

January 29- February 5

<u>January 30</u> Exodus 9-11
<u>January 31</u> Exodus 12-13
<u>February 1</u> Exodus 14-16
<u>February 2</u> Exodus 17-19
<u>February 3</u> Exodus 20-22
<u>February 4</u> Exodus 23-25
<u>February 5</u> Exodus 26-27

As we begin reading this week, the contest between Moses and Pharaoh is in full swing. But it is not actually between them; it is between Jehovah (I AM) and the gods of Egypt (Satan). The targets God selected for judgment were all part of Egypt's heathen worship, and God showed Himself mighty over them all.

When the tide was clearly going Moses' way, Pharaoh began offering compromises that gave part of what was requested without really freeing the people. Satan's hand is seen in this. In the same way, Satan offered Jesus the kingdoms of the world (Luke 4:5-7), if He would only worship him. Jesus will get the kingdoms anyway, but He could get them without going to the cross—but if He worshiped Satan, He would not really be king. So Satan will seem to offer us what we desire if we will compromise what is right, but he never really gives anything without strings attached. He's called a liar for good reason!

The nature of the Law is seen immediately when it is given (Exodus 19). God had heard the complaints and accusations of the people (chapters 16, 17), but instead of destroying them, He gave the bread and water they needed. That was grace in operation before the Law came. But when the people chose to go under the Law (19:8), immediately God came in a thick cloud (verse 9) with thunder and lightning (verse 16). They could be stoned for touching the mountain (verses 12-13). The Law just threatened death to flesh that was too weak to keep the Law. It takes grace and the Holy Spirit to empower us to do right (Romans 8:3).

As Israel built the Tabernacle, the message was all one of fire, blood, judgment, and death because of sin. But none of these things took away sin (Hebrews 10:4). These things were given to picture Calvary and "the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29).