

(Exodus 10)
“Missing Instructions”

NOTE TAKERS...

- I've titled this message: **“Refusing Instruction”**
 - (Exodus 10) NLT

~ INTRO ~

OK...

- As we continue to navigate thru the OT...
 - We're working our way thru the 10-Plagues of Egypt.
 - (A series of judgments poured out by God).

SO FAR...

- We've covered **seven plagues**:
 - 1) *Water turned to blood* (Ex. 7:14-25)
 - 2) *Frogs covered the land* (Ex. 8:1-15)
 - 3) *Mosquito / lice all over the ground* (Ex. 8:16-19)
 - 4) *Swarms of flies* (Ex. 8:20-32)
 - 5) *Livestock hit with pestilence* (Ex. 9:1-7)
 - 6) *Boils breakout on man & animal* (Ex. 9:8-12)
 - 7) *Hail & fire destroys man & animal in the field* (Ex. 13-35)

AND...

- At the end of each of these plagues...
 - Pharaoh become more resistant...
 - And refused to give God His people!

HERE'S AN INTERESTING OBSERVATION...

- (Ex. 9:27) *I have sinned and am wrong*.
 - But this change was only momentary.

NOW...

- Let's remember our past two messages...
 - 1) **“I'm Trying To Get Your Attention”** (Ex. 8)
 - As the plagues began in Egypt.
 - 2) **“Resistant to Change”** (Ex. 9)
 - Pharaoh refused / submitted / double-down & refused again.

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AND LAST WEEK WE ENDED WITH...

- (Ex. 9:34-35) NLT

HERE’S A FEW THINGS WE CAN LEARN TODAY...

IDEA #1 – PRIDE BRINGS A MAN LOW:

READ (vv.1-7)

OK...

- This is the start of the 8th Plague – Locust.
 - (v.5) Scholars estimate the ground was covered...
 - With 4” – 5” of locusts...
 - And they consumed any remaining food on the trees.

GOD SAYS HE HAD TWO PURPOSES FOR THIS PLAGUE:

- 1) To show unbelievers His power (v.1)
- 2) To provide a deliverance story for His people (v.2)

A MEMORABLE MOMENT...

- To pass on to their kids & grandkids...
 - About how the hand of God moved on their behalf!

(v.7)

- Pharaoh’s staff was tired of being destroyed...
 - And counseled Pharaoh to let the men go.

READ (vv.8-11)

(Proverbs 29:23-a) NKJV

“A man’s pride will bring him low...”

PHARAOH CONTINUED TO REJECT GOD’S DIRECTION...

- The life of his country was slowly destroyed.

ON THE OTHER HAND...

- (Psalms 111:10) NLT...
 - *“Fear of the Lord is the foundation of true wisdom. All who obey His commandments will grow in wisdom.”*

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FLIP TO (Proverbs 23)...

- Basic wisdom for life.
 - This proverb is a list of practical warnings...
 - Recorded as a series of “don’t”.

(vv.1-3) = Use restraint

- There is a false hope in the finer things of life.

(vv.4-5) = Have perspective

- Overworking for temporal gain... is a waste of life.

(vv.6-8) = Avoid regret

- Stay away from stingy people, because they only care about themselves.

(v.9) = Use discernment

- Don’t give what is holy to mockers

(vv.10-11) = Character counts

- No robbing, cheating, or stealing

(vv.13-16) = Teach your kids while they’re young

- Parental discipline are the guardrails to a child’s life.

(vv.17-18) = Faithfulness will be rewarded

- Guard your heart for out of it flows the issues of life

(vv.19-21) = The type of friends you have matters

- *Associate with fools and get in trouble (Prov. 13:20-b)*

(vv.22-25) = Be wise

- Be teachable... you have to engage your mind

(vv.26-28) = Random sex destroys

- (Prov. 5:4) *dangerous as a double-edged sword* (kills body & soul)
- (Prov. 7:26) *many men have been her victims* (immoral women)

(vv.29-35) = Alcohol is dangerous & causes unnecessary wounds

- (Prov. 31:4) NLT
 - *Rulers should not crave alcohol*

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- (Hosea 4:11) NLT
 - *Wine has robbed many people of their understanding*

HERE’S THE POINT...

- Spiritual growth is a result of applying God’s truth.

Carnal behavior doesn’t keep you out of heaven...

- *But it does hinder your growth in grace.*¹

Christians suffer unnecessary scars & setbacks...

- Because of ignorance, pride, & stubbornness.
 - All three of which Pharaoh was experienced.

a) **Ignorance** – (Ex. 5:2) *who is the Lord that I should obey Him?*

b) **Pride** – (Ex. 10:10) *the Lord will certainly need to be with you if I let you take your little ones!*

c) **Stubborn** – (Ex.8:15) *he became stubborn. He refused to listen...*

IDEA #2 – PARTIAL OBEDIENCE:

OK...

- The **9th Plague** is total **darkness** (Cave of the Wind – Colo. Springs).
 - Three days of a complete blackout (v.22).
- (v.23) **READ** intensity of darkness

(v.24) Pharaoh’s partial obedience to God’s demand!

ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF PARTIAL OBEDIENCE...

- Is seen in (1 Sam 15) NKJV
 - (v.3) God’s instruction.
 - (vv.7-9) Saul spared and did not totally destroy.
 - (vv.13-15) Excuses and shifting the blame to others
 - **READ** (vv.18-26) NKJV

THE CONSEQUENCES FOR...

¹ Jeff Cramer, *Collections of Wise Sayings*. Cited from files on 10/23/2024.

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- King Saul were drastic – Loss of his reign as King.
- Pharaoh King of Egypt – His country was totally destroyed.

HERE’S OUR HOPE...

- (2 Peter 3:9) NLT

GOD WAS PATIENT...

- With Pharaoh...
 - And God is patient with you!

~ IN CLOSING ~

IF YOU NEED PRAYER...

- Come down front.
 - Ladies we also have a women’s ministry leaders down front too.