time frame did the Lord set (v. 5)? Tomorrow.....which gave those Egyptians who feared the Lord time to bring their livestock in from the fields and out of danger (v. 20).

What happened the next day (v. 6)? Exactly as the Lord had stated.....all the livestock of the Egyptians died but the livestock of the Israelites were spared.

The expression "all the livestock of Egypt" evidently refers to all the Egyptians' farm animals in the fields (v. 3). Some cattle survived this plague (vv. 19, 20, 22).²

All the other plagues had caused the Egyptians irritation or pain to their bodies, but now God began to reduce their wealth. This was also the first plague that caused death. ³

What did Pharaoh do next (v. 7)? He sent messengers to Goshen to check on whether the Israelites' livestock had been spared from the epidemic.

How did his discovery that the Israelite animals had been spared affect his heart? It didn't. His heart was still hardened.

What were the directions the Lord gave to Moses next (v. 8)? Take soot from a furnace and toss it into the air.

What would happen next (v. 9)? Festering boils would break out on people and their animals. Like the third and ninth plagues, this one was not announced to Pharaoh.

What did Moses do (v. 10)? Exactly as he was instructed. He took soot from a furnace and tossed it into the air.

How did Pharaoh's magicians respond (v. 11)? The magicians were again helpless (8:18) because they were themselves afflicted by the boils.

What happened to Pharaoh's heart (v. 12)? Pharaoh would not listen to Moses and Aaron. This is the first time we read that "the Lord hardened Pharaoh's heart."

What did the Lord tell Moses to do next (v. 13)? Again Moses was to see Pharaoh early in the morning (7:15; 8:20) and demand the release of the Israelites so they could go and worship their God.

What was the Lord's promised consequence if Pharaoh refused (v. 14)? He was going to dramatically ratchet up the intensity of the plagues. The purpose was that Pharaoh personally might

know God's power. And know there is no one like God in the whole world. And ultimately God alone would be glorified.

How did the Lord describe his purposes and motives (vv. 15-16)? The Lord reminded Pharaoh that He could have destroyed him and the Egyptians with a plague but instead He had spared Pharaoh in order to demonstrate His power and so that His name would be proclaimed throughout the entire world, i.e., so that He alone would be glorified.

Since Pharaoh still refused to let His people go, what was the Lord's next proclamation (v. 18)? He would send the worst hailstorm Egypt had ever experienced in its entire history..

What did the Lord advise Pharaoh to do in the face of His hailstorm (v. 19)? In His grace, God told the king to have livestock and people brought in from the fields and put under shelter or they would die.

How did Pharaoh's officials respond (vv. 20-21)? Hearing of Moses' warning, some of the Egyptians believed God's word through Moses and responded appropriately bringing their animals and slaves inside.

What was the next order the Lord gave to Moses (v. 22)? Stretch out your hand toward the sky and bring on the hailstorm.

How would you describe the hailstorm that followed (vv. 23-25)? The Lord brought destruction on the Egyptians just as He had predicted. Men and animals were killed by the hail, trees were stripped and ripening crops were demolished. It was the worst storm Egypt had ever experienced.

Where did the hailstorm not strike (v. 26)? The land of Goshen where the Israelites lived.

How did Pharaoh respond (vv. 27-28)? After such an awesome display of power, Pharaoh repented ("I have sinned") and acknowledged that God is right and they were in the wrong. He asked Moses to stop the plague and promised to let the Israelites go.

How did Moses answer Pharaoh (vv. 29-30)? Moses promised to ask God to stop the plague, though he recognized that Pharaoh's repentance was superficial and there was no real fear of God in Pharaoh's camp.

How did the hailstorm affect the crops (vv. 31-32)? The crops that were ripe for harvest (flax and barley) were destroyed. The others which ripen later (wheat and spelt) were not affected.

When Moses caused the hailstorm to stop (v. 33), how did Pharaoh respond (vv. 34-35)? Although God was gracious in bringing this holocaust to an end, Pharaoh's heart remained hard and calloused.⁴

¹ William MacDonald, *Believer's Bible Commentary: Old and New Testaments*, ed. Arthur Farstad (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1995), 95.

² Dr. Thomas L. Constable, Notes on Exodus, 2023 Edition (published by <http://planobiblechapel.org/soniclight/>), 90.

³ Ibid., 89.

⁴ John D. Hannah, "Exodus," in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary*: J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 124.