

ROYAL MISTAKES

Lessons from the Bible's worst leaders

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Mistake #2: Have a Hardened Heart

Exodus 8:10, 10:1

Sequence

1. God predicts and promises hardening (7:1-7)
2. God demonstrates power (7:8-ff)
[sign]. Rod, 1. Blood, 2. Frogs,
3. Pharaoh hardens his heart 8:15
 3. Lice, 4. Flies, 8:52 (hardens and reneges)
 5. Livestock, 9:7 "became hard"
 6. boils, 7. hail, 9:34-35 sinned more and hardened heart
4. God hardens Pharaoh's heart 10:1
 8. locusts 10:20 Lord hardened
 9. darkness - 10:27 The Lord hardened
 10. Firstborn - 11:10,
5. Pharaoh pursues Israel 14:4,8:17,

1. A hard heart defined

To knowingly, willingly, and deliberately refuse to obey God.

2. A difficult question

Does Pharaoh or God harden the heart?

Suggestion: Pharaoh hardened, God proceeded to do the same?

For sure: Both happened – maybe in the same space and time?

3. The causes of a hard-heart

Want to remain “right”

Death before embarrassment

Believe you can find a way to win against God

4. The cures for a hard heart

Best – Recognized God’s authority, obey right away (humility)

Good - Allow God to convince you then obey (Teachable)

Bad - Allow to God to convince you without obeying (chastisement)

Really Bad – Don’t allow God to convince you (judgment)