



The Lord is My Strength

Deliverance!

Exodus 13 & 14

- One of the striking things about chapter 11 was verse 3
- Exodus 11:3 KJV
 - 3) ...Moreover the man Moses *was* very great in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh's servants, and in the sight of the people.
- The individual solely responsible for bringing all of this calamity upon the Egyptians is highly revered and respected by the people
- How would that have made Moses feel?
 - He had given up so much fame and fortune to leave Egypt and go be with his people...
 - And now Moses was finding himself in a VERY GREAT position among all of the Egyptians, and they are loading up their camels with all the Fortune that they can carry
- Isn't this often the case with God?
 - That which we give up to follow Him we receive even more so by doing so
- Moses has got to be thinking the same kind of thing now as he sees how God is making them wealthy, and making him popular amongst the Egyptians
- The killing of a generation of first born men, women, children and even animals is hard to understand
- As Christians we are obliged to praise and worship God, regardless of whether or not we understand His actions
- God is Holy, but he is also Just...
- God was not only saving Israel, but He was teaching them (again) that there is only one God

- There is no clearer example of salvation by grace in the Old Testament than the Passover
- Every person in Egypt, whether an Israelite or an Egyptian, was worthy of God's divine judgment
- The reason that most men find the judgment of God in the killing of the firstborn so difficult to justify is that they do not grasp the seriousness of their own sin
- People commonly ask, "*Do I have to suffer the rest of my life for one little indiscretion?*"
- That's what people have a hard time coming to grips with...
- For just one little sin, God is just in condemning you, for all eternity
- The reason why we have so much difficulty with the subject of judgment is that we fail to comprehend the immensity of our sin
- If nothing else, the killing of the firstborn of Egypt should cause us to rethink the matter of sin
- Our attitude toward sin is very much shaped by our own perspectives and experiences
- Drunks are people we can laugh at, until they get behind the wheel and kill one of our children
- So, too, idolatrous worship doesn't seem very serious, until we view this evil from God's perspective
- Once we have come to grips with the seriousness of sin, we need to focus on the solution
- Just as the firstborn in Egypt were in danger of being smitten by the death angel, so men, women, and children today are in danger of enduring the wrath of God
- The solution to the problem is, once again, a Lamb, the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ, on whom our sins were laid
- He died for our sins; He bore the wrath of God, so that men could escape from the coming wrath of God, and could participate in His promised blessings
- Because Christ died for us, we are now his possession and should live for him

- So, we get to chapter 13, and all of the Egyptians have lost their firstborn to God

- The Israelites don't get away without giving up their firstborn either...

- Exodus 13:1-2 KJV

- 1) And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,
- 2) Sanctify unto me all the firstborn, whatsoever openeth the womb among the children of Israel, *both* of man and of beast: it *is* mine.

- EVERYONE deserves death

- Therefore, the ones that God saves and keeps alive are now His

- The people were to remember this lesson year after year by observing a ceremony

- We are saved by the death of Christ

- If only there was some kind of ceremony for us to remember the death, burial and resurrection of our Lord...

- Moses is in a position where he is highly regarded by the people...

- Look who Moses gives the glory to:

- Exodus 13:3 KJV

- 3) And Moses said unto the people, Remember this day, in which ye came out from Egypt, out of the house of bondage; for by strength of hand the LORD brought you out from this *place*: there shall no leavened bread be eaten.

- It's a nice way to remember, and I like what they were supposed to tell their children

- Exodus 13:14-15 KJV

- 14) And it shall be when thy son asketh thee in time to come, saying, What *is* this? that thou shalt say unto him, By strength of hand the LORD brought us out from Egypt, from the house of bondage:
- 15) And it came to pass, when Pharaoh would hardly let us go, that the LORD slew all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man, and the firstborn of beast: therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all that openeth the matrix, being males; but all the firstborn of my children I redeem.

- Look how God delivers them

- Exodus 13:17-18 KJV

- 17) And it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God led them not *through* the way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said, Lest peradventure the people repent when they see war, and they return to Egypt:
- 18) But God led the people about, *through* the way of the wilderness of the Red sea: and the children of Israel went up harnessed out of the land of Egypt.

- “Harnessed” in verse 18 is usually translated “Equipped for Battle”

- But, even though they were dressed like warriors, God knew that they couldn’t fight
- Sure, Moses had been trained in war, but the rest of the people have been in chains all their lives
- Look how Moses remembers something from the stories his mother had told him when he was a child

- Exodus 13:19 KJV

- 19) And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him: for he had straitly sworn the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you; and ye shall carry up my bones away hence with you.

- God leads them

- Exodus 13:21-22 KJV

- 21) And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night:
- 22) He took not away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, *from* before the people.

- Even though God has a plan to deliver them from the Egyptians FINALLY, He is kind enough to tell the people the plan, because He doesn’t want them feeling like they have been abandoned

- God tells us His plan for our deliverance also

- But, did the Israelites believe Him?

- Exodus 14:5-8 KJV

- 5) And it was told the king of Egypt that the people fled: and the heart of Pharaoh and of his servants was turned against the people, and they said, Why have we done this, that we have let Israel go from serving us?

- 6) And he made ready his chariot, and took his people with him:
- 7) And he took six hundred chosen chariots, and all the chariots of Egypt, and captains over every one of them.
- 8) And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued after the children of Israel: and the children of Israel went out with an high hand.

- “they went out with an high hand” means that they went out defiantly or haughtily

- So, it looks like they believed God’s plan that He had told Moses

- Exodus 14:9 KJV

- 9) But the Egyptians pursued after them, all the horses *and* chariots of Pharaoh, and his horsemen, and his army, and overtook them encamping by the sea, beside Pihahiroth, before Baalzephon.

- Mountains on both sides of them, and the Red Sea in front of them... Trapped!

- Exodus 14:10 KJV

- 10) And when Pharaoh drew nigh, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and, behold, the Egyptians marched after them; and they were sore afraid: and the children of Israel cried out unto the LORD.

- And WHO do they blame?

- Exodus 14:11-12 KJV

- 11) And they said unto Moses, Because *there were* no graves in Egypt, hast thou taken us away to die in the wilderness? wherefore hast thou dealt thus with us, to carry us forth out of Egypt?
- 12) *Is not* this the word that we did tell thee in Egypt, saying, Let us alone, that we may serve the Egyptians? For *it had been* better for us to serve the Egyptians, than that we should die in the wilderness.

- Look at Moses’ attitude

- Exodus 14:13 KJV

- 13) And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever.

- After all that has gone on

- After all that Moses has been through

- After all the power, wealth and fame that he has regained over the past months

- He still keeps his head in the right place
- He still remembers WHO has given him everything
- Exodus 14:14 KJV

14) The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

- So, it all comes back to that rod in Moses hand
- God tells him to stretch it out, and he separates the Red Sea
- I love verse 22

- Exodus 14:22 KJV

22) And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry *ground*: and the waters *were* a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.

- It's so obvious that God is fighting this battle, that even the Egyptians believe it

- Exodus 14:24-25 KJV

24) And it came to pass, that in the morning watch the LORD looked unto the host of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and of the cloud, and troubled the host of the Egyptians,

25) And took off their chariot wheels, that they drave them heavily: so that the Egyptians said, Let us flee from the face of Israel; for the LORD fighteth for them against the Egyptians.

- Exodus 14:30 KJV

30) Thus the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea shore.

- And for the moment, everything seems right in Israel...

- Exodus 14:31 KJV

31) And 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.

- How long does the effects of God's miracles last in YOUR life?