

God Does With You As He Pleases Exodus 4:18-23; Romans 9:14-21

Main Idea: God hardens Pharaoh's heart leading to a confrontation between God and Pharaoh.

I. God reveals to Moses that he will harden Pharaoh's heart so that God may demonstrate his power and presence through miracles (Exodus 4:18-23; 7:3-5; 10:1; 12:12)

³ "But I will harden Pharaoh's heart that I may multiply My signs and My wonders in the land of Egypt.

⁴ "When Pharaoh does not listen to you, then I will lay My hand on Egypt and bring out My hosts, My people the sons of Israel, from the land of Egypt by great judgments. ⁵ "The Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I stretch out My hand on Egypt and bring out the sons of Israel from their midst." Exodus 7:3-5

¹ Then the Lord said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh, for I have hardened his heart and the heart of his servants, that I may perform these signs of Mine among them, ² and that you may tell in the hearing of your son, and of your grandson, how I made a mockery of the Egyptians and how I performed My signs among them, that you may know that I am the Lord." Exodus 10:1-2 (NASB)

¹² ~'For I will go through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments—I am the Lord. Exodus 12:12 (NASB)

II. Both God and Pharaoh hardened Pharaoh's heart.

Chronology of Pharaoh's Hardened Heart:

1. God tells Moses that God will harden Pharaoh's heart- Exod. 4:21; 7:3
2. Pharaoh's heart was hardened after the rods became snakes- Exod. 7:13
3. Pharaoh's heart was hardened after the magicians turned water to blood- Exod. 7:22
4. Pharaoh hardened his heart after the frogs all died off- Exod. 8:15
5. Pharaoh's heart was hardened even when the magicians could not produce lice- Exod. 8:19
6. Pharaoh hardened his heart after the flies were removed- Exod. 8:32
7. Pharaoh's heart was stubborn even when his cattle died and the Jews' cattle lived- Exod. 9:7
8. God hardened Pharaoh's heart after the plague of boils- Exod. 9:12
9. Pharaoh hardened his heart after the plague of hail was over- Exod. 9:34-35
10. God had hardened Pharaoh's heart- Exod. 10:1
11. God hardened Pharaoh's heart after the locusts were removed- Exod. 10:20
12. God hardened Pharaoh's heart after the plague of darkness- Exod. 10:27; 11:10
13. Pharaoh hardened his heart before the last plague- Exod. 13:15
14. God hardened Pharaoh's heart to chase after the Israelites- Exod. 14:4.8
15. God hardened the hearts of the Egyptian army to chase through the Red Sea- Exod. 14:17

III. God's commentary on his dealings with Pharaoh (Rom. 9:14-21)

A. God cannot be challenged on the basis of injustice because he is not unjust (Rom. 9:14)

B. Some escape judgment because of God's mercy, but God's mercy cannot be earned or deserved (Rom. 9:15-18)

C. We as creatures have no grounds to criticize God (Rom. 9:19-21)

IV. Application.

A. Keep your heart warm toward God by acknowledging what he has done.

B. Keep your heart warm toward God by believing and obeying his word.