



Choosing The Hard Way
Exodus 7:14 – 11:10; 12:29-36
#7 in a series on Exodus
May 31, 2009
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Theme: **God Prevails ... Every Time.**

Choosing The Hard Way Of Judgement.

1. The path of resisting, rejecting God. (7:13, 23; 8: 32; 9:34-35)
2. The natural path. (Isaiah 53:6; Romans 1:18-23, 3:23, 6:23)

Living With The Hard Way Of Judgment.

1. God's judgment prevails. (7:14 - 11:10; 12:29-36)
2. Others suffer. (7:14 - 11:10; 12:29 - 36)
3. Foxhole faith often is short lived. (8:7-15, 25-32; 9:27-35; 10:16-20; 12:29-32 & 14:5-9)
4. In God's judgment there is mercy. (8:22-23; 9:4, 26;
cf. Exodus 34:6-7; Romans 2:4-5; Ephesians 2:1-10)

In My Life This Week

(As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.)

Monday. In spiritual terms, the natural way for us is the hard way. Ever since our first parents sinned we naturally resist and reject God. The Pharaoh continued on the natural, hard way before and throughout the plagues. Read 7:14 - 11:10 and 12:29-36 noting his ongoing resistance and rejection.

Are there any things in which you are resisting or rejecting God (including putting things off)? Ask God to show you any such areas and things this week so you can deal with them.

Tuesday. God's judgment prevails every time. There are no exceptions. The ten plagues were God's judgments on Pharaoh, Egypt and Egypt's man-made gods. In His mercy God does not immediately judge every sin. Thank God for that—but never, ever presume on His mercy.

Wednesday. As God brings judgment others often suffer along with those resisting and rejecting Him. The people of Egypt suffered along with their stubborn-hearted Pharaoh. The Israelites suffered through the first three plagues.

It may not be easy to spot, but we can suffer because God is judging others and others can suffer because God is judging us (including His discipline on believers). Determine to *keep short accounts with God* because it pleases Him and protects both you and others.

Thursday. Fox hole faith often is short lived. Many people make rash promises to God in desperate times, only to walk away from them *when things get back to normal*. Check the references on the outline to trace this in the Pharaoh. How does Ecclesiastes 5:1-7 apply to this? Yes, guard your steps, do not be hasty in making promises to God.

Friday/Saturday. Thankfully, in God's judgment there is mercy—if it were not so, there would be no hope for us. God was merciful to the Israelites in sparing them from the last seven plagues. He was merciful in not totally destroying Egypt. He has reached out to you in His grace and mercy. Thank Him. Be like your heavenly Father—be merciful.

On Sunday Pastor Tyler will lead us as we zero in on the Passover in 12:1-36. Read through this in preparation for our time together.

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