

Outline

I. In order to expose the real situation of life in the world under Pharaoh's usurpation, God came again to make His demand:

- A. Jehovah told Moses and Aaron to perform a wonder; Aaron threw down his **staff and it became a serpent**; this was God's merciful visitation to expose the true nature of life in Egypt
- B. Pharaoh commanded that they be given no more straw to make **the bricks** but make them gather the straw themselves; when God is about to rescue someone from the world, Satan takes away his "straw" depriving him of the supply from the world forcing him to work with harshness in order to make a living.

II. God's intention in giving His chosen people a revelation of the true nature, meaning and issue of life in Egypt (the world) is to cause His people to hate and become disgusted with Egypt, to leave Egypt behind, and to be separated to God for His dwelling place – Exo 5:1; 40:34; Rom. 12:1-2

- A. **Blood**, Frogs, Lice, **Flies**, Pestilence
- B. Boils, Hail, Locusts, Darkness, Judgment of the Firstborn

III. The detailed account of Christ's redemption typified in Exodus indicates that God intends for us to remember Christ's redemption in a specific and detailed way

- A. The Passover is a type of Christ, who is not only the Passover lamb but also **every aspect of the Passover**
- B. The flesh of the lamb was to be **roasted with fire** and was not to be eaten raw or boiled.
- C. The children of Israel were to eat the lamb with its head, legs, and inwards, signifying that we must **take Christ in His entirety** with His wisdom, His activity and move, and His inward affection and feeling.
- D. The blood of the lamb in a basin was applied to the lintel and two side posts of the house by **a bunch of hyssop**.

IV. By God's subduing hand we are saved from Satan's usurpation and driven out of the world

- A. God's redeemed people became the armies of Jehovah, going out from the land of Egypt arrayed for battle
- B. *Thus God led the people around by the way of the wilderness to the Red Sea. And the children of Israel went up arrayed for battle out of the land of Egypt. And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him, for Joseph had made the children of Israel solemnly swear, saying, God will surely visit you, and you shall bring my bones up from here with you. – Exodus 13:18-19*

Hymn #1

1 The Lord has given freedom
To all who just believe Him.
Be no longer enslaved.
Come now! Return to Jesus.
Receive the Life that frees us!
Call on Him and be saved.

2 Reclaim the land, our
portion,
God as our rich possession.
Feast on Him ev'ry day!
Enjoy Him with God's fam'ly;
Find satisfaction and peace.
Here forever to stay!.

This is the year of jubilee!
Proclaim our liberty in Him!
Throughout the land we sound out:
The slaves have been returned to Him,
Released from toil, anxiety, and sin!
This is the year of jubilee!

Hymn #2

1 Give up the world, Christ to
obtain,
He is your heart's very need;
What else can you desire or
seek?
All things are empty indeed!

2 Give up the world, Christ to obtain,
He is the One you require;
Once you receive this glorious Christ,
Never the rest you'll desire.

Chorus
He is so rich, He is so full,
He can fulfill all your needs!
He is so good, He is so sweet,
All your desire He exceeds!

3 Though very great is all the world,
And very small is your heart,
Yet the great world with all its wealth
Never can fill your small heart.

4 If you have Christ, you have all joys;
Without this Christ, only pains;
Where there is Christ there morning is;
Where He is not, night remains.

Contact Information:

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Young People Gatherings:

Friday Evenings Grade 6 to 12

Bible Study Gathering

7:00pm-8:30pm

@ 46 – 5555 Aerodrome Road, Regina, SK

Lord's Day Mornings

Bread breaking Meeting

3860 Buckingham Dr, Regina, SK

Everyone is welcome!

10:00am-12:00pm

Please contact us for details

Church in Regina

GOD'S SALVATION IN EXODUS (2)

*Through all these pictures with all **the plagues** we can see **the real situation of our fallen human life**. No other portion in the Bible shows us such a detailed picture of the worldly life as it opposes God's building. The world is against God's building, and God's building is opposed to the world. God's chosen people are the crucial factor between these two opposing forces. If God's people remain in the world, God cannot do anything. But if they are willing to be rescued from the world unto God, God can work out His purpose on the earth to have His dwelling place. **Therefore, God must come in to deal with the usurping world and to educate His people to realize what the world is, so that they may give up the world and remain there no longer.** **The ten plagues taught the children of Israel what the real nature of Egypt is and what it is that usurped them, occupied them, and possessed them.***

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we shall desire to get out of today's Egypt. In His mercy, God has shown us a vivid picture that unveils the nature, meaning, and consequence of living in the world. He desires to rescue us from the world and to bring us to Himself at Mount Horeb, the mount of God. **At this mountain, we have no plagues of blood, frogs, and lice. Instead, we have light, revelation, purpose, the presence of God, and a future filled with God's supply.** What a contrast between life in Egypt and life at Mount Horeb! Do you want to be in Egypt with the blood, the frogs, and lice, or do you want to be with God at Mount Horeb? No one needs to advise us to leave the world. If we see the picture portrayed in Exodus, we shall spontaneously loathe the world, flee from it, and be gathered to the Lord at the mountain of God.

(Excerpt from Life-study of Exodus, pp. 211-212)

Ministry Excerpt

When Moses cast the rod down and saw that it had become a serpent, he fled from it. He dared not touch it. God told him to **take the serpent by the tail**, and the serpent became a rod in his hand once again. Before this time, Moses had been holding that rod for many years. It was something very precious to him. But when he cast it on the ground, he discovered that it was a serpent, something that had occupied him for many years. This experience showed him that his past support was nothing but a serpent, something that was hurting him.

Please notice that God did not tell Moses to discard the rod, but to **cast it on the ground**. The purpose of this casting was to reveal the true nature of the rod. Then God told Moses to take the rod, which had become the serpent, **by the tail**. In Nanking one responsible brother was a businessman. Later he saw the danger of going into business, and he dared not touch it again. **But God does not say to discard the rod, but to take it by the tail.** We must still have the rod, but we have to take it by the tail. In the past the rod was our center. Today the Lord has to be our center. In the past we struggled for our living. Today we strive for the gospel...This is the best way to deal with the serpent. If we take a serpent by the head, it will bite us. But if we can turn it around and take it by the tail, **it will lose its power and become limp**. In the end it will become a channel through which we exercise our authority; it will control us no longer (Exo. 4:4, 17; Luke 10:19). If we cannot take it by the tail, we will not have any authority...

(Collected Works of Watchman Nee, The (Set 3) Vol. 62: Matured Leadings in the Lord's Recovery (2), Chapter 7)

The meaning of the first sign, the sign of the staff becoming a serpent (vv. 2-4), is that anything we rely on apart from God—our education, our occupation, etc.—is actually the hiding place of Satan, the usurping serpent. However, when at God's word we throw it down and then take it up again "by the tail," i.e., in the way opposite to the practice of the worldly people, using it for God's purpose and not for ourselves, it becomes a staff of authority (vv. 4, 17; Luke 10:19). (*Exodus 4:3, Note 1*)

Apparently, it was unjust for the children of Israel to **plunder the Egyptians** of their gold, silver, and raiment. As we have pointed out, by plundering the wealth of Egypt, they were actually receiving righteous payment for their forced labor. In a sense, the pay they deserved for their labor had been deposited over the years in the "bank" in Egypt and then was withdrawn at the time of the exodus. Furthermore, God's people did not take the gold, silver, and raiment for their own use or purpose. On the contrary, the riches of Egypt were used through God's chosen people for the building of the tabernacle.

The tabernacle was the testimony of God, which typifies Christ with the church. The church today is God's tabernacle constituted of Christ and the saints. Such a testimony is built with the offerings of God's people. Therefore, the riches of the Egyptians came through the labor of God's people and were spent for God's testimony. This is what it means to plunder the world of its wealth.

The saints in the Lord's recovery should not be lazy. They should get a good education and then work diligently at a proper job to earn an adequate living. However, the money they earn should not be used only for themselves or for their enjoyment; **it should be used for the Lord's testimony**. On the one hand, we must labor in the world and receive just payment for our work. But on the other hand, what we earn should be used for the testimony of God.

Although we work **in the world**, we do **not work for the world**. Instead, we work in the world for something that is not of the world, just as the children of Israel labored in Egypt for something that was not of Egypt. Pharaoh forced God's people to work as slaves. Eventually, they received for their labor the riches of Egypt that were **used for the building of the tabernacle**, God's testimony, not for Egypt.

Some may think that because we labor diligently in the world we labor for the world. **However, our labor is for God's testimony**. What we receive for our labor in the world is given to the Lord. According to the promise in the New Testament, **the more we give to the Lord, the more He will give to us** (Luke 6:38). The Lord intends to plunder the world of its wealth through our labor so that we may give this wealth to Him for the building up of His dwelling place.

The experience of a certain brother in England illustrates this. Early in his Christian life, he gave ten percent of his income to the Lord. Because he was faithful in this matter, the Lord caused him to prosper financially. The brother then increased the percentage of his giving from ten percent to fifteen percent. The Lord caused him to prosper even more. As the years went by, this brother gradually increased the percentage of his giving. But no matter how much he gave to the Lord, the Lord always gave even more to him. This brother surely was one who plundered the riches of the world and presented them to the Lord for His testimony. (*Excerpt from Life-study of Exodus, pp.203*)

My burden in this message is not to teach the saints that they should not love the world. My burden is to point out the picture portrayed in the book of Exodus. Consider how the plagues of the blood, the frogs, and the lice expose today's world. **Do you still want to settle down in the world?** Do you still regard it as the best place for you to dwell? If we are impressed with the picture given in the book of Exodus,