

Moses—Exodus 14

God Divides the Red Sea

I. Additional Scriptures...

1. 14:8... **with an high hand**—The children of Israel had no suspicion that there would be more trouble lurking from Pharaoh. Gill comments on this text... "...they carried both their heads and their hands high, were fearless and thoughtless of any danger when this mighty preparation was making against them."
2. 14:11... **Barely out of Egypt and the murmuring has already begun. Much more would follow**—" Ex 15:23-24; 16:2-3; 17:2-3; Num 11:1; 14:1-4; Num 16:41; Ps 106:7-8."
3. 14:13... **fear not**—Num 14:9; Deut 20:3; 2 Kgs 6:16; 2Ch 20:15; 20:17; Ps 27:1-2, Ps 46:1-3; Isa 26:3, Isa 30:15, Isa 35:4, Isa 41:10-14; Mat 28:5.
4. 14:22... **the waters were a wall--and the waters:** "This verse demonstrates that this event was wholly miraculous, and cannot be ascribed, as some have supposed, to an extraordinary ebb, which happened just then to be produced by a strong east wind. For this would not have caused the waters, contrary to every law of fluids, to stand as a wall on the right hand and the left." [TSK].
5. 14:28... **not so much as one of them**—"Josephus says that the army of Pharaoh consisted of fifty thousand horse, and two hundred thousand foot, of whom not one remained to carry tidings of this most extraordinary catastrophe." [Adam Clarke].

II. Chronology.

BIBLE PERIOD: **Wilderness Wandering.**

III. Summary.

The Lord is directing the path of the children of Israel in the wilderness. In this chapter, God tells Moses to lead them in a TURN. This turn was designed to confuse Pharaoh and God told Moses what Pharaoh would be thinking as a result of the turn. Pharaoh and his servants changed their mind about letting the people go because they reasoned that they would miss them being slaves to them.

Pharaoh made ready his chariot and led his army out in pursuit of the children of Israel. Near the Red Sea, Pharaoh's army came near to the children of Israel. When the children of Israel knew that the Egyptians were nearby, they began to complain and murmur to Moses that they would have been better off to remain in Egypt. Moses told the people to stand still and see the deliverance of the Lord. He said: "The Lord will fight for you" (Ex 14:14). Moses said "Stand still," but the Lord told Moses to tell the people to "Go forward." Moses was instructed to lift up his rod over the sea and when he did, the waters parted and the children of Israel crossed over on DRY GROUND. This miraculous deliverance was designed to cause the Egyptians to know that Jehovah is LORD.

When the Egyptians pursued on into the sea, Moses was instructed to stretch forth his rod over the sea that the waters might come again upon the Egyptians and Moses did so and the Egyptians were drowned in the sea. Not one survived. Thus did the Lord save Israel on this day. Israel, having seen this great work, believed the Lord and his servant, Moses.

IV. Outline.

1. Moses is told to make an abrupt turn in the journey (Ex 14:1-3).
2. God will be honored and have a victory over Pharaoh and his host (Ex 14:4).
3. Pharaoh and his servants regret loosing the children of Israel (Ex 14:5).
4. Pharaoh gets ready and pursues the children of Israel (Ex 14:6-9).
5. The children of Israel murmur about their situation (Ex 14:10-12).
6. Moses tries to encourage the people (Ex 14:13-14).
7. Moses is told to tell the people to go forward (Ex 14:15).
8. Moses lifts up his rod and the sea parts for the people to cross on dry ground (Ex 14:16-22).
9. The Egyptians are drowned when they continue into the sea (Ex 14:23-28).
10. The children of Israel are delivered and believe the Lord and Moses as a result (Ex 14:29-31).

V. Questions.

True or False

01. _____ The cloud that guided Israel became a cloud of darkness to the Egyptians.
02. _____ Because of the movements of the Israelites, Pharaoh would think that Israel was shut in.
03. _____ Only a portion of the chariots of Egypt were involved in the pursuit of the children of Israel.
04. _____ It was during the morning watch that the Egyptians were drowned in the sea.
05. _____ Moses is referred to in this chapter as a servant of the Lord.

Multiple Choice (Select the BEST Answer)

06. _____ One of the things God told Moses that Pharaoh would think was that the children of Israel had become: (a) overconfident; (b) entangled; (c) distressed.
07. _____ What was the reaction of the children of Israel when they saw the armies of Egypt: (a) confident; (b) happy; (c) sore afraid.
08. _____ The waters of the Red Sea became this to the children of Israel: (a) a wall; (b) a barrier; (c) a stumblingblock.
09. _____ The children of Israel said to Moses that it would be better for them to: (a) head south; (b) turn and fight; (c) serve the Egyptians.
10. _____ Instead of leading the children of Israel, we read in this chapter about the pillar of the cloud: (a) standing behind them; (b) producing hailstones; (c) catching on fire.

Fill in the Blanks

11. “³Thou wilt keep *him* in perfect _____, whose mind is _____ on thee: because he trusteth in thee.” (_____ 26:3).
12. “...and the waters were a _____ unto them on their right hand, and on their left.”
13. “...Because there were no _____ in _____, hast thou taken us away to _____ in the wilderness?...”
14. The Lord caused the sea to go back by a strong _____ _____.
15. “The Lord shall _____ for you, and ye shall hold your _____.”

Each Question is worth 7 Points

My Score is: _____

Answers will be found on next week’s handout

ANSWERS to Lesson 01-60 ... [01—False, Ex 12:43-48; 02—False, Ex 12:22; 03—False, Ex 12:37; 04—False, Ex 12:38; 05—False, Ex 12:33; 06—The Lord, Ex 12:36; 07—Their children, Ex 12:26-27; 08—The passover, Ex 12:21; 09—Pharaoh, Ex 12:32; 10—

uncircumcised, Ex 12:48; 11—ordinance, Ex 12:24; 12—bowed, worshipped, Ex 12:27; 13—urgent, Ex 12:33; 14—Succoth, Ex 12:37; 15—commanded, did, Ex 12:50.]

VI. Lessons & Applications.

- 1, **...They are entangled in the land...** (Ex 14:3). Even after all of the ten plagues have humbled Pharaoh, he still is not understanding the power of God and with Whom he has been struggling. A people guided by God will not be entangled in the land. How vital this lesson is for God's people today! So long as we follow the will of the Lord, there is no possibility of being entangled in the land. We, rather, will be set free by the truth of God's word (Jn 8:32).
2. **...we have let Israel go from serving us...** (Ex 14:5). The hearts of the Egyptians is seen in this comment. They had suffered tremendously from the ten plagues and were anxious for the Israelites to leave, but now they want to go back on the agreement they had made with Moses. The thing that motivated their whole lives was their own personal comfort and gain even if it was at the expense of another nation of people. Their selfish interest in having someone else to serve them caused the loss of many more Egyptian people (v. 28).
3. **...the children of Israel went out with an high hand** (Ex 14:8). Seemingly this expression is speaking of the confidence and good spirits of the children of Israel as they left the land that had mistreated them so badly. They were not expecting any kind of pursuit from Egypt. However, this people showed themselves to be quite changeable and it would not be long before they were longing to be back in Egypt. See the list of Scriptures under I-2 above.
4. **...Because there were no graves in Egypt, hast thou taken us away to die in the wilderness** (Ex 14:11). With this caustic and sarcastic remark, begins a long forty years of dealing with a people that could not be pleased. Moses had to be meek (Num 12:3) in order to deal with this grumbling and complaining people. Meekness is best defined as "strength under control." As we read about the ingratitude and inconsiderateness of these people, may we let it motivate us to do the opposite!!!
5. **...Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord ... speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward** (Ex 14:13-15). Moses said "Stand still," and the Lord said, "Go forward." The concept of stillness and noticing what God has done and will do is a very important and faith-strengthening one. Also, there comes the time to launch out in faith and move forward. In another view of these statements, it seems that sometimes the leadership in local churches are saying "Stand still," whereas the Lord would have the brethren to "Go forward." We must not follow the negative example of the church of the Laodiceans (Rev 3:16).
6. **...and the waters were a wall to them...** (Ex 14:22). The Apostle Paul refers to this scene as a BAPTISM (1 Cor 10:2). There was the cloud above and the walls of water to the right and to the left. A good illustration of the method of baptism requiring a total covering.
7. **Thus the Lord saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea shore** (Ex 14:30). The victory was a victory from the Lord. Adam Clarke writes the following concerning this remarkable victory... "By the extraordinary agitation of the waters, no doubt multitudes of the dead Egyptians were cast on the shore, and by their spoils the Israelites were probably furnished with considerable riches, and especially clothing and arms; which latter were essentially necessary to them in their wars with the Amalekites, Basanites, and Amorites, etc., on their way to the promised land. If they did not get their arms in this way, we know not how they got them, as there is not the slightest reason to believe that they brought any with them out of Egypt."

VII. Seek-A-Word Puzzle.

M E H T F O E N O S A H C U M O S T O N
W E R H T R E V O S R T B E L I E V E D
Q A Z X S W E D T C V B G T Y H Y H N U
M W S X C D E R R F C H A R I O T S V B
G I T Y H N E M J U I K L O P R M J J U
T G D B R N F V C H W S X Z A S Q W S X
C D E S G R F V B T T G B N Y E U J M K
U J M T T N H Y T R G B V F F M R E D C
E X H S W E D C V O V E R T H E S E A T
G G B V S C X Z Q F W S X C D N E R F V
T G Y U J A T G B D R F F D R R F V B T
D W S P C V W B G E T W E Y E H H O S T
T R G B T C D E R H X A A A T Q W S X C
R F Y V B I G T Y C N L R Y U T G B V F
R E D L W S A C V T T L E T R M N B V C
C X Z L A K J N H E G F D D N S A P I O
Y T R E W N Q A S R Z X C V E B N M L K
H G F D S A D C X T Z C V B D N M I U R
R I G H T W S X R S E S O M V B T F E L

[The highlighted words can be found above. They may be backwards, diagonal, upside down, etc. See if you can find them all. The more you use the words of the Bible, the greater blessed you will be! You might be surprised at how much this little exercise will help you retain important truths. THANK YOU for the good effort you are putting forth in Bible study. DRL]

Exodus 14:27-31 And **Moses stretched forth** his hand **over the sea**, and the sea returned to his **strength** when the morning appeared; and the **Egyptians** fled against it; and the LORD **overthrew** the Egyptians in the **midst** of the sea. ²⁸And the waters **returned**, and covered the **chariots**, and the **horsemen**, and all the **host** of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them; there remained **not so much as one of them**. ²⁹But the children of Israel walked upon **dry land** in the midst of the sea; and the waters *were* a **wall** unto them on their **right** hand, and on their **left**. ³⁰Thus the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea shore. ³¹And Israel **saw** that great work which the LORD did upon the Egyptians: and the people **feared** the LORD, and **believed** the LORD, and his servant Moses.