

Israel Leaves Egypt

Exodus 13:17 - 15:2

Would you want to have an enemy army following you?
Would you remember to trust God to protect you?
In today's lesson the Children of Israel will be followed by the army of the Egyptians.
We will find out how the Children of Israel needed reminding to trust God for help.



Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, Please help us to learn the lesson in today's story to trust in You. Help us to study Your Word and grow in knowledge and understanding with the help of the Holy Spirit. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Israel Leaves Egypt

Then it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said, "Lest perhaps the people change their minds when they see war, and return to Egypt." {18} So God led the people around by way of the wilderness of the Red Sea. And the children of Israel went up in orderly ranks out of the land of Egypt.

{19} And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him, for he had placed the children of Israel under solemn oath, saying, "God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here with you."

{20} So they took their journey from Succoth and camped in Etham at the edge of the wilderness. {21} And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of

cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night. {22} He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day or the pillar of fire by night from before the people.

Now the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: {2} "Speak to the children of Israel, that they turn and camp before Pi Hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, opposite Baal Zephon; you shall camp before it by the sea. {3} "For Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel, 'They are bewildered by the land; the wilderness has closed them in.' {4} "Then I will harden Pharaoh's heart, so that he will pursue them; and I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, that the Egyptians may know that I am the LORD." And they did so.

{5} Now it was told the king of Egypt



that the people had fled, and the heart of Pharaoh and 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} So he made ready his chariot and took his people with him. {7} Also, he took six hundred choice chariots, and all the chariots of Egypt with captains over every one of them. {8} And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued the children of Israel; and the children of Israel went out with boldness. {9} So the Egyptians pursued them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, his horsemen and his army, and overtook them camping by the sea beside Pi Hahiroth, before Baal Zephon.

{10} And when Pharaoh drew near, the children of Israel lifted their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians marched after them. So they were very afraid, and the children of Israel cried out to the LORD. {11} Then they said to Moses, "Because there were no graves in Egypt, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you so dealt with us, to bring us up out of Egypt? {12} "Is this not the word that we told you in Egypt, saying, 'Let us alone that we may serve the Egyptians?' For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness."

{13} And Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. {14} "The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace."

{15} And the LORD said to Moses,

"Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward. {16} "But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea. {17} "And I indeed will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them. So I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, his chariots, and his horsemen. {18} "Then the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gained honor for Myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen."

{19} And the Angel of God, who went before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud went from before them and stood behind them. {20} So it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. Thus it was a cloud and darkness to the one, and it gave light by night to the other, so that the one did not come near the other all that night.

{21} Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided. {22} So the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

{23} And the Egyptians pursued and went after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. {24} Now it came to pass, in the morning watch, that the LORD looked down upon the army of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and cloud, and He troubled the army of the Egyptians. {25} And He took off their chariot wheels, so

that they drove them with difficulty; and the Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the face of Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians."

{26} Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the waters may come back upon the Egyptians, on their chariots, and on their horsemen." {27} And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and when the morning appeared, the sea returned to its full depth, while the Egyptians were fleeing into it. So the LORD overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea. {28} Then the waters returned and covered the chariots, the horsemen, and all the army of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them. Not so much as one of them remained. {29} But the children of Israel

had walked on dry land in the midst of the sea, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. {30} So the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. {31} Thus Israel saw the great work which the LORD had done in Egypt; so the people feared the LORD, and believed the LORD and His servant Moses. {1} Then Moses and the children of Israel sang this song to the LORD, and spoke, saying: "I will sing to the LORD, For He has triumphed gloriously! The horse and its rider He has thrown into the sea! {2} The LORD is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation; He is my God, and I will praise Him; My father's God, and I will exalt Him.

What the Story Tells Us - Fill in the letter of the correct answer. (See next page.)

1. ____ The Children of Israel left Egypt and headed toward The ____.
2. ____ They took the bones of ____ along.
3. ____ The LORD went before Israel in a ____.
4. ____ Pharaoh pursued Israel with 600 ____.
5. ____ Moses stretched out his ____ and the LORD caused the sea to part.
6. ____ The Egyptian chariots lost their ____ while pursuing Israel in the sea.
7. ____ The Red Sea returned and ____ the Egyptian army.
8. ____ Israel feared and ____ the LORD when they saw this great work.
9. ____ Moses the Israel sang, "The LORD is my strength and song, and He has become my ____."

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| A. chariots | B. Red Sea |
| C. believed | D. covered |
| E. Joseph | F. salvation |
| G. pillar of cloud and fire | H. rod |

Outer Aim

God teaches the Children of Israel to trust Him to take care of them.

What God Tells Us - Discuss the following questions.

1. Of what are you afraid? List as many as you can.

2. When we are afraid or doubt, what have we forgotten.

3. Read and discuss Psalm 46:1-3 underline or highlight the first sentence and memorize it as a prayer. *"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, even though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; though its waters roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with its swelling."*

Your Turn - Draw a picture of what you think the pillar of cloud and fire looked like.

PILLAR OF CLOUD (by day)

PILLAR OF FIRE (by night)



Inner Aim - God will take care of us as we travel through life.

Passages - Discuss the following passages and how they apply to the lesson.

Psalms 46:10 - Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

Romans 8:31 - If God is for us, who can be against us?

Romans 8:32 - He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

Hymn - *Worship Supplement 2000 #784*

Lord, take my hand and lead me upon life's way;
Direct, protect and feed me from day to day.
Without Your grace and favor I go astray;
So take my hand, O Savior, and lead the way.

Lord, when the tempest rages, I need not fear;
For You, the Rock of Ages, are always near.
Close by Your side abiding, I fear no foe,
For when Your hand is guiding, in peace I go.

Lord, when the shadows lengthen and night has come,
I know that You will strengthen my steps toward home,
And nothing can impede me, O blessed Friend!
So take my hand and lead me unto the end.

Prayer

Dear Jesus,

There are many times that we become afraid of many things. Sometimes we do not know where to turn for help. Remind us that You saved the nation of Israel by leading them through the Red Sea. Remind us that You sent Jesus to save us from our sins. Help us be quiet, and allow You to take care of us. Amen.