

“The Finger of God”

Study: Exodus 8:16-32

Reading: Psalm 113:1-10

Memory: Proverbs 3:18

Exodus



A Daily Devotional Study Guide

Week 3

What Does the Bible Say?

Pharaoh had once again changed his mind after the plague of the frogs, but God was not through yet. He told Moses to have Aaron stretch out his rod and hit the dust of the ground, and when he did, it caused the dust to turn into gnats (the KJV calls it lice). These gnats were everywhere and were a constant annoyance. Pharaoh was finding out that the God of the Israelites was much more powerful than he was and this became clear when his magicians could not reproduce this miracle. These sorcerers admitted defeat and stated that this was not some trick that Moses and Aaron were performing, but it was the mighty finger of God. Pharaoh had not been given a warning about this plague, nor does it say if he talked to Moses about it or how long the plague lasted. We are only told that this made the heart of Pharaoh even harder as it started to become evident that he was going to lose. His pride would not allow him to humble himself, but instead, he resisted (vs 16-19).

After the gnats ended, Moses was instructed to meet Pharaoh by the Nile river (it appears that Pharaoh went there daily) and ask Pharaoh once again to let the children of Israel leave the land. God wanted His people to be free to serve and worship Him. Pharaoh was told that if he did not let the people go, God was going to continue to send plagues upon the land. Through Moses, God told Pharaoh that the next plague would be an invasion of flies. Moses stated that the children of Israel, who were still living in the land of Goshen, would not be affected by the flies though the Egyptians would be greatly bothered by them. God would cause some type of invisible wall to keep his children from the problems. This seems to indicate that the first few plagues affected the Israelites and the Egyptians, but now God wanted to make it more clear to the Egyptians that it was He who was bringing the plagues. To show His power and protection, God would keep his people from it. Though some may want to think that God would not have allowed His children to go through the previous plagues, there are several places in Scripture where we are told

that difficulties came to the children of God for a greater purpose (vs 20-23).

God did just as He said, and when Pharaoh refused to let the children of Israel go, God sent swarms of flies to the Egyptians. The flies were everywhere and it appears that these were more than just common house flies. We are told that they destroyed many things in the land and they could have been a type of blood sucking insect as well (vs 24).

The flies were bad enough to cause Pharaoh to call for Moses and Aaron and tell them to have the Israelites offer sacrifices to God in the land of Egypt. Moses refused to do this and told Pharaoh that they needed to go out of Egypt to worship God. It would not have been right for them to sacrifice in the land because the Egyptians would see them and become angry with them. Pharaoh agreed to this and told them that they could go into the wilderness (desert) to sacrifice if they didn't go too far. He asked Moses to plead to God for him so that the flies would leave. Moses agreed to do this, but warned Pharaoh not to turn back on the promise that he had made to let the people worship God. Moses asked God to remove the plague and God stopped the flies, but as soon as they were gone, Pharaoh once again changed his mind and decided not to let the Israelites go (vs 25-32).

How Does this Apply to Me?

There are a few different thoughts from the passage today that can be applied to your life. The first is that God sometimes spares His children from difficulties to show His power and other times allows them to go through difficulties to show His power. When problems and heartaches come your way, it doesn't mean that God doesn't care. It appears here that He allowed the Israelites to face the first few plagues but spared them from many of the others to show His power to the Pharaoh. Another lesson can be an encouragement for you when you are dealing with hard hearts. Though people may be crushed over and over again because of their sin and rejection of God, it may take more than you think. You will find some people who turn to God just to get Him to relieve the current pain, only to change their minds once the situation is better. This is common when dealing with people and should not discourage you when it happens to those you are investing your life into. Another lesson for you is to remember that God is greater than anything in this world. Though the world has power and can do things in a limited form, the strongest power in this world is nothing compared to the might of God.

Why do you think God told Moses to tell Aaron to stretch out his staff (vs 16)?

What filled the land (vs 16)?

How bad was this plague (vs 17)?

What do you imagine this plague was like?

What could the magicians not do (vs 18)?

Why do you think this was the first one they could not recreate?

What did the magicians declare (vs 19)?

How did Pharaoh react (vs 20)?

What did God tell Moses to warn Pharaoh about (vs 20-21)?

What was God going to do for the land of Goshen (vs 22)?

What did God want Pharaoh to know (vs 22)?

What happened to the land of Egypt (vs 24)?

What compromise did Pharaoh try to make (vs 25)?

How did Moses respond (vs 26-27)?

What did Pharaoh agree to (vs 28)?

What did Moses warn Pharaoh about (vs 29)?

What did Moses do to stop the plague of flies (vs 30)?

How did God answer (vs 31)?

What did Pharaoh do once the flies were gone (vs 32)? Why do you think he did this?

“Clinging to Our Sin”

Study: Exodus 9:1-35

Reading: James 1:12-18

Memory: Proverbs 3:18

What Does the Bible Say?

After Pharaoh turned back on his word following the plague of the flies, God once again told Moses to go to Pharaoh and ask him to let the Israelites leave. He was to warn Pharaoh that the refusal of this request would lead to a severe plague upon the livestock of the Egyptians. The livestock of the Israelites would not suffer, which would also give clear indication that this plague was sent from the God of the Israelites. Moses was to be very specific about this plague, stating it would happen the very next day if Pharaoh refused. We are not told how Pharaoh responded to this request, but we know he rejected Moses because we are told that on the next day, God did just as He said. He killed all of the livestock of the Egyptians, but not one of the animals that belonged to the Israelites died. Pharaoh was beginning to understand the power of the God of Israel, but his heart was so hardened, he refused to let the Israelites go (vs 1-7).

Pharaoh was not given any warning about the sixth plague as God told Moses to throw ashes into the air in front of Pharaoh and to declare that it would become like dust over the regions and that the dust would turn into boils on the Egyptians. The sorcerers who had the greatest power in the land could not even stand before Moses because they were covered with boils and sores. Even in the middle of this pain, Pharaoh refused to let the Israelites go. We are not told how long the boils lasted, but it is assumed they started when Moses threw the ashes and continued until they naturally ran their course (vs 8-12).

Once again, God told Moses to go to Pharaoh and ask him to let the Israelites go. This request was a little different. This time, God had Moses explain to Pharaoh the purpose of the plagues. God wanted Pharaoh and the Egyptians (not to mention the Israelites and other surrounding nations) to know that He was the God who was more powerful than any earthly god that could be worshiped. If He wanted to, God could have wiped the Egyptians off of the earth, but He chose not to

for a purpose. He was using them and the stubbornness of Pharaoh to help display His power to the world. Pharaoh's reluctance to let the Israelites go was causing God to be exalted (vs 13-17).

God was not done and was not going to stop until the Israelites were out of Egypt. He warned Pharaoh that if he refused to let the Israelites leave He would cause heavy hail to fall on the land and destroy crops. It would be so great that it would also destroy any person or animal that were out in the hail. This warning went out to the people of Egypt and those who were starting to believe in the God of Israel chose to stay inside that next day and put any animals they had into shelters. The question that does arise in my mind is how the Egyptians would have livestock if they had died in the plague before. We are not given a clear answer, but I have two thoughts. Perhaps not “all” the animals died in the plague. Sometimes, generalities are given when referring to a high majority and the use of the original term might not have meant “every single one.” The other thought is that the Israelites had livestock and perhaps the Egyptians bought some from the Israelites after theirs died (vs 18-22).

God instructed Moses to stretch out his hand towards heaven, and when he did, God sent hail and fire down to the earth. The fire was probably in the form of lightning through a severe storm, though we know of other times where fire came down from the sky. The land of Goshen where the Israelites lived was spared from this, but the rest of the land of Egypt lost many of their crops and sources of food from this storm (vs 23-28).

Pharaoh called for Moses and told Moses that he knew he had done wrong. He asked Moses to plead with God to stop the storm. Pharaoh claimed that He believed God and would do as God said, but Moses knew that this was not the case. He knew that Pharaoh was just trying to get the problem to stop and didn't really want to change his mind. Pharaoh knew that not all the crops were completely wiped out since the wheat had not matured and could survive the hail. Moses knew this too, but he went out as Pharaoh requested and asked God to stop the hail. As he had done before, Pharaoh saw that the immediate problem had past and he chose not to let the Israelites go.

How Does this Apply to Me?

It is so easy to criticize Pharaoh because his actions seem very selfish and ignorant, but I wonder how many times you and I cling to the very things that are hurting us and our families.

What request was Moses to make again (vs 1)?

What was Pharaoh warned about (vs 2-3)?

What was God going to do for Israel (vs 4)?

What does this reveal about God and His power?

How did God keep His Word (vs 6)?

How did Pharaoh respond (vs 7)?

Why do you think he responded this way?

Why do you think that Moses was to throw ashes in the air (vs 8)?

What happened to the Egyptians (vs 9-10)?

What are we told about the magicians (vs 11)?

How did Pharaoh respond (vs 12)?

Why did God say He was sending the plagues (vs 14-16)?

What was the next plague God was going to send on the Egyptians (vs 18)?

What took place (vs 23-25)?

What are we told in verse 26?

How did Pharaoh respond (vs 27-28)?

What did Moses want Pharaoh to recognize (vs 29)?

What did Moses know (vs 30)? How (vs 31-32)?

What did Pharaoh do when the problem was gone (vs 34-35)?

“Short Term Repentance”

Study: Exodus 10:1-20

Reading: II Corinthians 7:1-16

Memory: Proverbs 3:18

Immediately after September 11, 2001 there were many signs and slogans displaying, “In God we trust” and churches were full. This lasted for a few days for some and a couple of weeks to a few months for others, but overall, that “trust” was short lived. When we as proud Americans saw our frailty and realized that there are things that are out of our control, we said we were turning to God for help, but when things calmed down and were a little bit more normal, most Americans went right back to trusting in themselves, not making time for God.

Today, we are going to be reminded that people are not much different than Pharaoh and his counselors. The plagues caused Pharaoh to cry out to God at times, but he only wanted God to stop the problem.

What Does the Bible Say?

It wasn't only Pharaoh that was stubborn, but the hearts of Pharaoh's advisors were also hardened and stubborn. God could have broken their hard hearts, but He didn't because He was using them to help display His power for all to see. What God was doing to Egypt wouldn't be quickly forgotten but was talked about for generations, even among those who were not Israelites. God wanted the Israelites and all the nations around them to know that He alone was God and was far above the false gods that the world worshiped (vs 1-2).

Once again, Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh, asking him to let the people go. They noted that he had been stubborn and had caused great affliction on his people because of his pride. God wanted his children out of Egypt and desired for Pharaoh to let them go. Pharaoh was told that if he refused, a plague of locust would invade the land, eating everything that was left growing on the trees and in the fields. They had gone through plagues of locusts before, but the one that was about to come would be nothing like they or those who had gone before them had ever seen. Pharaoh chose to take his chances and rejected Moses. It was at this point that the advisors to Pharaoh started questioning his decision and attempted

to talk Pharaoh into changing his mind. They realized how much they had lost in the first seven plagues and knew that this one could destroy them as a nation. Pharaoh started listening to these men and called Moses and Aaron back to him. He told Moses that the people could go and worship God, but He wanted to know who was going to go. Moses told them that all of the children of Israel, young and old, needed to go, along with all of their animals. Pharaoh did not like this request because he did not want the little ones to leave. His plan was to continue to oppress them and use the next generation in his service. Pharaoh told Moses that the men could go out in the desert and worship God, but not the children. Moses was not going to give in and was only going to go with all the people, young and old, male and female. Pharaoh told Moses and Aaron to leave since there was no way he was going to let them leave (vs 3-11).

After Pharaoh's rejection, God told Moses to stretch out his staff over the land. As he did, a strong wind started to blow and the land soon became infested with locusts. Locusts covered the land just as Moses had said and there were so many of them that it caused the sun to be shaded by them. They ate up everything green that was in the land so that there were no plants or fresh food left (vs 12-15).

Pharaoh called Moses back in and told him that he had sinned against God, He asked Moses to plead for forgiveness and Moses did so. God heard the prayer of Moses and caused the locusts to leave the land. Not even one locust was left in the land, though the damage had already been done. Pharaoh once again changed his mind after the locusts were gone and would not let the children of Israel go (vs 16-20).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Do you view God as a problem solving genie who is there to grant your request when things get hard, or is He bigger than that in your eyes? The hardening of a heart is not just for the lost or enemies of God, it can happen to believers. It is very easy to turn to God only through trials and problems and reject Him when you think you can do it on your own. The problem with this attitude is that it only solves the problems you face temporarily. God, in His grace and mercy, will often take the pain away, even though He knows if you are going to follow through on your commitments or not. God should not be looked to as a God who takes your problems away, but He is a God that wants to walk with you through your problems. Take time today to see if you are following God with your whole heart or for just what you can get out of it.

What did God say he had done (vs 1)? Why (vs 1-2)?

What question did Moses ask the Pharaoh (vs 3)?

What was Pharaoh threatened with (vs 4)?

How bad would this plague be (vs 5)?

How would more than the crops be affected (vs 6)?

What did Pharaoh's servants attempt to do (vs 7)?

How did Pharaoh try to stave off the plague (vs 8)?

Why do you think that Pharaoh didn't want to fully give in?

What demand did Moses give (vs 9)?

What did Pharaoh not want to do (vs 10)?

What did Moses refuse to do (vs 11)?

What did God tell Moses to do (vs 12)?

Why do you think God used the wind (vs 13)?

What does this show about the power and understanding of God?

What did the locusts do (vs 14)?

How bad was this plague (vs 15)?

How did Pharaoh respond (vs 16)?

What did Pharaoh ask Moses (vs 17)?

What did God do (vs 18-19)?

What did Pharaoh fail to do (vs 20)?

“Choosing God’s Way”

Study: Exodus 10:21-29

Reading: Matthew 16:1-28

Memory: Proverbs 3:18

I have coached a variety of different players in different sports over the years and there were a handful of players that have had great potential but never reached their potential because they were unwilling to put in the work. When it was time to run, they put in a little effort, and would simply rely on their natural talents rather than working to improve. They wanted to be recognized as great players, but never reached that level because they didn’t want to work.

Today, we are going to see how Pharaoh decided to let the people go but only wanted to give them a few things rather than the complete demands of Moses. Through this reading we will be challenged to be willing to surrender all to God.

What Does the Bible Say?

After God had removed the locust, Pharaoh once again hardened his heart and refused to let the children of Israel go. As a result, God told Moses to stretch out his hand over the earth, and the land would become dark. Moses did as he was commanded, and God brought great darkness over the land for three days. The Egyptians could not see one another and they could not go anywhere. Though the Egyptians had darkness, the Israelites had light. We are not told what caused this darkness or if the Egyptians could see with torches or lamps. The passage gives the idea that no light would work for the Egyptians. They could not leave their houses because they could not see where they were going. This meant that no work could be done in Egypt and it would have been very difficult to even eat because they couldn’t see to cook. Pharaoh called for Moses and told him once again that the Israelites could go. He did not want them to take their animals with them though, which would either force the Israelites to return, or it would provide livestock for the Egyptians who had lost most of their animals. Moses refused this request, stating that they needed these animals to offer sacrifices to God. They were not going to leave without every single animal that belonged to them (vs 21-27).

Pharaoh did not like this and told Moses that he would not let the

people go. He told Moses to leave his presence and he let Moses and Aaron know that he never wanted to see them again. He stated that if he saw them again, he would have them killed. Moses agreed to this request and it was the last face to face meeting that they were going to have. God was going to break the hard heart of Pharaoh once and for all with one last plague that would devastate the hearts and wills of the Egyptian people (vs 28-29).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Are you willing to completely surrender to God’s will and God’s way? It is very easy to allow God to have His way as long as you get to hold on to some of the things that are dear to you. It is easy to step out on “faith” while at the same time continually carry around a safety net just in case God’s way doesn’t work. Pharaoh was willing to give in to part of God’s plan, but didn’t want to let the animals go. He was not willing to follow God’s plan completely, and then, when Moses wouldn’t agree with his idea, he rejected God totally. There are many people who want to ride the fence and follow God part way. They want God to do things their way, thinking that their way is better than God’s way. Just as Pharaoh did, you, at times, will have a hard time giving complete control over to God. He wants full control, yet it is often hard to give everything to Him. Though He is completely trustworthy and has the power to work on your behalf, choosing to trust Him completely on a daily basis is one of the most difficult things to do.

Suggestions for Prayer

- * *Thank God for having a perfect way for your life.*
- * *Ask God to help show you any areas where you are not willing to completely surrender to Him.*
- * *Praise God because His way is best.*

Thought for the day

What was the next plague (vs 21)?

How many plagues was this?

What happened throughout all the land of Egypt (vs 22)?

How complete do you think this darkness was?

What did Israel experience at this time (vs 23)?

What does this reveal about the great power of God?

What did Pharaoh tell Moses he could do (vs 24)?

Why do you think Pharaoh wanted to keep the flocks in Egypt?

Why did Moses say they needed the animals (vs 25)?

Why do you think he said this instead of describing how he needed the animals for food?

According to the end of verse 26, what hadn't God revealed to Moses?

What did Pharaoh decide to do (vs 27)?

You have read about the Lord hardening the heart of Pharaoh several times now. After going through these chapters, what do you think it means that his heart was hardened?

What did Pharaoh tell Moses (v 28)?

How does this reveal that things were culminating to a breaking point?

What did Moses say he would never do (vs 29)?

How do you think Moses would have felt at this point?

What does this reveal about dealing with stubborn people?

“Brightest Light, Darkest Night”

Study: Exodus 11:1-10

Reading: Ezra 1:1-11, Daniel 4:28-37

Memory: Proverbs 3:18

At times, I have heard older people bemoaning the thought that the younger people do not want to serve God anymore. They would talk about the pull of evil and how the world was becoming a terrible place. They viewed the future very pessimistically and this type of thinking would lead to great discouragement. The interesting thing is that their thinking was often opposite of mine. I saw that the younger generation did want to serve the Lord but wanted to serve in a different way than the previous generation. I did see the great evil that was taking place in the world, but I also saw it as a great opportunity for the light of the gospel to shine brighter than it did in a society that was full of self-righteous people. When you view God as a big and powerful God who has the ability to use the worst circumstances to bring the greatest glory to Himself, your whole perspective on life will often change.

Today, we are going to see how God used the hard heart of Pharaoh to bring about greater glory for Himself.

What Does the Bible Say?

God knew what it would take to convince Pharaoh to let the children of Israel go. He was going to send one more plague upon them that would so devastate Pharaoh to the point that he would have no other choice but to let the Israelites leave. God gave careful instruction to the Israelites to help them prepare for this departure. One of the first things they were to do was to ask the Egyptians that they knew for silver and gold. After the plagues, the Egyptians viewed Moses as a great man. Some probably even thought he was a god. Because he passed this request down to the Israelites, the Egyptians would give the Israelites many of their valuables out of fear and respect (vs 1-3).

God revealed to Moses that around midnight He was going to kill the firstborn children of all the Egyptians. Pharaoh would not be excluded from this, nor would the slaves. All Egypt would suffer. The plague would even pass down to any of the animals that were left. Each of the

people in the land of Egypt would lose their oldest child that night and there would be great weeping throughout the land. This would not happen to the Israelites. God declared that not even a dog would growl at them because His hand of protection was on them. The people would clearly see a distinction between the Israelites and the Egyptians and know that the God of the Israelites was the most powerful God. Those who were once masters over the Israelites would bow down before them, begging them to leave the land. Those who, at one time, didn't want the Israelites to leave would basically desire to kick them out of their land. Just as Pharaoh in great anger had told Moses to get out of his presence, so the Egyptians, including Pharaoh, would tell the Israelites to get out of the land (vs 4-8).

God knew that Pharaoh would not listen to the first nine plagues and, even after they would be let go, He knew Pharaoh would come after them. God was going to use the stubbornness of Pharaoh to help the Israelites and the whole world see and know the great power of the God of Israel. Moses and Aaron had done all that God had asked and God had been glorified. The end of chapter 11 summarized what had taken place up to that point, knowing that the whole circumstance of the Israelites would change after God carried out the last plague (vs 9-10).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Do you get discouraged when the evil around you seems so strong? Do you allow the stubbornness of sinful men to cause you to become disheartened in serving the Lord? Moses must have wanted to quit at times as attempt after attempt to get Pharaoh to let the Israelites go had failed. Though God said this would happen, rejection is never easy to take. Yet, at the same time, God was using the great evil that was in the heart of Pharaoh to bring glory to Himself in the deliverance He was going to provide. This is something to keep in mind the next time you feel overwhelmed by the sinful world around you. Light always shines brightest in the darkest places. God allows evil to build up and become worse in some situations so He can be glorified in a greater way when deliverance comes. Don't let the evil in the world around you discourage you from serving God today.

Suggestions for Prayer

* *Praise God because He has been and always will be all-powerful.*

What had Pharaoh just told Moses at the end of chapter 10?

What did God tell Moses (vs 1)?

What was Pharaoh going to do (vs 1)?

How would Pharaoh's mind be completely changed (vs 1)?

What were the children of Israel told to do (vs 2)?

Why does this seem like an odd request?

What had God caused to happen (vs 3)?

How had God used the hard heart of Pharaoh to prepare his people for their departure?

When was God planning to pass through the land (vs 4)?

What was going to happen once God passed through (vs 5)?

How thorough was this plague going to be?

What would be the response to what God was about to do (vs 6)?

How would this not affect the Israelites (vs 7)?

What did God want Pharaoh to know (vs 7)?

Why do you think this was important to God?

What did Moses say all the Egyptians would do (vs 8)?

What does verse nine point out?

How does verse 10 sum up what had just been taking place over the last several chapters?

“The Passover”

Study: Exodus 12:1-28

Reading: John 19:16-3

Memory: Proverbs 3:18

What Does the Bible Say?

God was using all the events that were taking place in Egypt to help unite the people of Israel and form them into a nation. God established a new calendar for the Israelites, and the Passover was going to be right at the beginning. God was giving them a few weeks to prepare to depart Egypt as He instructed Moses to tell the people to sacrifice a lamb for their household on the tenth day of this new month of their new year. For those who did not have a large enough family living with them, they could share a lamb with their neighbor and partake in their neighbors' sacrifice. They were to choose a lamb that was perfect, one that was without a blemish or spots and one that was around a year old. They could choose their lamb from the sheep or from the goats. The lamb was to stay in their home from the 10th day of the first month until the 14th day when it was to be sacrificed toward the evening, between 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. (vs 1-6).

They were to take some of the blood from their sacrifice and put some on both sides of the door and above the door. They were to eat the cooked meat that night with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. They were not to eat it raw or boil it, but it had to be roasted. They were not to leave any leftovers but were to eat the whole lamb that night, and they were to eat it while they were dressed to depart from Egypt. This was not to be a long drawn out feast for them, but a quicker meal since that night the Lord was going to pass through the land of Egypt and kill the firstborn of the Egyptians. Those houses who sacrificed the lamb and put blood on the doorpost would not face the judgment of God, but He would “pass over” the homes of those who chose to follow Him and obey Him (vs 7-13).

The events that were about to take place would be remembered for centuries to come and are still celebrated today. God was establishing the first national celebration for Israel as each year they were to take time to remember the work of God in delivering Israel, and they were to celebrate the Passover each year. The yearly celebration was to be a little different

than the first Passover because they were to follow the Passover with the Feast of Unleavened Bread for seven days. During this time, they were to remove any leaven from their homes and were not to eat leaven for the seven days after the Passover meal. Anyone who chose not to participate in this was to be removed from the nation of Israel. (Leaven was fermented dough that was used to help the next batch of dough rise.) It was not that leaven was bad, but God was setting up leaven to become a picture of sin and the need to be holy (vs 14-15).

They were to assemble together on the first day of the feast and on the seventh day of the feast for a time of worship, praise and thanksgiving. During those two days, they were not to do any work but only the minimal prep work it would take to prepare meals. This was to be established as a constant memorial to remember God's great deliverance and was to be celebrated by the Israelites and by sojourners who would be in the land of Israel (vs 16-20).

Moses did as God had commanded and instructed the elders of Israel to prepare for the Passover. They were to take hyssop (some type of plant) and dip it in the blood of the lamb and put the blood on their doorposts. They were to stay in their house on the night of the 14th until morning to avoid the last plague that God was going to bring to Egypt. While they were doing this the first time and in the years to come, they were to explain to their children who God was and what He had done for the nation of Egypt. This was to be a constant reminder of God's grace, mercy and power towards His people. After Moses instructed the elders, they worshiped God and then went out and obeyed the instructions they were given (vs 21-28).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Do you realize the great significance of the Passover? The celebration was for Israel, but, for us, it is a picture of what Jesus has done for us. He was killed just as the lambs were killed to make a way for death to “pass over” all of us and spare us from eternal damnation. Just as the Israelites had to choose to put the blood on their doorposts to be spared from the death angel, so we too have to choose to place our faith and trust in His blood to cleanse us from our sin. The Passover was not only for the Israelites but is a picture for all mankind to help us see that God wants to spare us from eternal damnation. Take time to praise God today for His wonderful salvation.

Memorization

(review this week's memory verse)

Proverbs 3:1 My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, 2 for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you. 3 Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. 4 So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man. 5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. 6 In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. 7 Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil. 8 It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones. 9 Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; 10 then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine. 11 My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline or be weary of his reproof, 12 for the LORD reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights. 13 Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding, 14 for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold. 15 She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her. 16 Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor. 17 Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. 18 She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her fast are called blessed.