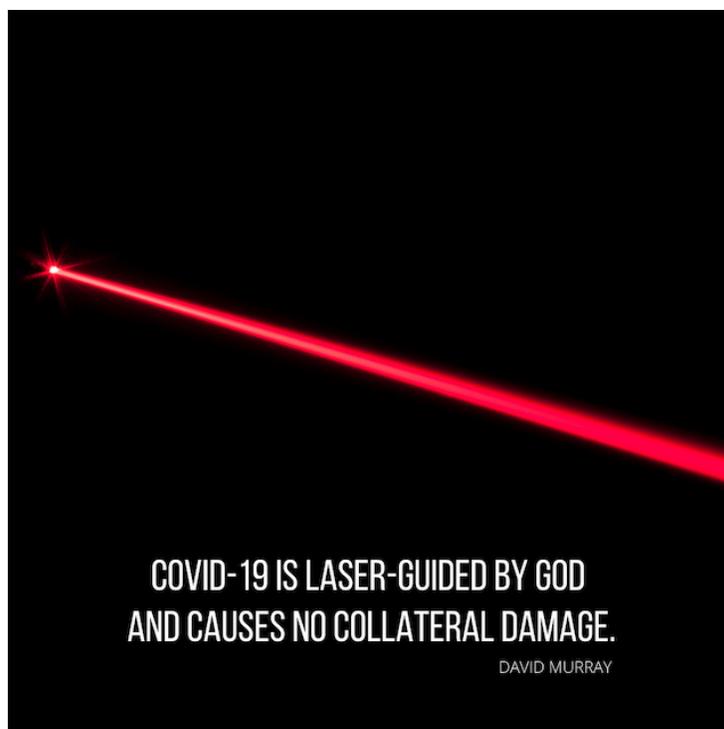


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# FOUR SPIRITUAL LESSONS FROM COVID-19

## EXODUS 8



Is COVID-19 the judgment of God on a sinful world? Many Christians say “No, God’s not like that, it’s just something that comes round every hundred years or so.” Others say, “This is huge. This is a massive judgment from God that could bring the world to repentance and result in a great revival.” What’s the right way to view COVID-19? No judgment or big salvation?

The plagues in Exodus 8 teach us how to view the plague of COVID-19 in a balanced biblical way.

- **GOD'S JUDGMENTS MAGNIFY HIM (1-15)**
- **GOD'S JUDGMENTS DEFEAT EVIL (16-19)**
- **GOD'S JUDGMENTS ARE TARGETED (20-24)**
- **GOD'S JUDGMENTS DO NOT SAVE (25-32)**

### LEARNING

#### **GOD'S JUDGMENTS MAGNIFY HIM (1-15)**

When Pharaoh pled with Moses to remove the plague of frogs, Moses replied, **“Be it as you say, so that you may know that there is no one like the Lord our God. The frogs shall go away from you and your houses and your servants and your people”** (10-11). Moses used God’s judgment to magnify God’s uniqueness. There is no one like him. He is incomparable in his truth and his power. **And the Lord did according to the word of Moses. The frogs died out in the houses, the courtyards, and the fields** (13). God’s judgments magnified his truth and his power.

COVID-19 MAGNIFIES GOD  
AND SHRINKS US.

"I love that God's judgments lift God high, but can they bring evil down." Watch this.

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## GOD'S JUDGMENTS DEFEAT EVIL (16-19)

Up until this point, the Egyptian magicians were able to duplicate God's wonders, but now their power ran out. The magicians tried to produce gnats, but they couldn't do it. **Then the magicians said to Pharaoh, "This is the finger of God." But Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the Lord had said (18-19).** God's judgments were more powerful than evil's efforts.

COVID-19 IS POWERFUL,  
BUT GOD'S FINGER IS MORE POWERFUL.

"How can I be sure they will not spill over and impact me too?" There's no need to worry about that.

## GOD'S JUDGMENTS ARE TARGETED (20-24)

God next showed his power not only by targeting the Egyptians with a plague of flies but by protecting his people from them. **On that day I will set apart the land of Goshen, where my people dwell, so that no swarms of flies shall be there, that you may know that I am the Lord in the midst of the earth. Thus I will put a division between my people and your people....And the Lord did so (22-24).** This doesn't mean no Christians will get COVID-19. It means that no one gets it coincidentally, but only providentially. There are no accidents, only providences.

COVID-19 IS LASER-GUIDED BY GOD  
AND CAUSES NO COLLATERAL DAMAGE.

"Should I pray for God's judgments then so that the wicked turn to Christ?" I'm afraid God's judgments do not save.

## GOD'S JUDGMENTS DO NOT SAVE (25-32)

Now Pharaoh started negotiating with Moses. "OK, you can sacrifice to God but only within Egypt." Moses said, No (25-27). "OK, you can sacrifice in the wilderness but not far away. And, by the way, pray for me" (28). Moses took that deal, but warned Pharaoh not to cheat and change his mind (29). But that's exactly what Pharaoh did. As soon as Moses had removed every last fly from Egypt, **Pharaoh hardened his heart this time also, and did not let the people go (32).** God's judgments had a shot-term impact on Pharaoh, but not a saving impact.

COVID-19 CAN CHANGE BEHAVIOR,  
BUT ONLY THE GOSPEL CAN CHANGE THE HEART.

LOVING

We stand in awe at the power of God's judgments and the power of God's patience. Whether it's Egyptian plagues or a worldwide pandemic, we are humbled by God's awesome power and awesome patience.

LIVING

Let's neither downplay COVID-19, nor hope for too much from it, but rather use this time of judgment to believe and commend the Gospel as the world's only hope of salvation from God's judgment.

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