

STUDY 5

Exodus 9:30

But as for you and your servants, I know that you will not yet fear the Lord God.

Read the context: Exodus 9:13-35 (For the larger context, read Exodus 3:1-12:36)

In Exodus 3:19, what does God tell Moses about Pharaoh before Moses ever goes to ask him to let the Israelites go?

What does God say about Pharaoh's heart in Exodus 4:21?

What does Pharaoh's response in Exodus 5:2 reveal about his heart and his attitude toward God?

What does God say about Pharaoh's heart in Exodus 7:3? Exodus 7:4 tells the result of that in his life. His heart attitude caused him not to _____.

The dictionary defines heed as *"to pay attention to; listen to and consider."*

We see this same cause/effect or attitude/response in Exodus 7:14 and 16. Verse 14 says that Pharaoh's heart was _____, and verse 16 says that up to that point Pharaoh would not _____.

How did the 1st plague affect Pharaoh's heart? (Exodus 7:23)

The same attitude/response is seen again in Exodus 8:15 after the 2nd plague: he _____ his heart and did not _____.

Notice that in Exodus 8:8 Pharaoh is desperate and is willing to acknowledge that he needs the Lord to intervene; but as soon as relief comes, he reverts back to his true nature. No heart transformation has taken place.

The same attitude/response cycle is repeated in Exodus 8:19: Pharaoh's heart grew _____ and he did not _____.

And again in Exodus 8:31-32: relief, hardening; but instead of saying Pharaoh would not heed, it says he would not let the people go. Here we see clearly that heeding God's voice is directly related to obedience. To truly listen is to obey.

The same cycle is repeated in Exodus 9:7: hardening of the heart leads to _____.

And again in Exodus 9:12: Pharaoh heart was _____ and he did not _____.

Notice Exodus 9:14: What was God targeting with these plagues? (I will send My plagues to your _____.)

There were 2 opposite responses among Pharaoh's servants in Exodus 9:20-21. One group _____ and the other group did not _____.

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_____. Think about the contrast in those 2 verbs. What does this tell you about what fearing God and His Word means?

This is plague #7, and here is where our verse for the day comes in. Read Exodus 9:27-28. Pharaoh appears to have a genuine change of heart. He certainly says all the right words! But what does Moses say about him in verse 30?

Moses is right. The cycle is repeated yet again in Exodus 9:34-35: relief, hardening, refusal to heed and obey.

Exodus 10:3 gives us a key character quality necessary for fearing the Lord. What is it? Think through how and why this character quality is related to and essential for a heart that fears the Lord.

*Key cross reference: Proverbs 28:14. What 2 attitudes are being contrasted in this verse? A man who is always _____ and one who _____.

Summarize what you've learned about the fear of the Lord through this lesson.

Then think through your own life. How often have you thought, prayed, or spoken words of commitment to the Lord during times of distress only to forget your commitment and go back to your old ways once relief comes and the distress is passed? What is the true condition of your heart: soft or hard? Are you attentive to His voice and then follow through in obedience? Open your heart to God and let Him examine you and help you to know your own heart. Ask Him to make your heart soft. As we saw through the story of Pharaoh, the condition of our heart is a work of God reflected in our response to Him.