

**Sermon Outline**  
“The Religious Divide”  
Exodus 9:8-12

- I.** Third and last sign in the second cycle Ex 8:20-9:12  
Second cycle signs are distinct from the first and third  
Moses not seen as God’s arm (no rod or hand raised)  
Direct action of God on the land, its people and beasts  
Second cycle signs **are at the center** of the larger chiasm  
Exodus 6:14-13:26  
Second cycle signs up the ante on Pharaoh
- II.** Hardening Pharaoh’s heart  
God, before the signs begin 4:21; 7:3; 7:13  
  
Pharaoh, during the effects of the sign 7:22; 8:19; 9:7  
Pharaoh, after the sign subsides 8:15; 8:32; 9:34-35  
  
God, during the sign cycles 9:12; 10:20; 10:27  
Also, 10:1 – Pharaoh and his servants (the purpose in v. 2)  
  
St. Paul’s commentary Rom 9:14-18 (quoting Ex 9:16)
- III.** The decline of the priests’ influence v. 11  
  
The priests’ prior activities  
Crocodiles 7:11-12  
River to blood 7:22  
Frogs from the Nile 8:7  
  
The priests’ failure  
Insects 8:18-19  
  
The priests’ complete withdrawal  
Directly affected and driven away 9:11