

THE FINGER OF GOD

Text: Exodus 8:16-19

INTRO: To speak of the "finger of God" is to speak of an act of God, a deed accomplished by Divine power; a deed that cannot be duplicated by human means & devices.

Explain "enchantments." Secret arts (slight of hand, smoke, vapor, mirrors, etc.) RSV, NRSV, NASB, Goodspeed, NIV et. al. Berkeley says secret formulas. ASV & NKJ say enchantments, but have secret arts in margin.

I. THE FINGER OF GOD IN CREATION.

Ps 8:3-4, When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon & the stars, which You have ordained, what is man that You are mindful of him...

A. Material substance, Gen 1:1-3

B. 3rd day, plant life, vs. 11

C. 5th day, birds & water creatures

D. 6th day, land animals & man, vs. 24-27

II. THE FINGER OF GOD IN DIVINE LAW.

Ex 31:18, And when He had made an end of speaking with him on Mt. Sinai, He gave Moses 2 tablets of the testimony, tablets of stone, written with the finger of God.

Deut 9:10, Then the Lord delivered to me 2 tables of stone written with the finger of God, & on them were all the words mountain...

A. Natural law, Gen 1:11, 14, etc.

Rom 1:20-21; 2:14-15, Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, altho they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thots, & their foolish hearts were darkened.

Rom 2:14-15, When Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, amd between themselves their thots accusing or else excusing them.

C. To the Jews who had broken God's first covenant, He promised a brighter day--that involves us as well--a Spiritual Israel with a better law, written in our hearts, Jer 31:31-34; Heb 8:7-13.

D. Civil law. Rom 13:1; John 19:11

III. THE FINGER OF GOD IN MERCY & COMPASSION.

A. The woman taken in adultery.

John 8:3-11, Then the scribes Pharisees brought to Him a woman caught in adultery. And when they had set her in the midst, they said to Him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act. Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?" This they said, testing Him, that they might have something of which to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down & wrote on the ground with His finger, as though He did not hear. So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first." And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. Then those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, "Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?" She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more."

B. In miraculous healings.

Mark 7:33, And He took him aside from the multitude, and put His fingers in his ears, and He spat and touched his tongue.

- C. In overcoming Satan & his demons.
Luke 11:20, But if I cast out demons with the finger of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.

IV. THE FINGER OF GOD IN JUDGMENT.

- A. The Egyptians in our text.
- C. Belshazzar.

Dan 5:4-5, 24-28, They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze & iron, wood & stone. In the same hour the fingers of a man's hand appeared & wrote opposite the lamp-stand on the plaster of the wall of the king's palace; & the king saw the part of the hand that wrote... Then the fingers of the hand were sent from [God]... , "And this is the inscription that was written: MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN. "This is the interpretation of each word. MENE: God has numbered your kingdom, & finished it; TEKEL: You have been weighed in the balances, & found wanting; PERES: Your kingdom has been divided, and given to the Medes and Persians."

- D. The final judgment.
Rev 20:10-15, The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and

brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day & night forever & ever. Then I saw a great white throne & Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, & Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

CONCLUSION: "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder" will your name be written there? Only the finger of God can write it there, & He will do so only if you obey the conditions of forgiveness recorded in His word.

Springhill, LA, March 14, 1971

KBSF Radio, Springhill, LA, April 27, 1971

Jonestown, TX, June 20, 1971

La Porte, TX, May 23, 1976

Exton, PA, January 17, 1988

Exton, PA, October 28, 1990

Cherry Hill, NJ, December 30, 1990

Shiloh, Mexia, TX, October 4, 1992

Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, October 31, 1999

Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, April 2, 2006