

What do you do when a prophet tells you to take a bath? What do you say to a fig tree with no figs? What happens when some young people mock a bald guy? What is a Nephilim? Is the witch of Endor a Star Wars character? Join as we explore these stranger things from the Bible and how they find themselves in the story of God.

Exodus Overview:

Exodus records God's work of deliverance for the Israelites from their slavery in Egypt (about 1805-1445 B.C.). It is phase one of God establishing His kingdom by His power. It is also a book that begins to teach the Israelites how God's saved people are to live in the world. While God is the central figure of Exodus, Moses is the person God uses to bring about deliverance for the Jews. For the Israelites, Exodus was an historical record of God establishing the Israelite nation.

Author and Date:

Moses around 1445B.C.

First readers and their location:

Israelites at Mount Sinai.

Resources:

https://thebibleproject.com/blog/pharaohs-heart-grew-harder/#read-exodus_7

<https://www.gotquestions.org/God-harden-Pharaoh-heart.html>

Open-up

Why do you think magic tricks and the supernatural are so attractive to people?

 **Into the Bible—Ask “What does it Say?”**

Read: Exodus 7:1-13

What do you notice about the passage itself? (Structure, repeated words or ideas, unique words, main points, what did this passage say to the original author and audience)

How does God describe the role Moses and Aaron would play with Pharaoh?

What is God's main goal with the Egyptians? (See 7:5)

How old are Moses and Aaron when God sends them? Why do you think this is included in the text? How could this speak to how we view age and roles in the church?

Explore the ten plagues and Pharaoh's response (7:22, 8:15, 19,32, 9:7, 12, 34, 10:1, 20, 27, 11:10). What do you notice about Pharaoh's heart between the first 5 and last 5 encounters?



Into my life—Ask “What does this look like in my personal life?”

Pharaoh was responsible for the evil in his heart and the horrible acts he committed (considered himself God, slavery, murder of innocents). After plague 5 there is a point of no return for Pharaoh in how he would respond to God. In Romans 9:14-18 we see Paul's perspective on Pharaoh. How does this help you understand God and Pharaoh?

Do you think hardness of heart is a problem for unbelievers only? Why or why not?

What personal sins or problems in our world do you think Christians are hard hearted towards? Which are you personally hardened towards? (Pray for each other in this)



Into the World—Ask “what does this look like in my world?”

How do you think believers should deal with hard heartedness in our world?