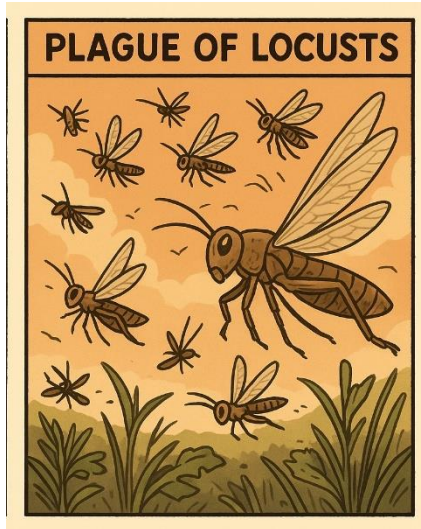


The Plagues of Locusts and Darkness

Exodus 10:1-29



God told Moses to go to Pharaoh again. He explained that Pharaoh's heart was already hardened, but this was so everyone would see God's power and future generations of Israelites would know He is the Lord.

Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, "How long will you refuse to be humble before God? God says to Let His people go so they can worship Him."

If Pharaoh refused, God would send locusts to cover the land. Pharaoh's own servants even told him to let the people go, but he would only allow the men. Moses said no—they would go with their wives, children, and livestock to make sacrifices to God. Pharaoh refused.

God then told Moses to stretch out his hand over Egypt. Instantly, locusts came and ate everything that had survived the hail. Pharaoh panicked and admitted he had sinned, asking Moses to pray to God to take the locusts away. God removed them and threw them into the Red Sea—but He also hardened Pharaoh's heart again.

Next, God told Moses to stretch his hand toward the sky. A thick darkness covered Egypt for three days. People could not see each other, but the Israelites had light in their homes. Pharaoh finally said the Israelites could go—but he wanted them to leave their livestock behind. Moses insisted they could only leave if they could take their animals and offerings with them. Pharaoh's heart stayed hard, and he even threatened Moses, saying he would die if he saw him again. Moses calmly replied that he would not see Pharaoh's face again.



These plagues showed God's power and faithfulness, but Pharaoh's stubbornness kept him from obeying—even when the consequences were clear.

Activity: “Plague Posters”

Objective: Help kids remember the plagues of locusts and darkness and understand God's power.

Materials:

- Construction paper or cardstock
- Crayons, markers, or colored pencils
- Optional: cotton balls, black tissue paper

Instructions:

1. Divide the kids into small groups (2–4 per group).
2. Assign each group a plague: locusts or darkness.
3. Create a poster showing their plague:
 - For locusts, draw or cut out locusts to cover fields or gardens.
 - For darkness, cover part of the poster with black tissue paper or dark crayon/marker, leaving one corner light to show the Israelites had light.
4. Add a caption that explains what happened and what it teaches about God's power. Example: “God sent locusts to show Pharaoh He is the Lord!”
5. Share with the class. Let each group explain their poster and what lesson it teaches.

Discussion questions:

- Why do you think God allowed Pharaoh to refuse at first?
- How do the plagues show God's power and care for His people?

How do you think the Israelites felt when they had light but the Egyptians didn't?

The Plague of the First Born



Lesson Summary

At the very beginning, Adam and Eve trusted God to tell them what was right and wrong. But Eve chose to make her own decision. Because of that sin, their hearts—and ours—became selfish. That's why people don't always judge fairly.

Only God has a perfect heart. He sees everything, even what we can't. He always judges fairly. When Pharaoh refused to let God's people go, even after many chances, God sent a final warning. Pharaoh still didn't listen, and the plague of the firstborn came. This was a punishment for his stubbornness and for hurting the Israelites.

Key Bible Verse:

Genesis 9:5–6 (NirV)

- “I will certainly hold someone accountable if you are murdered... Anyone who murders a human being will be killed by a human being. That is because I have made human beings so that they are like me.”

God cares deeply about life. Every person is made in His image. That's why taking someone's life is such a serious sin. God's punishment shows how much He values each life.

Now, if the plague of the firstborn seems too harsh, remember:

- Pharaoh had many chances to listen to God. In Exodus 11:4, Moses warned Pharaoh that every firstborn in Egypt would die at midnight.
- Pharaoh could have said, “Tell God I'm sorry. I'll obey.” But he didn't.

This was the result of Pharaoh's stubborn heart. He had already been hurting God's people for a long time—especially by killing many Israelite baby boys. God values life. In Genesis 9, God says human life is special because we are made in His image.

? Discussion Question ?

Q: What would happen if people got away with crimes like murder?

A: There would be more murders.

✦ Activity: "Choices and Consequences"

✂ **Materials:** Paper and pencils

1. Ask students to think of a time someone made a selfish choice that hurt others (in real life or a story).

2. Have them write down:

- What the choice was
- What happened because of it
- What could have been done differently

3. Discuss as a class how choices have consequences, just like Pharaoh's stubbornness led to serious consequences.

● **Optional extension:** Have students draw two paths — one where someone obeys God or makes a wise choice, and one where they disobey or make a selfish choice. Compare the results.