

Doctrine of the Hardening of Pharaoh's Heart

1. Nine times the Bible says Pharaoh hardened his heart. Notice some of the situations that caused the hardening of the heart of Pharaoh.

- *Exodus 7:22 And the magicians of Egypt did so with their enchantments: and Pharaoh's heart was hardened, neither did he hearken unto them; as the LORD had said.*

When did Pharaoh harden his heart? When counterfeit miracles were produced. *2 Corinthians 11:14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. 15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.*

- *Exodus 8:15 But when Pharaoh saw that there was respite, he hardened his heart, and hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had said.*

When did Pharaoh harden his heart? When he misunderstood the initial mercy of a rest from punishment (of frogs) was designed to lead him to repentance. *Romans 2:4 Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and long-suffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?*

- *Exodus 8:19 Then the magicians said unto Pharaoh, This (plague of lice) is the finger of God: and Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had said.*

When did Pharaoh harden his heart? When he was confronted directly with the evidence of God.

- *Exodus 8:32 And Pharaoh hardened his heart at this time also, neither would he let the people go.*

When did Pharaoh harden his heart? When the mercy of God was again extended by the removal of the flies. In the face of renewed grace the heart is hardened.

- *Exodus 9:7 And Pharaoh sent, and, behold, there was not one of the cattle of the Israelites dead. And the heart of Pharaoh was hardened, and he did not let the people go.*

When did Pharaoh harden his heart? When he found out the Lord knows how to protect His own. The blessings of God provoke the heart of the ungodly to jealousy.

- *Exodus 9:34 And when Pharaoh saw that the rain and the hail and the thunders were ceased, he sinned yet more, and hardened his heart, he and his servants.*

When did Pharaoh harden his heart? When nature was not out of control. Many love nature (environmentalist, pantheist) but not the God of nature.

- *Exodus 14:5 And it was told the king of Egypt that the people fled: and the heart of Pharaoh and of his servants was turned against the people, and they said, Why have we done this, that we have let Israel go from serving us?*

When did Pharaoh harden his heart? When he realized that his control over others was gone.

2. Nine times the Bible says that God would or did harden the heart of Pharaoh.

- *Exodus 4:21 And the LORD said unto Moses, When thou goest to return into Egypt, see that thou do all those wonders before Pharaoh, which I have put in thine hand: but I will harden his heart, that he shall not let the people go.*

When did God harden Pharaoh's heart? Before Pharaoh was born. Romans 9:17 *For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth.*

- *Exodus 7:13 And he hardened Pharaoh's heart, that he hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had said.*

When did God harden Pharaoh's heart? When Pharaoh dismissed a display of divine power. It is a serious matter to ascribe to man or the devil the mighty works of God. Mark 3:28 *Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme: 29 But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation: 30 Because they said, He hath an unclean spirit.*

- *Exodus 9:12 And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh, and he hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had spoken unto Moses.*

When did God harden Pharaoh's heart? When he wanted to fulfill His prophetic words and divine decree. Notice the phrase, "as the LORD had spoken unto Moses."

- *Exodus 10:1 And the LORD said unto Moses, Go in unto Pharaoh: for I have hardened his heart, and the heart of his servants, that I might shew these my signs before him:*

When did God harden Pharaoh's heart? When He wanted to encourage the heart of His servant Moses.

- *Exodus 10:20 But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart (following the plague of locust), so that he would not let the children of Israel go.*

When did God harden Pharaoh's heart? Following the plague of locust in order to bring more judgment upon the land and by so doing display His great sovereignty all the more.

- *Exodus 10:27 But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart (after Moses requested animals for sacrifice), and he would not let them go.*

When did God harden Pharaoh's heart? When reasonable requests are made so that the unreasonableness of the sinful mind might be revealed.

- *Exodus 11:9 And the LORD said unto Moses, Pharaoh shall not hearken unto you; that my wonders may be multiplied in the land of Egypt. 10 And Moses and Aaron did all these wonders before Pharaoh: and the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, so that he would not let the children of Israel go out of his land.*

When did God harden Pharaoh's heart? *When He was determined that His miracles might be multiplied in the land of Egypt.* As the same sun that melts the butter can harden the clay so the same expressions of divine majesty can elicit love and wonder in the righteous while hatred and hostility in the ungodly.

- *Exodus 14:4 And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, that he shall follow after them; and I will be honored upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host; that the Egyptians may know that I am the LORD. And they did so. ... 8 And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued after the children of Israel: and the children of Israel went out with an high hand.*

When did God harden Pharaoh's heart? When the day of death was determined. It is a terrible thing to fall into the hands of the living God (Exodus 34:10).