

ONE MORE NIGHT WITH THE FROGS

Exodus 8:1-13

Introduction: This is the second of ten plagues. Each of the plagues that the Lord put upon the land of Egypt. They were the Lord's battle with the gods of Egypt. Each plague was directed against a particular god in Egypt. The plague of frogs was against the frog-headed goddess-Heka. It was a serious offense to this goddess to kill frogs.

Just think: The frogs were everywhere! Frogs in the bedroom, frogs in the kitchen, frogs in the parlor, frogs in the oven, frogs in the mixing bowls! God had said, **"If thou refuse to let them go, behold, I will smite all thy borders with frogs!"** (Exodus 8:2). The Lord warned him ahead of time. He was not obligated to do so. God keeps His word! Look at that Egyptian woman opening her oven; she screams! out jump frogs! There's a fellow pulling down the sheets to get into a comfortable bed, and -- frogs are his bedfellows! Another is putting on his clothes: what's that in his pockets? Frogs! See those Egyptian boys kicking along the roads to school, squashing frogs (instead of mud) between their toes! Frogs in the palace, and frogs in the hut of pauper. Little frogs, big frogs! The noise must have been deafening! Frogs in the house, frogs in the yard -- thousands of dead frogs heaped up in smelly mountains as millions more come from the rivers to take their places! Finally Pharaoh could stand it no longer. He called for Moses, the servant of God. **"Intreat the Lord, that he may take away the frogs from me, and from my people; and I will let the people go, that they may do sacrifice unto the Lord."** !

Moses must have been overjoyed. At least Pharaoh had made up his mind. At last Pharaoh was to be converted! So Moses said, **"Glory over me: when shall I intreat for thee, and for thy servants, and for thy people, to destroy the frogs from thee and thy houses, that they may remain in the river only?"**

And Pharaoh said, "Tomorrow!" I have never been able to figure that one out! Frogs in his food, frogs in his bed, frogs in his clothes, frogs all over the house -- and God was ready to remove the frogs instantly; the decision was up to Pharaoh. And he said "Tomorrow!" "Give me one more night with the frogs!" Why could he have possibly chosen one more night with those frogs?

Pharaoh said, "Tomorrow." But **"the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your hearts!"** (Hebrews 3:7,8). Think of it: Pharaoh said, "Tomorrow!" The Holy Ghost saith, "Today!" We are famous for what we are going to do TOMORROW! We start diets tomorrow. We plan to read our Bibles regularly tomorrow. We will witness to our friends and family tomorrow. We are going to give our offerings to the Lord tomorrow. Our children tells that they will take out the trash tomorrow. Or they will clean up their rooms tomorrow. Always the word is tomorrow.

Preach to the Christian about full surrender. He knows he should. He admits that he is bought with a price. He knows a consecrated, Spirit-filled life is the only honest thing a Christian can offer to God. So he plans to surrender, he plans to break with the world, he intends to become a soul winner - TOMORROW! Always TOMORROW! "Give me one more night with the frogs, one more night with my defeated, wasted Christian life!"

Plead with the backslider to come back to God. He will usually admit, "Well, Preacher, I surely ought to do that. God knows I've known nothing but misery and grief since I went back on God. I'm fed up with this wretched life. I've had sickness, sorrow, trouble, and defeat since I got out of fellowship with the Lord. I'm through. I'm coming back to God!" And you say, "That's wonderful! Let us just kneel in prayer and settle it right now." But the backslider says, "Well, not just now. I'll do it tomorrow!" He wants one more night with the frogs, one more night with his carnal cravings, one more night with his compromising and his carousing, one more night with the flag of loyalty drooping -- one more night with the frogs!

Many a backslider has had many more than two weeks down in the sewer pipes of an ungodly world, while the Heavenly Father longs to forgive him and kiss away his tears! Come one home to God right now! **"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."** (1st John 1:9).

The lost sinner, too, begs for one more night with the frogs! The soul winner says "Why not come to Jesus? He will forgive your sin, He will solve your problems, He will lift your burdens, He will save your soul!" And the sinner often will admit that what you say is true. He ought to be saved, and he's going to be -- TOMORROW!

There is many a sinner like that man today. "Lord, I'm going to follow You, but let me have just one more fling, one more night at the country club, or the card table, or the dance hall, or the beer tavern, just "one more night with the frogs!" And the "one more night" stretches out into terrible, endless night, in "the blackness of darkness for ever"!

Now, I want to suggest three reasons why YOU dare not spend even one more night with the frogs!

I. THE FROGS MAY NOT LEAVE TOMORROW!

There are many illustrations that can be used. But I want to restrict my illustrations to the Word of God.

A. Cancer of Covetousness

In Matthew chapter nineteen, we find the rich young ruler. He was very rich. He wanted more. That is what being covetous. This sin ate at his soul. He said that he was willing to be saved but the cancer of covetousness made him really say "Tomorrow". This sin caught his soul. It left him with "One More Night with the Frogs."!!

B. Collision with the Creator

In Jonah chapter one, we find the prophet Jonah. The Lord tells him to go to Nineveh. But he went the opposite direction. But the Lord brought on the storm. That storm brought about Jonah being thrown overboard. The whale swallowed up Jonah.

Jonah is the perfect picture of a backslider. A backslider is so nauseating that even the whale could not keep Jonah down. Jonah might be called the most undigested person in the Bible! He finally began to cry unto the Lord. The Lord beached the whale and the whale beached Jonah! God pushed the button, the whale did the rest -- and UP came Jonah! He hit dry ground running for Nineveh where God told him to go in the first place! But he surely could have saved himself a lot of grief if he had just minded God to begin with! The frogs didn't leave, and a lot of other troubles came!

Many a person thinks that the frogs will leave tomorrow. In the case of Pharaoh, yes, the frogs left but it left the carcasses all over Egypt land. The smell must have lingered for days and perhaps weeks.

II. SOMETHING WORSE MAY COME IN THE PLACE OF THE FROGS!

It was true in the case of Pharaoh. After the frogs came lice, flies, locusts, boils, fire, darkness and finally, the death of the firstborn in every Egyptian home! What a tragedy for the people of Egypt when the leader of the people brought upon them. Pride keeps many a man from surrendering to Christ, in spite of the frogs that plague him. The judgment of God must fall upon sin. Something worse than the frogs will come!

With many a sinner it could be covetousness -- the love of money, and things! The Bible still thunders **"The love of money is the root of all evil."** (1st Timothy 6:10).

Today money-mad people, in order to accumulate possessions, will neglect home and health and their own children and morals and even God to get more money. They tolerate the frogs now, but one day something worse will come in the place of the frogs!

Many times I have seen parents who put their child before God. You cannot love others before Him.

Matthew 10:37

"He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me."

III. TOMORROW MAY NEVER COME!

Proverbs 27:1

"Boast not thyself of Tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth."

You and I see the folly of tomorrow. I have heard people who said to a parent or child or friend that they would see them tomorrow. Before the night or day is over, the friend, parent or child has died.

I remember one of my former pastors tell of giving a gospel tract to a young man one night and witnessing to him and plead with him to be saved. the young man promised he would think about it and talk to him a later time. Before the night was over, my pastor got a call from the State Police and asked if he knew this young man. After the pastor said yes, the trooper told him that the young man had just died in a car wreck and they had found the gospel tract in the man's pocket.

One Friday night, I was with Preacher Cutlip on visitation. He stopped in the hospital to see a friend. I walked the halls and talked to some folks. I walked into this older gentleman's room. I talked to him about his soul and salvation. Before I left the room, the man bowed his head and trusted Christ as his Saviour. The next week, I read in the paper that the man had died that night. Suppose this gentleman had told me "Tomorrow." He could have spent eternity in hell.

Conclusion: Why spend one more night with the frogs? Why allow your sins to come before your Lord and Saviour? Why spend another night with that very thing that put Christ on the cross? One more night with the Frogs. Will that be what you will tell the Lord today?