How Established Saints<sup>1</sup> View An Invasion of Frogs—Romans 9:17--or One More Night With the Frogs Exodus 8:1-10 December 3, 2023

The second plague is part of a conflict between God and Pharaoh. This dispute began with a reasonable request: Exodus 5:3 "The God of the Hebrews has met with us; let us go we pray thee, three days journey into the wilderness to sacrifice unto the LORD our God.

"Less could not have been asked than was demanded of Pharaoh, nor could obedience have been made easier." Alfred Edershiem "The demands of God are intended to try [test] what is in us." Pharaoh refused to comply and consequently brought down the ten plagues, the frog invasion being the second.

Frogs seem odd to us, but all God's judgments are carefully and wisely chosen: Exodus 12:12 "...against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I Am The LORD." God wanted the judgment published and understood.

The Egyptians regarded frogs as having divine power. In The Egyptian pantheon the goddess **heqet** had the form of a woman with the head of a frog. From her, supposedly, came the breath of life into the bodies of those whom her husband created. Therefore frogs were not killed in Egypt. They were in fact worshiped. So God is now choosing to use their own idols—in public and private—to be a plague to them, and at the same time exert His superiority. READ Exodus 8:1-10

## I. The carnal mind is a proud mind.

#### A. consider the plague: vs. 3,4

The frogs are vast in number; swarm by swarm rank by rank entering literally every house, every building, every path

**Ubiquitous in location**—everywhere you can imagine and places you cannot imagine: "into your house" into your bedchamber" "on your bed" "on your people" into your ovens" "into your kneading bowls"

Large, strong, healthy frogs—accomplished leapers—inexhaustible reinforcements. Tables, chairs, arm rests, closets, curtains—no place uninvaded—none. These impudent intruders literally invaded Egypt.

And what of the Noise? Every night, all night—an unceasing assault on the ears: God is doing it.

#### My unusual assistance in composing this sermon: Joy to the doctor—tape by Mr. Frank Sells.

Mentioned a book on prayer by "Hallesby" I have that book. So I read this unusual book on prayer. He stressed helplessness as a realized fact in effectual prayer. This reminded me of a sermon I heard at TTU-- "One More Night With the Frogs"--don't remember who or what the point was, but I concluded now I get it. Here is a guy in desperate need but too proud to humble himself, before God; but that day **Joy traveled to Summerville w/ the girls, because her father was seriously ill.** 

I was left by myself—and decided that evening to go jogging at NSA. I have jogged hundreds of miles on that track. I have used that track more at night than the day hundreds of times. This night, while I'm jogging would you believe frogs started jumping on my legs. At least a dozen, probably more. I was astonished. That's not all. About an hour or two after lying down—crickets surrounded the apartment behind Star Motors—and made the loudest noise I have ever heard crickets make. I counter attacked with little results.

Consider the Egyptian's response: No antidote-they keep coming-and are everywhere.

# Call Moses and Aaron: 8:8, 9 I need relief from your God. When Pharaoh? When? What would you have said? Why didn't he? One more night with the frogs?

<sup>1</sup> Believers are called "saints" at least 8 times in Romans 1:7; 8:27; 12:13; 15:25,26,31; 16:2,15

Paul's purpose statement is summed up in the word "established" 1:11, & 16:25

Consider what you are seeing in the bent of this proud man's mind and heart: reluctant concession no humility—The moment Moses begins to press him to fix a day—he procrastinates. The moment there is any relaxation of the pressure on him he takes advantage of it. He yields as little as possible. Give him a chance and he puts it off.--and soon hardens his heart vs. 15.

- 1. real faith is humble faith. Real prayer is humble prayer. Real prayer is deliberate focused prayer. Is it possible that someone here—would rather spend another night with the frogs—than to pray? Really pray?
- 2. Could there be here today someone whose life is full of undesirable impudent intruders—discomforting things—frogs shall we say?
- 3. I John 5:21 Little children keep yourselves from \_\_\_\_\_? Money? Body? Family? House? Hobby? friends—boy friends girl friends—attitudes--stubbornness is as the sin of witchcraft.
- 4. And so: family life—frogs dinner table –frogs When you lie down frogs rise up frogs now your life is cluttered with frogs
- 5. Then comes the distinct leading and voice of God to you: When shall we discuss this? When shall we resolve your situation? Tomorrow? Procrastination is sin: God has a will for you and a time to do His will."

ILL. 11?22/2014BBN conference pulpit"DUCKS"The sermon was about unconfessed sin.Psalm 32David's situation was gravely serious. He felt it.

Our hymn "What a friend we have in Jesus goes like this, "O what peace we <u>often forfeit</u> o, what <u>needless</u> <u>pain</u> we bear—Jo Ann bulletin self-pity, anger, defensiveness, and resentment....that went on for years.

### II. We are called to glorify God in a life of dependent fellowship.

Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in a time of trouble. Acts 17:27 He is not far from everyone of us. Christians live in a spirit, a disposition of prayer to the glory of God: John 14:13,14

**III.** Complete dependence is a proper attitude in prayer.

All is vain unless the Spirit of the Holy One comes down.

Hudson Taylor's Spiritual Secret

opening chapter 1 An Open Secret in the form of a poem

Bear not a single care thyself One is too much for thee The work is Mine and Mine alone Thy work to rest in Me.

Hudson Taylor was the farthest thing from a passive recluse.

Need clincher verses? II Corinthians 1:8,9; 2:16, 3:5, 12:9,10

SING: We rest On Thee.