

# EXODUS

SALVATION FROM THE LORD

In this week's sermon, we delved into the depths of Exodus 5:22-6:13, exploring the steadfastness of God's promises amidst the trials faced by Moses and the Israelites in Egypt. Despite Moses' crisis of faith and the increased burdens imposed by a hardened Pharaoh, God reaffirms His commitment to deliverance through a series of powerful "I will" promises. These declarations not only highlight God as a proactive liberator but also as a faithful covenant keeper whose plans are rooted in His unchanging character. We examined how these divine assurances resonate with the comprehensive deliverance and redemption provided by Christ, our greater Moses. This message challenges us to persist in our faith and obedience, even when faced with daunting circumstances, trusting in God's ultimate plan for our freedom and restoration.

## Dover Daily Devotions

### Monday: The Purpose of God's Judgments

#### Scripture Reading:

Exodus 7:3-5

#### Devotional:

The account of God hardening Pharaoh's heart can be confusing and is often misunderstood. It shows God's complete control over human events. By doing this, God could show His power clearly, bringing glory to His name through the powerful acts that followed. God's goal was not just to punish; He wanted to reveal Himself to everyone who saw what He did.

This story also makes us think deeply about how God's will interacts with human freedom. Even though Pharaoh might have heeded the warnings, God knew his heart and used his stubbornness as part of a bigger plan for saving His people. This teaches us to trust in God's greater plan, especially when we can't understand the outcomes or His ways seem mysterious.

When we see God harden some hearts while showing mercy to others, we face the deep mysteries of God's justice and mercy. These stories help us learn that God's actions are not just effective; they aim to show us who He is and His plans for humanity. By hardening Pharaoh's heart, God showcased His grace and power, leading to the freedom of the Israelites and proving His loyalty to His promises.

## Discussion Questions:

1. How do you reconcile God's mercy with His judgments in the story of Pharaoh?
2. In what ways have you seen God's purpose unfold in difficult situations in your own life?
3. How does knowing God has a purpose help you trust Him more fully?

## Prayer:

Heavenly Father, help us to see Your hand even in the hardest times. Grant us the faith to trust Your purpose and the wisdom to recognize Your actions in our lives. May we learn from the story of Pharaoh and Moses to seek Your glory in all things. Amen.

# Tuesday: God's Sovereignty Over False Gods

## Scripture Reading:

Exodus 7:10-13

## Devotional:

The confrontation between the staff of Aaron and the Egyptian magicians powerfully shows God's control over all earthly and spiritual powers. This miraculous event was not just a challenge to Pharaoh but to the spiritual beliefs of Egypt itself. It reminds us that the One True God reigns over everything. As we face today's 'false gods'—like power, wealth, or intellect—we are called to confirm God's sovereignty in our worship and loyalty.

When Aaron's staff turned into a serpent and swallowed the magicians' serpents, it symbolized God's ability to overpower and replace the supposed powers of this world. This was a clear message to Pharaoh, his officials, and the Israelites that the God of Israel is above all Egyptian gods. It was a strong and vivid demonstration of God's ultimate power and a preview of even greater signs to follow. Reflecting on Aaron's showdown with the Egyptian magicians urges us to think about where our true loyalty lies and to recommit ourselves to God's supreme rule over every part of our lives.

## Discussion Questions:

1. How can we demonstrate God's sovereignty in our daily lives?

2. Why is it important for Christians to recognize and challenge contemporary idols?

## Prayer:

Lord, we ask for the courage to stand against the idols of our time just as Aaron stood before Pharaoh. May our lives reflect Your sovereignty and may our hearts worship only You. Teach us to trust in Your supreme power over all creation. Amen.

# Wednesday: A Display of God's Protective Grace

## Scripture Reading:

Exodus 8:20-32

## Devotional:

The distinction God made between Goshen and the rest of Egypt clearly shows His protective grace. By keeping His people safe from the plagues, God not only showed His power but also His faithfulness to His promises. This selective mercy highlights the spiritual protection He offers us through Christ, protecting us from final judgment. As believers, we are saved by His grace, not because of what we've done but because of His love.

This separation during the plagues is a strong sign of God's favor to His people. It foreshadows the ultimate division in the New Testament between those who follow Christ and those who don't. The physical safety from the plagues is a picture of the spiritual safety that protects our souls from the lasting effects of sin.

Knowing that we are part of the 'Goshen' God has established in Christ should make us confident and sure. Being aware of our protection should inspire us to actively live out our faith, share the gospel with others, and rely on the security of God's grace. As we look at our own lives, we can think about how God has kept us safe and how we can show our thanks through our obedience and service.

## Discussion Questions:

1. How does the protection of Israel in Goshen parallel the spiritual protection Christians have in Christ?
2. In what ways have you experienced God's protective grace in your life?
3. What does it mean to live as a people marked by God's covenantal faithfulness?

## Prayer:

Father God, thank You for Your protective grace that shields us from judgment. Help us to live as a people distinct in faithfulness, gratitude, and obedience, ever mindful of Your mercy. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

# Thursday: The Power of God's Signs

## Scripture Reading:

Exodus 10:1-2

## Devotional:

The instructions God gave to Moses before continuing the plagues show that these divine acts were meant to teach important lessons. These signs were meant to be shared across generations, not just as old stories, but as ongoing lessons about God's nature and power. Remembering these events helps us understand more about God's character and His care for us.

This act of remembering is a key part of building faith in the community of believers. Just like the Israelites were told to remember and teach their children about God's powerful deeds and His rule, we are also called to pass on these stories. This helps each generation see that they are part of a bigger story of redemption.

The signs that happened in Egypt show God's control over all creation and His readiness to step in powerfully for His people. For believers today, these signs build trust in God's complete control over world events and reassure us of His ongoing presence in our personal and community challenges. Reflecting on these signs, we are encouraged to see our lives as part of God's large story of salvation and authority.

## Discussion Questions:

1. How can we effectively pass on the stories of God's power to the next generation?
2. What lessons can we learn from the plagues about God's character?
3. How does remembering God's past faithfulness influence our current faith journey?

## Prayer:

Almighty God, instill in us a passion to share Your mighty deeds with those around us and with generations to come. May Your works be ever on our lips and Your faithfulness in our hearts. Strengthen us to be witnesses of Your power and grace. Amen.

# Friday: The Impact of God's Judgments

## Scripture Reading:

Exodus 9:13-16

## Devotional:

The plagues of Egypt were more than just punishments; they were powerful displays of God's supreme power and ways to make His name known throughout the world. Each plague showed the weakness of the Egyptian gods and confirmed God's ultimate authority. This event was meant not only for Egypt but also for Israel and the nations around them, proving that the God of Israel is the supreme God above all.

The intense nature of these plagues, showing total control over nature and the Egyptian gods, serves as a strong reminder of God's power and His readiness to act boldly to fulfill His plans. This story encourages us to think about where our loyalty lies—whether with the temporary and often chaotic forces of this world or with the eternal and stable Kingdom of God. It challenges us to assess how we respond to God's authority: do we accept and follow His rule, or do we resist and face the natural consequences of that resistance?

## Discussion Questions:

1. How do the plagues challenge our understanding of God's character?
2. In what ways do God's judgments reveal His mercy?
3. How can we respond to God's sovereign declarations in our own lives?

## Prayer:

Heavenly Father, teach us to see Your hand in both blessing and discipline. May we understand Your judgments as expressions of Your love, designed to draw us closer to You. Let us proclaim Your sovereignty and goodness in all we do. Amen.

## Saturday: The Ultimate Deliverance

### Scripture Reading:

Romans 9:15-18

## Devotional:

Paul's reflection on God's mercy toward Israel, despite their sins, powerfully remind us of our own redemption through Christ. Just as Israel was saved not because of their own actions but by God's mercy, we too are saved through faith in Jesus. This gift urges us to live humbly and gratefully, accepting God's mercy and sharing it with others as a sign of His boundless love.

This view from the New Testament deepens our understanding of the Exodus story. It's not only about being freed from physical slavery but also about the spiritual freedom from sin that Christ

provides. As those who have received this profound mercy, our lives demonstrate the strength of God's grace and His ability to turn the undeserving into inheritors of His eternal kingdom.

Moreover, this grace calls us to live in humility and gratitude, acknowledging that our salvation is a gift, not something we earned. As we reflect on these truths, let's fully embrace God's grace, responding with faith and obedience to His will.

## Discussion Questions:

1. How does the concept of mercy manifest in the story of the Exodus?
2. What does it mean to be saved by grace in practical terms?
3. How can we extend the grace we've received to others in our daily lives?

## Prayer:

Father God, we are deeply grateful for the mercy You have shown us through Christ. Help us to grasp the depth of Your grace, live out its truth, and generously extend it to others. Teach us to walk in humility and grateful obedience, reflecting Your love to the world. Amen.