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God tolerates us time and time again

In the Bible, there is a verse that mentions God's patience with us time and time again. This verse comes from 2 Peter 3:9:

"The Lord's promise has not yet been fulfilled. Some people think that he is delaying, but in fact he is not delaying, but is keeping the covenant. He is not delaying with you, but is patient with you. He does not want any to perish, but everyone to repent." (2 Peter 3:9)

In this passage, Peter reminds us that the promise of the Lord Jesus has not yet been fully fulfilled, but this does not mean that God is procrastinating or procrastinating. On the contrary, God is tolerant of us and does not want anyone to perish. He hopes that everyone will repent and turn back to Him.

This scripture shows the grace and tolerance of God, who gives us the opportunity to repent and does not give up on us easily. Even when we make mistakes, God still bears with us and waits for us to come back. This truth reminds us that no matter how far we go, God's love and grace always reaches out and is willing to receive us.

Therefore, in our prayers, we can thank God for his tolerance and forgiveness, admit our mistakes, and ask God to give us a heart of repentance so that we can truly turn to Him and do His will. We can express our gratitude to God for forbearance that gives us the opportunity for eternal life and reconciled relationship.

Dear father God,

I confess that sin hardens our heart. Sin cuts us off from you, blinds us to your will, and makes us indifferent to the needs of others. Please wash our hearts with your grace and mercy, so that we can be keenly aware of our sins and repent.

The Bible also mentions that those who do not believe in God are blinded by the gods of this world. I beg you, free me from the temptations and lies of the world, so that I may remain sensitive to your truth. Help me connect with your Word, let your truth guide my every step, and enable me to see the delusion and temptation of the world. Amen.

Lord, by the power of your Holy Spirit, develop in me an attitude of humility and tenderness. Make me understand my weakness and dependence, and need your guidance and help. Fill my heart with your love and grace so that I can treat others with love and compassion and always remember your mercy and forgiveness towards me.

Please help me overcome the pride and stubbornness in my heart so that I can open my heart and submit to Your will. May your words take root in my heart and bear abundant fruit, making me a witness to the glory of your name.

I pray in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, amen.

Exodus chapter 9

Ex. 9:1 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Go to Pharaoh and say to him, ‘This is what the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, says:

“Let my people go, so that they may worship me.”

Ex. 9:2 If you refuse to let them go and continue to hold them back,

Ex. 9:3 the hand of the LORD will bring a terrible plague on your livestock in the field — on your horses and donkeys and camels and on your cattle and sheep and goats.

Ex. 9:4 But the LORD will make a distinction between the livestock of Israel and that of Egypt, so that no animal belonging to the Israelites will die.”

Ex. 9:5 The LORD set a time and said, “Tomorrow the LORD will do this in the land.”

Ex. 9:6 And the next day the LORD did it: All the livestock of the Egyptians died, but not one animal belonging to the Israelites died.

Ex. 9:7 Pharaoh sent men to investigate and found that not even one of the animals of the Israelites had died. Yet his heart was

unyielding and he would not let the people go.

Ex. 9:8 Then the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, “Take handfuls of soot from a furnace and have Moses toss it into the air in the presence of Pharaoh.

Ex. 9:9 It will become fine dust over the whole land of Egypt, and festering boils will break out on men and animals throughout the land.”

Ex. 9:10 So they took soot from a furnace and stood before Pharaoh. Moses tossed it into the air, and festering boils broke out on men and animals.

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Ex. 9:11 The magicians could not stand before Moses because of the boils that were on them and on all the Egyptians.

Ex. 9:12 But the LORD hardened Pharaoh’s heart and he would not listen to Moses and Aaron, just as the LORD had said to Moses.

Ex. 9:13 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Get up early in the morning, confront Pharaoh and say to him, ‘This is what the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, says: Let my people go, so that they may worship me,

Ex. 9:14 or this time I will send the full force of my plagues against you and against your officials and your people, so you may know that there is no-one like me in all the earth.

Ex. 9:15 For by now I could have stretched out my hand and struck you and your people with a plague that would have wiped you off the earth.

Ex. 9:16 But I have raised you up for this very purpose, that I might show you my power and that my name might be proclaimed

in all the earth.

Ex. 9:17 You still set yourself against my people and will not let them go.

Ex. 9:18 Therefore, at this time tomorrow I will send the worst hailstorm that has ever fallen on Egypt, from the day it was founded till now.

Ex. 9:19 Give an order now to bring your livestock and everything you have in the field to a place of shelter, because the hail will fall on every man and animal that has not been brought in and is still out in the field, and they will die.”

Ex. 9:20 Those officials of Pharaoh who feared the word of the LORD hurried to bring their slaves and their livestock inside.

Ex. 9:21 But those who ignored the word of the LORD left their slaves and livestock in the field.

Ex. 9:22 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand towards the sky so that hail will fall all over Egypt — on men

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and animals and on everything growing in the fields of Egypt.”

Ex. 9:23 When Moses stretched out his staff towards the sky, the LORD sent thunder and hail, and lightning flashed down to the ground. So the LORD rained hail on the land of Egypt;

Ex. 9:24 hail fell and lightning flashed back and forth. It was the worst storm in all the land of Egypt since it had become a nation.

Ex. 9:25 Throughout Egypt hail struck everything in the fields — both men and animals; it beat down everything growing in the fields and stripped every tree.

Ex. 9:26 The only place it did not hail was the land of Goshen, where

the Israelites were.

Ex. 9:27 Then Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron. “This time I have sinned,” he said to them. “The LORD is in the right, and I and my people are in the wrong.

Ex. 9:28 Pray to the LORD, for we have had enough thunder and hail. I will let you go; you don’t have to stay any longer.”

Ex. 9:29 Moses replied, “When I have gone out of the city, I will spread out my hands in prayer to the LORD. The thunder will stop and there will be no more hail, so you may know that the earth is the LORD’s.

Ex. 9:30 But I know that you and your officials still do not fear the LORD God.”

Ex. 9:31 (The flax and barley were destroyed, since the barley was in the ear and the flax was in bloom.

Ex. 9:32 The wheat and spelt, however, were not destroyed, because they ripen later.)

Ex. 9:33 Then Moses left Pharaoh and went out of the city. He spread out his hands towards the LORD; the thunder and hail stopped, and the rain no longer poured down on the land.

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Ex. 9:34 When Pharaoh saw that the rain and hail and thunder had stopped, he sinned again: He and his officials hardened their hearts.

Ex. 9:35 So Pharaoh’s heart was hard and he would not let the Israelites go, just as the LORD had said through Moses.

Chapter 9 of Exodus in the Bible continues the account of the plagues that God sent upon Egypt. In this chapter, God sends a plague of livestock disease upon the land, killing all of the cattle and livestock belonging to the Egyptians.

However, the Israelites' livestock remain unharmed, as God had promised. Despite this, Pharaoh still refuses to let the Israelites go.

God then sends a plague of boils upon the people and animals of Egypt, causing painful sores and boils to break out all over their bodies. Even Pharaoh's magicians are unable to stand before Moses and Aaron because of the boils.

God then warns Pharaoh of a hailstorm that will strike Egypt and destroy everything that is left in the fields. Pharaoh's officials are warned to take shelter, but Pharaoh himself does not listen.

The hailstorm comes as predicted and destroys everything that is in the fields, except for the crops of the Israelites in Goshen, which remain unharmed. Despite this, Pharaoh still refuses to let the Israelites go.

The chapter ends with God warning Pharaoh of a plague of locusts that will come and devour all of the remaining crops and vegetation in the land if he still refuses to release the Israelites.

the key verses Chapter 9 of Exodus in the Bible

Exodus chapter 9 continues the story of the plagues that God sends upon Egypt to punish Pharaoh for his disobedience.

Here are some key verses from Exodus chapter 9:

1. "Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Go to Pharaoh and say to him, "This is what the Lord, the God of the Hebrews, says: 'Let my people go, so that they may worship me'"' (Exodus 9:1): This verse shows how God instructs Moses to continue his efforts to persuade Pharaoh to release the Israelites.
2. "But the Lord hardened Pharaoh's heart and he would not listen to Moses and Aaron, just as the Lord had said to Moses" (Exodus 9:12): This verse shows how Pharaoh remains stubborn and refuses to release the Israelites, even after being struck with a severe plague of boils.
3. "But I have raised you up for this very purpose, that I might show you my power and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth" (Exodus 9:16): This verse shows how God intends to use the plagues and the confrontation with Pharaoh as a means of demonstrating his power and making his name known throughout the world.
4. "But those who refused to take refuge from the hailstones still lost everything and had their crops destroyed" (Exodus 9:25): This verse shows how God sends a devastating hailstorm upon Egypt as part of his judgment against Pharaoh and the Egyptians.
5. "Then Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron. 'This time I have sinned,' he said to them. 'The Lord is in the right, and I and my people are in the wrong'" (Exodus 9:27): This verse shows how Pharaoh temporarily acknowledges his guilt and the righteousness of God, but he later changes his mind and refuses to release the Israelites.

Here's a reflection on Exodus chapter 9:

Exodus chapter 9 continues the account of the plagues that God sends upon Egypt as a means to secure the release of the Israelites. In this chapter, God unleashes the plagues of livestock disease, boils, and hail, demonstrating His power and authority over creation.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the relentless pursuit of God's justice and deliverance. Despite Pharaoh's continued resistance and refusal to release the Israelites, God persists in His mission to free His people and reveal His glory. The plagues serve as acts of judgment against Egypt's false gods and a demonstration of God's power to deliver His people from oppression.

Throughout this chapter, God brings devastation upon the land of Egypt. The plague of livestock disease results in the death of all the livestock belonging to the Egyptians, while the plague of boils inflicts painful sores upon both humans and animals. Additionally, God sends a severe hailstorm, destroying crops, trees, and everything exposed to the elements. These plagues further demonstrate God's supremacy over creation and His ability to wield His power for both judgment and deliverance.

Another important theme in this chapter is the hardening of Pharaoh's heart. Despite witnessing the devastating consequences of the plagues, Pharaoh remains unyielding and refuses to acknowledge God's authority. His heart becomes increasingly hardened, and he continues to resist the release of the Israelites, intensifying the conflict between himself and God.

Reflecting on Exodus chapter 9, we can draw several lessons for our own lives. Firstly, it reminds us of the relentless pursuit of justice and deliverance by God. God does not abandon His people or give up on His mission. In our own lives, we can trust that God is at work, even in the face of persistent challenges and oppression, and His justice will ultimately prevail.

Secondly, this chapter emphasizes the consequences of a hardened heart. Pharaoh's refusal to acknowledge God's authority and release the Israelites leads to further devastation and suffering. It serves as a reminder for us to cultivate a responsive and humble heart towards God, willing to submit to His will and purposes in our lives.

Furthermore, Exodus chapter 9 highlights the power and sovereignty of God over creation. The plagues demonstrate God's ability to control and manipulate natural elements to accomplish His purposes. They remind us that God is not only transcendent but also immanent, actively involved in the world and capable of working through the ordinary and extraordinary aspects of life.

In conclusion, Exodus chapter 9 showcases God's relentless pursuit of justice and deliverance, His authority over creation, and the consequences of a hardened heart. It encourages us to trust in God's justice, examine the condition of our own hearts, and recognize His power and sovereignty over all aspects of life. By reflecting on these lessons, we can align ourselves with God's purposes, humbly submit to His authority, and find hope in His unwavering pursuit of justice and deliverance.