

Gnats and Flies
Exodus 8:16-24

Review:

1. We are not in charge of this world. Pharaoh's magicians, the most learned people of the day, weren't able to get rid of the gnats. Just so, all our efforts to control the natural world tend to backfire.
2. God protects His people, in spite of the worst this world can do. God made a clear distinction between His people and the Egyptians during the plague of flies. Even though suffering may come into our lives, Christ will protect us.

Go Further:

Read Genesis 1:27-30

1. In whose image did God create both male and female? What does this say about how men and women should respect each other?
2. What different things did God tell Adam and Eve to do in verse 28? How complete was their control over the earth and the animals?
3. What did God give man and the animals to eat in verses 29-30?

Read Genesis 3:17-19

4. Why did Adam receive a curse from God?
5. How did God say Adam's relationship with the ground would change because of this curse?
6. How would Adam's work change because of this curse?
7. What did God say would eventually happen to Adam?

Read Genesis 9:1-17

8. After the flood, God blessed Noah in verses 1 and 7 in words that are similar to Genesis 1:28. What did God leave out in Genesis 9:1 and 7?
9. How did God say man's relationship with the animals would change in verses 2 and 3?
10. What limitation did God place on man's ability to eat animals in verse 4? Given what God says in Leviticus 17:11, why do you think He made this limitation?
11. In verses 5 and 6, what does God say is the penalty for taking human life?
12. Why does God say that the life of human beings is so important?
13. With whom does God say He made a covenant in verses 9 and 10?
14. What promise did God make in this covenant in verse 11?
15. In verses 12-13, what does God say is the sign of the covenant?
16. In verses 14-16, what does God say He will do when He sees the sign of the covenant?
17. How do you think the sign of the covenant points to the Person and Work of Christ?

Apply:

1. In what areas of your life do you feel helpless today? How does God's protection of Noah in the flood and His covenant promise after the flood give you confidence in the midst of your problems?