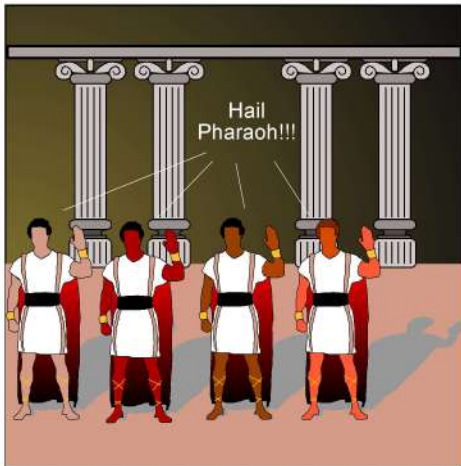


Plague of Hail

But I have raised you up for this very purpose, that I might show my power and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth. You still set yourself against my people and will not let them go. Therefore, at this time tomorrow I will send the worst hailstorm that has ever fallen in Egypt, from the day it was founded til now.

Exodus 9:16-18



Like a boxing match, Pharaoh stayed in the ring fighting with God until the tenth round. He got knocked down and at times seemed as though he was ready to relent. But it took ten plagues before he finally threw in the towel and let the Israelites leave the land of Egypt. Even then, he changed his mind and made one last attempt at bringing them back. Why was he so stubbornly obstinate to the will of God? What caused his heart to become so hard?

Keeping our hearts sensitive to the will of God is vital to our spiritual health. Sometimes it can be a painful experience as our sins are exposed and brought to light. Ignoring sin only causes our hearts to become more calloused and hardened. Only when we cease our fighting can God take control and lead us to freedom.

