

The Great Escape

Long Beach Alliance Church • May 22nd, 2011 • Pastor Chris Lankford

“Do not fear! Stand by and see the salvation of the LORD which He will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you have seen today, you will never see them again forever. The LORD will fight for you while you keep silent.”

~Exodus 14:13-14 (NASB)

1) Quit Your Crying, Shut Up & Get Going...

- A) The Israelites, following God’s leading in the desert (Exodus 14:2), successfully attract Pharaoh’s attention by appearing to wander around aimlessly (14:3). All of this though, is a trap designed to glorify God amongst the Egyptians, and through the generations (14:4-5).
- B) Pharaoh takes the bait, and chases down Israel with his army and finest chariots close to the Red Sea (14:5-9).
- C) When Israel sees they are hemmed in by water on three sides and Egypt’s fast approaching army from the West, they are immediately filled with fear (14:10) and begin to bitterly complain (14:11-12). Moses implores Israel “do not fear” & “take your stand” & “shut up” (14:13-14).

- D) God echoes Moses’ sentiments, telling Moses (as representative of Israel), “What are you crying about?! Start walking!” (14:15)

2) God’s Protection

- A) God tells Moses to raise his staff and stretch out his hand over the sea to separate it and open a path of dry land, while simultaneously blocking Egypt from Israel with the pillar of cloud/fire, all for God’s glory (14:16-20).
- B) Note the cloud/fire is now called “the angel of God,” a literal manifestation of God in the midst of Israel (a “theophany,” 14:19). God’s physical presence fights for His people!

3) Salvation For God’s People Provided By God

- A) As Moses obediently follows God’s command (14:21), God dries up the Red Sea and the Israelites pass through the Red Sea to safety on the other side (14:22).
- B) However, Pharaoh and his armies follow Israel into the Red Sea in hot pursuit (14:23). But as the Egyptians come for Israel, God disrupts their progress and impedes their chariots, causing Egypt to consider retreating (14:24-25).
- C) But before Egypt can retreat, God commands Moses to raise his hand once again, and the sea crashed down around the Egyptian army, even sweeping those on shore into the Red Sea, killing many Egyptians (14:26-30).
- D) Witnessing their own salvation (14:29) from Egypt, Israel responds with great reverence to God (14:31) and a deepened faith in God and His servant, Moses.