

God's Choosing and Pharoah
Romans 9: 14-18

February 23, 2025

Sin	Salvation	Sancti- fication	Sovereignty	Service	So Long
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Verse 14

Is God Unjust?

Does God's choosing make Him unjust/unrighteous?

Unrighteous = that which ought not be; that which is wrong

The question is: **Who determines right and wrong?**

*God sets the standard for righteousness;
He alone is righteous*

Is God unjust/unrighteous?

Paul answers us: ***“Certainly not!”***

Verse 15 - 16

God: *“I will have mercy on whomever
I will have mercy”*

Moses was to lead the people into the promised land; Moses asks for God's presence – Exodus 33: 18-19

In these verses, there is an element of need; Moses needed grace and compassion for the task at hand

God will have mercy on whom He will and compassion on whom He will

Aren't you thankful that it is God's nature to be gracious and merciful?

I believe one of God's greatest grace gifts is Himself, His presence!

Verse 17 - 18

God and Pharoah

A picture of God and Israel

It seems that God is using Pharoah as a mirror of what has happened to the Jewish people

Why did God elect Israel?

To be His chosen people – that God's name would be declared in all the earth

Watch the language that is used concerning Pharoah – Romans 9: 17:

God is using Pharoah to show the elect Jewish people themselves

THE TEN PLAGUES AND PHARAOH'S HEART

BLOOD————Pharaoh's heart "became hard" (Exodus 7:22).

FROGS————Pharaoh "hardened his own heart" (Exodus 8:15).

GNATS————Pharaoh's heart "was hard" (Exodus 8:19).

FLIES————Pharaoh hardened his own heart" (Exodus 8:32).

DEAD LIVESTOCK——Pharaoh's heart "was hard" (Exodus 9:7).

BOILS————"The Lord hardened Pharaoh's heart" (Exodus 9:12).

HAIL————Pharaoh "hardened his own heart" (Exodus 9:34).

LOCUSTS————God has "hardened Pharaoh's heart" (Exodus 10:1, 20).

DARKNESS————God "hardened Pharaoh's heart" (Exodus 10:27).

FIRSTBORN DIE——God "hardened Pharaoh's heart" (Exodus 10:27).

LESSON: Pharoah was given many instances of mercy and grace – *all refused!*

Pharoah hardened his own heart six times

PRINCIPLE: Grace rejected brings judgment

Israel is like Pharoah; they have rejected God's grace and mercy over and over:

Israel rejected Jesus' offer of the kingdom

Israel rejected Paul's offer of salvation for the Jews first

The Jews opposed Paul at every turn; and like Pharoah, their hearts were hardened

We can see from Scripture that the character of God is grace and mercy to all!

God is “. . . *not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.*” 2 Peter 3: 9

God desires “all men to be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth.” 1 Timothy 2: 4

As Pharoah rejected the grace and mercy of God, Paul is showing us that Israel has done the same

The character of God is to offer mercy before He hardens

God mercied Pharoah over and over before he hardened

God mercied Israel over and over before He hardened

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

I believe that Pharaoh, witnessing the power of God, had a real opportunity to repent

God knew Pharaoh's heart and that he would harden his own heart

This, in no way, infringed on Pharaoh's free will

God's power was demonstrated to Pharaoh over the gods of Egypt

This was an act of mercy and compassion being extended to Pharaoh

God did the same for Israel

Over and over God extended grace and mercy to a rebellious Israel

Prophet, after prophet, warned over and over

The heart of God cries out in Ezekiel 18: 23 and 32

The same today:

The heart of God cries, ***“hear Me, believe Me, trust Me, believe in Jesus Messiah”***

We have learned that a failure to respond properly to God’s truth will result in a hard heart

Messiah came into the world to ***“seek and to save the lost”***

ALL WHO TURN TO HIM WILL BE SAVED!!

Jesus' cry to all humanity is:

“Come, come to Me, come and live!”

Jesus wants you to be His bride; He is calling, **“COME!”**

“And the Spirit and the bride say, “COME!”

Let him who hears say, “COME!”

And let him who thirsts “COME!” Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.”

Revelation 22: 17

THIS IS THE WORD OF GOD!!