

Lesson No. 14

MOSES, PART 3

LIFE MESSAGE

God wants us to listen to Him. If we continue to disobey Him, we will have “hard hearts” and God will deal with us.

BIBLE STORY

The Ten Plagues — Exodus 5:1-12:36

Main Points:

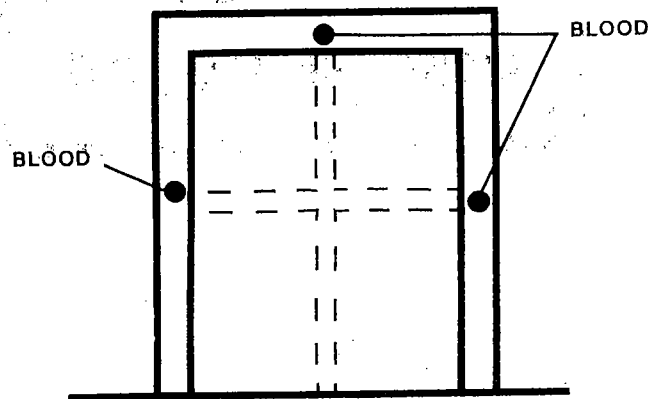
- 1) Moses and Aaron were together in Egypt and they went to see Pharaoh.
 - 2) Moses and Aaron's first request was that the children of Israel be allowed to hold a feast in the desert.*
 - 3) Pharaoh did not know the Lord, and made the people work even harder. Now the people would have to gather their own straw for the bricks they made.
 - 4) The people were unhappy about the extra work they had to do. They were mad at Moses as well as Pharaoh.
 - 5) God spoke to Moses again and assured him that he was doing the right thing, and that God would bring the children of Israel out of Egypt.
 - 6) Moses went again to Pharaoh.
 - 7) Aaron threw his rod down as God had told him to. The rod became a snake.
 - 8) Pharaoh called his magicians and they did the same thing with their magic.
 - 9) Aaron's snake swallowed up the magician's snakes.
 - 10) Pharaoh's heart was hardened and he wouldn't let God's people go.
 - 11) God told Moses to go back to Pharaoh the next morning and ask him to let the Hebrews go.
 - 12) Again Pharaoh said “no”, and Moses announced that God would send plagues to Egypt.*
 - 13) The first plague was the turning of all the water in Egypt to blood. It began when Aaron hit the Nile River with his rod.
 - 14) The magicians of Egypt were able to do this, also, but again Pharaoh's heart was hardened.
 - 15) God sent a second plague to Egypt — frogs were everywhere.
 - 16) The magicians were able to bring up frogs through their enchantments, so Pharaoh's heart was hardened.
 - 17) God continued to send plagues to Egypt, but Pharaoh's heart remained hard and he would not allow the children of Egypt to go.
 - 18) The plagues continued:*
- | | |
|---------|--|
| Third | Lice |
| Fourth | Flies |
| Fifth | The livestock died |
| Sixth | Boils covered the people |
| Seventh | Hail mingled with fire destroyed the crops |
| Eighth | Locusts |
| Ninth | Darkness for 3 days and 3 nights |
- 19) After the ninth plague, Pharaoh called for Moses and said he and his people could go into the desert for a feast, but they could not take the children.
 - 20) Moses said everyone must go, including the children. Again Pharaoh's heart was hardened and he would not let the people go.
 - 21) The Lord sent one last plague to Egypt. In the plague, the first-born of every family (even the first-born beast), would die.
 - 22) To protect the children of Israel, God began a special observance called the passover.*
 - 23) God told the people of Israel to put the blood of a lamb without blemish on the door post of their homes, and to eat a

special meal of unleavened bread. They were to do this each year to remember when God brought them out of bondage from Egypt.*

- 24) At midnight the Lord smote all the first-born of Egypt. People died in every family including Pharaoh's own son.
- 25) In the middle of the night, Pharaoh called for Moses and told him that his people could leave Egypt.
- 26) The children of Israel quickly gathered their belongings. As they left Egypt, God caused the people of Egypt to give them gifts.
- 27) At last the children of Israel were free.

***Special Notes:**

- 2) Moses began with a simple request, knowing that if Pharaoh granted it, there would be a possibility of Pharaoh's letting the people go.
- 12) It is interesting to note some of the gods of Egypt in connection with the 10 plagues: People were sacrificed to crocodiles in the Nile River — turning the water red with blood; flies, frogs, locusts and cattle were worshipped as gods; there was a goddess called Serapis to whom they prayed when they had boils; The goddess of the sky was called Nut; there was a god called Seth which protected the crops; and there was the sun god, Horus, which gave them light.
- 18) After the frogs, the magicians couldn't bring forth the other plagues. Also, the Israelites, in the land of Goshen, were not bothered by any of these plagues as were the Egyptians.
- 22) It is called the passover because when the death angel saw the blood on the door, he *passed over* that house and the first-born was allowed to live.
- 23) The passover is a beautiful picture of the death of the Lord Jesus. He was a lamb without blemish, killed to protect us. When the blood was put on the door, it was to be put on the lintel and the side post. As you can see from the illustration, this was symbolic of the cross. Even in the time of Moses, God was preparing the way for Jesus.



BIBLE VERSE

Hebrews 4:7 — "...today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts."

MEMORY WORD

Plague — A terrible calamity or misfortune; an epidemic. Anything exceedingly troublesome or annoying, a catastrophe.

OBJECT LESSON #1

It's Easy to Get a Hard Heart — OBJECTS: A picture of a frog, or simply write the word "Frog" on the board. Begin by asking which plague was the one with all the frogs. After you get the answer, give the following illustration:

If you take a frog and put him in a pan of boiling water, he will jump out. Why? Because the water is hot. But if you take the same frog and put him in a pan of cold water, he stays. Why? Because he is comfortable. However, if you take the pan of cold water with the frog in it and put it on the stove and slowly turn the heat up, the frog will stay in the pot until he is boiled to death. Why? Because he is cold blooded and as the water is heated, the frog's blood is heated. In fact, he doesn't even know

the water is getting hot until it is too late.

Sin is the same way. We do something that we know is wrong. Soon we feel comfortable doing it. Before long, our hearts have become hard and we don't even know we are sinning — until, like the frog, it is too late. It is easy for our hearts to become hard if we do not always obey the Lord.

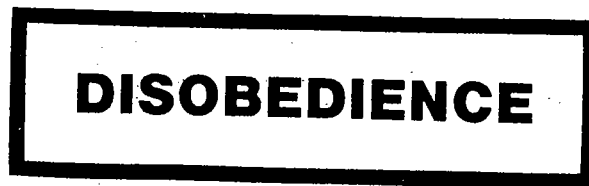
OBJECT LESSON #2

Disobedience Leads to Death — OBJECTS: The word "Disobedience" printed on a piece of paper, as shown in the illustration. (Be sure to practice this a few times before Sunday so you will have mastered the folding technique.) Have the word disobedience folded so only the letters SIN show and fasten it with a paper clip.

Begin by talking to the class about Pharaoh and his sin of not obeying God. As you talk, hold up the word SIN. Explain that any time we sin, we are being disobedient. As you say this, unfold the paper and show the word DISOBEDIENCE. Point out that because of Pharaoh's DISOBEDIENCE, many people in Egypt died (because of the plagues God sent to change Pharaoh's heart).

Now fold the paper so the word DIE shows. Tell the class that God told us the wages of sin is death. Sin and disobedience always lead to death. It was true with Pharaoh and it's true with us.

Note: Disobedience is the major sin of children. The concept of this object lesson is simple, but the effect could be long-lasting. Be sure to present it well, and tie it in with the Bible story as much as possible.



ACTIVITY #1

Plague Charades — This is a fun activity to help the children remember the plagues. Divide the class into two teams. Bring one member from each team to the front. Give each of them one of the plagues to act out. When you say go, both players begin to act out the plague and the first team to guess which plague the player is acting out gets one point. Be sure to mix up the plagues to make it a little harder. **Plagues:** 1) Water to blood, 2) Frogs, 3) Lice, 4) Flies, 5) Livestock died, 6) Boils, 7) Hail mingled with fire, 8) Locusts, 9) Darkness, 10) Death of first-born.

ACTIVITY #2

Match Game — For this activity you need to have small slips of paper prepared before the class begins. Write one of the words or phrases below on each slip of paper. Give each class member one of the slips of paper. When you say "Go", each student is to find the person who has the word that matches (or completes) the word he has.

When everyone has finished, let each one read the word he has and the one that matched it. For younger children, you may want to number or color-code the slips that match so they can match theirs easily.

Ex: First Slip

Moses

Matching Slip

Aaron's Brother

Words to use:

Aaron
Pharaoh
Blood
Frogs
Lice
Flies
Cattle Die
Boils
Hail/fire
Locusts
Darkness
First-born Die
Magician
Aaron's Rod
Hebrews
Pharaoh's heart
God
Door post
Unleavened Bread

— Moses' Brother
— King of Egypt
— 1st Plague
— 2nd Plague
— 3rd Plague
— 4th Plague
— 5th Plague
— 6th Plague
— 7th Plague
— 8th Plague
— 9th Plague
— 10th Plague
— Pharaoh's helper
— Turned to Snake
— Freed
— Hardened
— Said "Let my people go."
— Blood of Lamb
— Passover

REVIEW

- 1) What did Moses see that made him go to a bush?
- 2) What did God want Moses to do?
- 3) What was last week's Memory Word? What does it mean?
- 4) What were some of the excuses Moses made for not doing what God wanted him to? What did God tell Moses?
- 5) What two miracles did God do to show Moses that God would be with him?
- 6) Who did God send with Moses to be the spokesman?
- 7) What was last week's Bible Verse?

