

God's Hardening of Pharaoh's Heart:

- Predicted in 4:21 and 7:3
- Pharaoh hardens his own heart in 7:13-14, 22; 8:15, 19, 32; & 9:7
- God hardens Pharaoh's heart in 9:12; 10:1, 20, 27; 11:10; & 14:4, 8
- God hardens Pharaoh's heart for the first time *after* the 6th plague

Because Pharaoh refused to _____ his heart,
God _____ it.

"Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts..."
- Hebrews 3:15

"But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea."
- Matthew 18:6

The "Bridegroom of Blood" Incident

Things We Know:

- God was angry with Moses because there was something God expected Moses to take care of before heading to Egypt.

- For men, circumcision was the physical sign of God's covenant with Abraham/Israel (Cf. Genesis 17:10-13) and membership in the nation of Israel.
- Moses' son, Gershom, had not been circumcised.
- God's anger is appeased by Gershom's circumcision, which would seem to indicate circumcision was the key issue.

Speculations:

- Moses had been circumcised by the Egyptian method but not the Abrahamic method.
- "feet" ("regel" in Hebrew) is referring to the genital area (Cf. Deuteronomy 28:57; Ezekiel 16:25 [in the original Hebrew] Ruth 3:4).
- Zipporah's touching Gershom's foreskin to Moses' "feet" appears to be some sort of substitutionary ritual.
- Zipporah's "bridegroom of blood" comment is a reference to her disgust at the ritual of circumcision or Moses finally legitimizing their marriage under God's covenant.

For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God... - 1 Peter 4:17

God considers ministry to _____ a higher priority than ministry to _____.

For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. - Hebrews 4:12

"...as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." - Joshua 24:15

"And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up."
- Deuteronomy 6:6-7