

EXODUS 14

Between a Rock and a Hard Place

I. God led His people to a place where they had to _____ on Him.

"Tell the people of Israel to turn back and encamp in front of Pi-hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, in front of Baal-zephon; you shall encamp facing it, by the sea. For Pharaoh will say of the people of Israel, They are wandering in the land; the wilderness has shut them in." vv. 2-3

II. God created a way of escape His people could not have _____ .

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. vv. 21-22

III. God separated His people from their enemy in a way _____ He could.

So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians fled into it, the Lord threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained. vv. 27-28

WHEN YOU FIND YOURSELF BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE ...

FAITHLESS RESPONSE

vv. 10-12

Fear the _____

Blame those who care _____

Look for our own way _____

FAITH-FILLED RESPONSE

v. 13

"Fear not" ... depend on God's _____ .

"Stand firm" ... wait for God's _____ .

"See the salvation of the Lord" ... look for God's _____ .

"The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent." v. 14

Before you begin, ask the Holy Spirit to teach you and guide your study.

1. Read Exodus chapter 14. Why did the Lord position Israel by the sea?
2. At what point did the Israelites become frightened and begin to complain? What did they forget?
3. How did Moses respond to the threat, and to Israel's complaints? Why was he able to respond in those ways, and what does that teach us?
4. From the application section on the sermon notes, what kinds of "FAITHLESS RESPONSE" do you usually have when you find yourself between a rock and a hard place? When this has happened to you in the past, how did God respond in a way you never thought possible?
5. Since God had already liberated Israel, why was He still concerned with Pharaoh and the Egyptians? What was He showing Israel, and us?
6. Pharaoh and his army are types of Satan and his army, who want to re-enslave Christians to sin. What can you conclude from this passage about God's plans in the world and in your life for Satan and sin? How should you act in light of this?
7. Do you believe that this even actually occurred in history? Why or why not? Why does your answer to this question determine how you see God, and in turn whether you'll be able to trust Him?
8. What are some ways you can take verse 14 to heart the next time God places you in a situation you can't solve through your own strength?

You know the human response to panic? First, we are afraid. Second, we run. Third, we fight. Fourth, we tell everybody. God's counsel is just the opposite. *Don't be afraid. Stand still. Watch Him work. Keep quiet. It's then that He does it. He handles it exactly opposite the way we'd do it.*

CHARLES SWINDOLL

The purposes of the wilderness suffering and this was before they reached Mount Sinai—varied. God wanted to test them to see if they would trust him. And he wanted to challenge them to be his people and to live differently than all the other nations so that all peoples would know he is the Lord God (19:5-6). He wanted to teach them how to worship him in a manner different from that of other nations (Ex 25-40). All of this occurs in the God planned circumstances of suffering and subsequent necessary trusting.

STEPHEN BRAMER

Many conservative men, although they believe in the Word of God and are saved by faith alone in Christ, try to explain the crossing of the Red Sea in some natural way. When you read this record, it is impossible to explain it naturally. God says it is a miracle and you either take it or leave it.

J. VERNON MCGEE

Many critics, who have sought to explain away God's supernatural deliverance of Israel, have attacked this story. They have tried by various explanations to account for what happened in natural terms exclusively. It is obvious from this chapter, however, that regardless of where the crossing took place, enough water was present to drown the "entire army" of Egyptians that pursued Israel (v. 28). Immediately after this deliverance, the Israelites regarded their salvation as supernatural, and they continued to do so for generations (e.g., Ps 106:7-8). The people of Canaan heard about and believed in this miraculous deliverance, and it terrified them (Josh 2:9-10; 9:9). Some critics' problem may be moral rather than intellectual. Some of the critics do not want to deal with the implications of an occurrence of supernatural phenomena, so they try to explain them away. The text clearly presents a supernatural deliverance, and it even states that God acted as He did in order to prove His supernatural power (vv. 4, 18).

TOM CONSTABLE

A WONDERFUL OFFER

Being a Christian isn't based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God's love for us. Here's how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

1. Realize that you are sinful and separated from God. (Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)
2. Recognize that the penalty for your sin is death—eternal separation from God and all that is good. (Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)
3. Understand that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and that He rose again. (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21)
4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior. (Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9)

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:16 NASB) You can use this prayer to express your decision to God:

"Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in Him alone as the only way to get right with You. Thank You for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen."

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit ccbcfamily.org/events.



LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT CARD? Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS, DISCOVER WHAT IT MEANS TO DELIGHT IN GOD Delight is a night just for high school girls to slow down, lean in, and discover what it really means to delight in the Lord! We'll talk about how to find real joy in God's presence, what it means that He delights in you, and how His ways aren't rules to weigh you down but the path to freedom and fullness of joy. Find details at ccbcfamily.org/delight.

YOUNG ADULTS — FIND YOUR PLACE AT RENOVATE This summer is all about connection, community, and taking steps in your faith, and Renovate is the place for young adults to do just that. Join us for monthly gatherings, fun events, and opportunities to grow as His disciple. One of the highlights? We're heading to the Rangers Game on July 2! It's the perfect chance to invite a friend, hang out, and make some summer memories. Buy a ticket at ccbcfamily.org/rangers.

DISCIPLESHIP IN ACTION Our Men's and Women's Ministries are excited to offer opportunities for you to disciple others! When you sign up, you'll be paired with someone to mentor — walking with them as they take steps in their faith. It's a meaningful way to invest in someone's life and grow together in the grace of Christ. Learn more by visiting the Men's and Women's Ministry pages at ccbcfamily.org.

COMING THIS FALL — THRIVE This fall, we're offering a resource from our Soul Care team designed to help you walk through hard things—past hurt, sin, and pain—with the support of a group, practical tools, and one-on-one mentoring. No matter how long you've been following Jesus, we all face challenges in this broken world. But God is good, and He brings healing and redemption. If you're interested, submit an application at ccbcfamily.org/thrive.

CREATE A PLACE FOR EVERY CHILD TO BELONG Our Kids Ministry offers a special needs program where children are welcomed, celebrated, and given the opportunity to grow in their faith! It's a place where every child can experience the joy of worship, friendship, and learning about Jesus in a way that fits them best. We can't do this without volunteers who care deeply about helping every child feel valued and included. If that's you, we'd love for you to be part of our special needs ministry. Learn more at ccbcfamily.org/kidsserve.



IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE The process is quick and easy—scan the QR Code to start.