



Session 6



GOD RESCUED HIS PEOPLE

Exodus 7–15

Having met with the Israelite leaders and determining their plight, Moses and his brother Aaron, approached Pharaoh as God had instructed. The men asked Pharaoh to let the people go into the wilderness a little way and worship their God. Pharaoh was not keen on this idea and flat out refused. Pharaoh considered the request for time to worship to be a sign that the people were not working hard enough, so Pharaoh ordered their workload be increased. Moses returned to the people who were now upset by the new demand, and blamed Moses for its implementation. Moses turned to God for help.

God encouraged Moses by telling him that God was now going to do something astounding. God's revelation of Himself to Pharaoh, the people, and Moses would bring about God's plan of rescuing these people from Egypt. The road would not be easy, but God promised that Israel would leave Egypt, and the people would worship God one day in the land He had promised Abraham.

Ordered by God to return to Pharaoh, Moses was understandably concerned. The people of Israel were already frustrated by what happened the first time Moses went to Pharaoh, and were likely hesitant that this visit would produce something more harsh from Pharaoh. God had a plan to rescue His people and He was about to fully reveal Himself through a series of plagues. These plagues increased in intensity, and their purpose was to convince Pharaoh that the God of Israel was worthy of worship so Pharaoh would allow the people to leave.

The plagues God sent not only identified God's control over natural events, but they also showed the insufficiency of Egypt's false gods. Egypt had commodities in several areas. The Nile River was the main source of water for irrigation and life-sustaining resources. Crops and cattle were abundant and needed for food. Through the plagues, each of these commodities was systematically made irrelevant by the God of Israel.