Great Acts of Judgment

Proclamation Life Groups; Week of Sunday, November 28, 2021; Steve Thiel

God demonstrates that He is God and there is no other through great acts of judgment unleashed on the Egyptians. But that points forward to the judgment endured by the Lord Jesus on the cross for His people, but suffered horribly by those who choose not to believe in Him!

I. JUDGMENT OF GOD ON EGYPT- Read Exodus 7:8-9:26

- A. According to Exodus 7:3-5, what are the reasons for God's judgment on the Egyptians?
- B. What are the various plagues listed in chapters 7-10? As you read through plague #1 through plague #9, what is the typical interaction that you see between Moses and Pharaoh? What pattern emerges as you read through the different plagues and in what ways, do the plagues intensify?
- C. Why does God want Pharaoh to let His people go? What are all the different places in chapters 7-10 where God declares that the plague will take place so that they shall know that His is the Lord and there is no one like Him? What is the significance of His name being magnified?
- D. As you think about plague #4 through plague #9, what are the different ways in which God is making a distinction between the Egyptians and Israelites (Exodus 8:22-23; 9:4, 20-21; 10:22-23)? How is this idea of distinction linked with the idea of obedience (Exodos 7:16)?
- E. How does God use His judgments on Egypt for the good of God's people? In what ways is it an encouragement that God will not withhold His judgment on those who persecute His people? In what ways in your life are you prone to minimize the power, authority, and certainty of judgment? In what ways can we rejoice in the severity of God's judgment without belittling His mercy?

II. JUDGMENT OF GOD ON CHRIST – Read Exodus 10:21-29

- A. Plague #9 is especially helpful. What observations do you make about the plague of darkness? What does the writer communicate about light and darkness? What are other passages in the Bible that utilize this imagery of light and darkness and what themes are communicated through them?
- B. How does the book of John help us to understand that Jesus was the true light? How are passages like John 1:1-14; 8:12; and 1 John 1:5 helpful as you think about Jesus? In response, what exactly happened when Jesus endured three hours of darkness on the cross and three days in the tomb?
- C. How do the judgments of God and the darkness help us appreciate the significance of our sin? In what ways would you like to grow in hating your sin and doing a better job of putting it to death?
- D. Read Ephesians 5:5-10. What does this passage tell us about the reality of darkness and light? How would you describe children of darkness and children of light? How would you explain the connection between "being" light in the Lord and "walking" as children of light?
- E. In what specific ways would you like the light of your life to be burning brighter? How would you like to better penetrate the darkness of our current culture? How would you like to let your light shine in such a way so that the people around you might see your good works and glorify God?