SERMON HANDOUT for July 13, 2025



WHY YOU DON'T WANT TO WAIT UNTIL TOMORROW

Exodus 8:1-10, 14-15 NKJV

Min. Roy Lee

INTRODUCTION

Four centuries, children of Israel endured brutal bondage

- Slaves to the Egyptians
- Their cries of desperation reached the LORD.
- LORD raised up a deliverer
- Moses 1st attempt to liberate his people ended in trouble.

40 long years later:

- God met him at the burning bush
- Commissioned him to return to Egypt
- Under divine orders
- Imbued with God's own power
- To deliver His people

Moses, though initially reluctant, returned to Pharaoh with God's command:

- "Let my people go!"
- Pharaoh, hardened of heart, basically said, no.

Then God began a series of 10 devastating plagues:

• Each designed to break Pharaoh's will

Each designed secure the Israelites' freedom

God Unleashes 10 Plagues to Judge Egypt to:

- Demonstrating His Power Exodus 7:5 NKJV
- Judgment for Oppression Exodus 6:6 NKJV
- Fulfilling Prophecy Genesis 15:13-14 NKJV

Why did God need to show His power???

Because the Egyptians worshipped many so-called gods who they thought had power!

10 Plagues to Judge Egypt:

- **Plague 1**, judgment against the so-called god and goddess of the Nile, along with the guardian of the Nile.
- Plague 2, judgment against, so-called frog headed goddess of birth
- Plague 3, judgment against, the so-called god of the dessert
- Plague 4, judgment against, so-called goddess associated with Nile Delta, marshes, and heat of the sun
- Plague 5, judgment against, the so-called god who was depicted as cattle.
- **Plague 6**, judgment against, the so-called god associated with health
- Plague 7, judgment against the so-called goddess of the sky
- Plague 8, judgment against the so-called god of fertility, agriculture, and the afterlife
- Plague 9, judgment against the so-called sun god who was the god of light
- **Plague 10**, judgment against the god pharaoh and Isis the protector of children

As you can clearly see, the LORD wasn't performing some random acts of power. His ultimate goal was to unequivocally show the Egyptians—and all of history—who was truly God.

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 8:1-10; 14-15 NKJV

Frogs – In Scripture, particularly in the Book of Revelation:

- Primarily symbolize uncleanness, deception, and spiritual impurity.
- Consistently associated with plagues, demonic forces,
- Even the unholy trinity of the dragon, beast, and false prophet.

The frog's association with uncleanness and impurity is consistent:

- Both the Old and New Testaments
- Often used as a symbol of spiritual corruption and the influence of evil forces

In our context today, these frogs are powerfully likened to sin.

4 REASONS WHY YOU DON'T WANT TO WAIT TIL TOMORROW FOR GOD TO REMOVE SIN IN YOUR LIFE:

1) SIN

EVERY PART OF YOUR LIFE – Exodus 8:3-4 NKJV

There is no untouched corner. These frogs were everywhere.

As frogs saturated every aspect of Egyptian life, Sin (*if allowed to fester*) will saturate every part of your life:

- Your houses: *Your Thoughts*
- Your bedroom: *Your Emotions*
- Into your ovens, and into your kneading bowls: *Your Actions*
- Your servants, on your people: Your Relationships
- On your bed: *Your Spirit*

2) SIN MAKES YOU

_____ – Exodus 8:7 NKJV

Egypt was already overrun with frogs.

- Houses, beds, ovens, and even their bodies were covered in the slimy, hopping pests.
- And what do these supposed wise men do?
- They used their power, their enchantments, to bring more frogs!

Consider these examples:

Deaf robber, Unmasked Marker, Stupid was here, Carjack can't drive, Clown prince of thieves

Here's how sin "makes you stupid" by:,

- a) Distorting your thoughts and actions
- b) Polluted Perspectives
- c) Rationalizing the Irrational
- d) Obsession and Enticement

3) SIN MAKES YOUR LIFE – Exodus 8:14 NKJV

Four Consequences show how Sin makes life stink:

- a) The deceptive fun for a season
- b) The inevitable decay and odor
- c) The piles of offense
- d) Divine disfavor

4) SIN MAKES YOUR HEART – Exodus 8:10, 15 NKJV

a) Sin *Scams*

To wait until tomorrow for God to remove sin is to risk this very hardening.

- Gambling with your eternal destiny
- Pushing God's patience and slowly, subtly
- Sealing yourself off from the very transformation you desperately need

Do you want to face a day when your heart is so stout that you can:

- No longer hear His call, feel His loving correction, desire to turn from the sin that binds you
- b) Sin *Saturates*
 - Its pervasive nature destroys every area of your life and the lives of those around you.
 - There is no untouched corner.
- c) Sin *Stupefies* its ability to cloud judgment **blinds** you to reality
- d) Sin *Stanks* its foul stench on your life creates painful consequences beyond the initial fun
- e) Sin *Stouts* the most dangerous and subtle effect, its ability to make your heart hard and keep you on a stubborn path to destruction.



ECCLESIA WEEKLY STUDY GUIDE Week of July 13, 2025

Why You Don't Want to Wait Until Tomorrow



Exodus 8:1-10, 14-15 NKJV Min. Roy Lee

Things every ECF Disciple should do to REMAIN IN COMMUNITY:

- ⇒ **COMMIT** to be a part of one *weekly* STUDY GROUP (https://www.ecclesiachurch.com/bibleStudy.html)
 - Click "I'm New" to access Biblical Bases for new believers
 - Click "Sunday School" to access Sunday Sch Classes
 - Click "Study Groups" to access Youth, Young Adults and Sermon Notes groups
 - Email huggs@gmail.com to join a group.
- ⇒ **CONNECT** with your Study Group on a weekly basis.
- ⇒ **INVITE** your family, neighbors, and friends to join a Study Group.

Home Unity Crowth Croups (Call Church Office, 909-881-5551 for link to these HUGGs) **NEW Young Cadies HUGG!** Ages 18-25. Tuesday's at 5:30pm *Young Adults HUCC!* meets Tuesdays, **7:00pm**. Ages 18-40!

BREAKING NEWS: *Base Classes* will continue to meet over the Summer: Wednesdays, <u>7:00pm</u>.

TAKE IT TO PRAYER:

- \Rightarrow Pray for your family and friends and needs of group members throughout the week.
- ⇒ Pray for **Pastor Beckley**, our Ecclesia Leaders, and these prayer needs:

Kim Allen & Fam, Elder
Ken Braden & Fam, Elder
Alton R. Green & Fam, Elder
Reggie Varner & Fam, Elder

Rikke Van Johnson, health & healing Earlene Haynes, health & healing Marilyn Francis, healing Min. Roy Lee & Family, continued ministry

⇒ Pray for your Oikos: All group members, call out each name on your Oikos list.

TAKE IT TO WORSHIP: *Tomorrow*, Winans, https://youtu.be/JuiF71phPkU

STEPS TO COMPLETING YOUR STUDY GUIDE:

- 1. Please use the translation indicated on the sermon outline.
- 2. Pray for the Holy Spirit to guide you and give you understanding.
- 3. Read, study, and meditate on Exodus 8:1-10, 14-15 NKJV.
- 4. Highlight, underline, note anything that "jumps out" at you.
- 5. Watch sermon: "WHY YOU DON'T WANT TO WAIT UNTIL TOMORROW!" by Min. Roy Lee, https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=ecf+online
- 6. Answer each question giving as much detail as you can. Include other related verses.

FILL-INS: 1) SATURATES 2) STUPID 3) STANK 4) STOUT TAKE IT TO THE GROUP: (Share your questions, discoveries, and answers in your group discussion)

- 1) Name <u>one</u> spiritual lesson you learned from this sermon.
- EVERY PART OF YOUR LIFE. Read Exodus 8:3-4 NKJV aloud. What is the 2) **SIN** connection between the plague of frogs and sin? 3) How does the image of frogs invading every part of Egyptian life help you better understand the nature of sin? 4) SIN MAKES YOU ______. Read Exodus 8:7 NKJV aloud. How does sin make you stupid (blind you to reality)? 5) SIN MAKES YOUR LIFE ______. Read Exodus 8:14 NKJV aloud. What does it look like to live a life that stinks in the presence of God? 6) What does it look like to live a life that pleases God instead of stinks to Him? the causes and solutions for a hardened heart? (https://printer.gotguestions.net/GeneratePF?articleld=2686). 8) Read Psalm 139:23-24 aloud. Write down any current causes of a hardened heart in your life. Choose to share (or not) with your group. AS A GROUP, PRAY for VICTORY over current causes.

The Bible Challenge REVIEW

SUNDAY, July 13, 5:30PM PST

Jeremiah, Habakkuk, Daniel

Interactive Teaching and time of Question & Answer

Feel free to email questions to todaysread66@gmail.com

Zoom Webinar Access: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89775027654

What are the causes and solutions for a hardened heart? GotQuestions.org

Answer: To better understand the causes and solutions for a hardened heart, it's important to understand the broad biblical meaning of the word "heart." The Bible considers the heart to be the hub of human personality, producing the things we would ordinarily ascribe to the "mind." For example, Scripture informs us that grief (John 14:1); desires (Matthew 5:28); joy (Ephesians 5:19); understanding (Isaiah 6:10; Matthew 13:15); thoughts and reasoning (Genesis 6:5; Hebrews 4:12; Mark 2:8); and, most importantly, faith and belief (Hebrews 3:12; Romans 10:10; Mark 11:23) are all products of the heart. Also, Jesus tells us that the heart is a repository for good and evil and that what comes out of our mouth – good or bad – begins in the heart (Luke 6:43–45).

Considering this, it's easy to see how a hardened heart can dull a person's ability to perceive and understand. Anyone's heart can harden, even faithful Christians'. In fact, in Mark 8:17–19 we see Jesus' own disciples suffering from this malady. The disciples were concerned with their meager bread supply, and it was clear that each of them had forgotten how Jesus had just fed thousands with only a few loaves. Questioning them as to the hardness of their hearts, Christ spells out for us the characteristics of this spiritual heart condition as an inability to see, understand, hear, and remember. Regarding this last criterion, too often we forget how God has blessed us and what He has done for us. Similar to the disciples in this instance or the Israelites wandering in the wilderness, when a new calamity arises in our lives, our hearts often fill with fear and concern. Sadly, this simply reveals to God the little faith we have in His promise to take care of us (Matthew 6:32–33; Philippians 4:19). We need to remember not only the many times God has graciously provided for us in our time of need, but also what He has told us: "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you" (Deuteronomy 31:6; Hebrews 13:5).

Sin causes hearts to grow hard, especially continual and unrepentant sin. Now we know that "if we confess our sins, [Jesus] is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins" (1 John 1:9). However, if we don't confess our sins, they have a cumulative and desensitizing effect on the conscience, making it difficult to even distinguish right from wrong. And this sinful and hardened heart is tantamount to the "seared conscience" Paul speaks of in 1 Timothy 4:1–2. Scripture makes it clear that if we relentlessly continue to engage in sin, there will come a time when God will give us over to our "debased mind" and let us have it our way. The apostle Paul writes about God's wrath of abandonment in his letter to the Romans where we see that godless and wicked "men who suppress the truth" are eventually given over to the sinful desires of their hardened hearts (Romans 1:18–24).

Pride will also cause our hearts to harden. The "pride of your heart has deceived you . . . you who say to yourself, 'who can bring me down to the ground' . . . I will bring you down declares the LORD" (Obadiah verses 3-4). Also, the root of Pharaoh's hard-heartedness was his pride and arrogance. Even in the face of tremendous proofs and witnessing God's powerful hand at work, Pharaoh's hardened heart caused him to deny the sovereignty of the one, true God. And when King Nebuchadnezzar's "heart became arrogant and hardened with pride, he was deposed from his royal throne and stripped of his glory . . . until he acknowledged that the Most High God is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and sets over them anyone He wishes" (Daniel 5:20–21). Accordingly, when we're inclined to do it our way, thinking we can "go it on our own," it would be wise to recall what King Solomon taught us in Proverbs 14:12 and 16:25: "There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death."

So, what then is the antidote for a heart condition such as this? First and foremost, we have to recognize the effect that this spiritual disease has on us. And God will help us to see our heart's condition when we ask Him: "Search me O God, and know my heart...see if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting" (Psalm 139:23–24). God can heal any heart once we recognize our disobedience and repent of our sins. But true repentance is more than simply a resolute feeling of steadfast determination. Repentance manifests itself in a changed life.

After repenting of our sins, hard hearts begin to be cured when we study God's Word. "How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word. I seek you with all my heart. . . . I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you" (Psalm 119:9–11). The Bible is our manual for living as it is "God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness" (2 Timothy 3:16). If we are to live life to the fullest as God intended, we need to study and obey God's written Word, which not only keeps a heart soft and pure but allows us to be "blessed" in whatever we do (Joshua 1:8; James 1:25).

Hearts can also become hardened when we suffer setbacks and disappointments in life. No one is immune to trials here on earth. Yet, just as steel is forged by a blacksmith's hammer, so, too, can our faith be strengthened by the trials we encounter in the valleys of life. As Paul encouraged the Romans: "But we also rejoice in our sufferings because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out His love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom He has given us" (Romans 5:3–5).