

1. The Supremacy of God's Power

- Chp 7-11 are about a clash between the gods of Egypt and the true God
- God underlines his supremacy over and over again:
 - Nature concedes to God – timing (eg. 7:19, 8:10), location (8:22)
 - Magicians concede to God – only able to copy, not undo
 - Egypt's 'gods' concede to God – plagues are a systematic attack on Egyptian beliefs. From Hapi (Nile god), to gods of crops, animals and healing, to Amon-Re (Sun god) – all fail to withstand the Lord.
- Where does our trust lie? Abilities, savings, family? Does God need to dismantle a few of the things we trust in?

2. The Folly of our Sin

- Egyptians concede too (9:20, 10:7), but not stubborn Pharaoh
- 4 characteristics of stubborn foolish rebels:
 - Choose to ignore instead of listening
 - More concerned about consequences of sin than sin itself - (9:27)
 - Think they can bargain with God about obedience – (9:25,28, 10:10)
 - Ultimately shoot themselves in the foot – (10:28)

3. The Terror of God's Judgment

- Pharaoh heart is hard (7:13, 22; 8:19; 9:35); hardens his heart (8:15,32; 9:34); God hardens it (4:21; 7:3; 10:1,20,27; 11:10)
- For Pharaoh it is too late – the plagues aren't simply warnings, they are judgment on his previous godless attitude.
- You don't toy with this God's mercy, or trample his word. He will not be patient forever. *"Therefore God has mercy on whom he wants to have mercy, and he hardens whom he wants to harden"* (Romans 9:18)
- The clash of the gods is ultimately a clash between me and God – who will rule my life? There will only be one winner

4. The Security of God's people

- However there is a God who will move Heaven and Earth to save people
- From 4th plague there is a distinction – protection amidst judgment
- Not saying Christians are free from trouble, but that they are spared God's ultimate judgments
- 8:23 – "I will put 'redemption' between my people and your people"
- God has come to redeem his people – on one side there is judgment, on the other there is life. In between is God.
- A great picture of Christ taking the judgment, providing life, protection and security for all who come to him.

Milford RPC

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Sabbath 11th April 2010

Notices

- Sun Evening service at Day Centre - Debbie Pinkerton speaking on Sudan 8pm
- Wed Midweek meeting at Ivan & Irene's - Study 6 8pm
- Fri 16th Annual CY dinner - The Old Courthouse, Armagh
see poster for details
- Sat 17th Family Day Conference - Keeping our Children in the Church in the 21st Century
Cullybackey RPC, 10:30 - 15:00 - Cost: £5 per adult, Childcare provided
Bring a packed lunch. For application:
Email details to: rpfamilyconference@googlemail.com
- Sun 18th Mark will be away - Service here will be taken by Peter Loughridge, if you are able to provide lunch, please speak to Mark

The Genevans

- May The Choir of Geneva College, Beaver Falls, USA - Alley Theatre Strabane
Overnight accommodation required for the weekend 14 – 17 May. Speak to Mark if you are able to offer accommodation
- Sat 15th Concert in Alley Theatre in Strabane. See poster for details on the concert.
Sign up sheet for tickets if you are interested in going. £10 admission, £8 concession. Concert starts 8pm
- Sun 16th "A life worth living" An Evening of praise with the Genevans
Guild Hall Derry 8.15pm

Next passage: Exodus 11

Opening Psalm: 59:11-16

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