

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS
OCTOBER 2, 2024
EXODUS 14:1-9

INTRODUCTION:

1. Twice, the New Testament writers reflect back on this time in Israel's history.
 - a) **1 CORINTHIANS 10.1-11:** *"I do not want you to be unaware."* Don't forget!
 - b) **HEBREWS 4.1:1-3:** *"Therefore...let us fear."* Don't be like Israel! (cf. Heb. 3.16-19)
2. After the rendezvous in Succoth, the children of Israel begin their journey to the promise land with a brief stop at Mount Sinai. (cf. Ex. 3.8,12)
 - a) The path they would take was *"by way of the wilderness of the Red Sea"* (Ex. 13.18).
 - b) It was a journey that would take three months. (Ex. 16.1; 19.1)
 - c) It was a journey that was difficult. Public and private complaining (Ex. 16.2; Deut. 1.26)
3. Through the wilderness, God is the One who led them to the Red Sea. (Ex. 13.21,22)

I. GOD SENT THEM BACK TOWARD EGYPT

- A. God sent His people back toward Egypt.
 1. **EXODUS 14.1,2:** *"Speak to the children of Israel, that they turn and camp before Pi Hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea..."*
 2. Scholars are uncertain of the location of these camps.
 - a) This was meant to be an account for Israel. (Num. 33.1,2)
 - b) Though clues help us approximate, maps are speculative. (cf. Ex. 14.1; Deut. 1.2,3)
 3. Turn (sub): "to turn back; return" [Mounce]. The children of Israel were told to go back the way they came. (cf. Num. 33.7)
 4. Why did God want them to go back toward Egypt?
 - a) **EXODUS 14.2:** *"For Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel..."*
 - b) God led the children of Israel into a trap with mountains on one side and the Red sea on the other side. (cf. Ex. 3.18)
 - b) God intentionally led the children of Israel back into Egyptian territory to provoke Pharaoh into coming after them. Why?
 5. **EXODUS 14.4:** *"I will gain honor over Pharaoh..."*
 - a) The Egyptian's captivity, the ten plagues, and the exodus of Israel was set in motion to make God known to the world. (Ex. 8.22; 9.14,29; 10.2; 11.7)
 - b) God wants people to know Him. [164 times, God said, "I am the LORD"]
- B. God protected His people from the pursuing Egyptian army.
 1. **EXODUS 14.5:** *"Why have we done this, that we have let Israel go from serving us?"*
 - a) Israel is often criticized for forgetting God. Yet Egypt forgot.
 - b) One more act of dominion will remind Pharaoh and his servants.
 2. **EXODUS 14.6-9:** Pharaoh sent the full force of his military to recapture Israel.
 3. **EXODUS 14.8:** *"The children of Israel went out with boldness"*

II. LESSONS FROM THE RED SEA JOURNEY

- A. God wants your honor.
 1. He wants more than our acknowledgement. (Ps. 14.1; Rom. 1.20)
 2. God created us for the purpose of giving Him honor. (Isa. 43.7,21; 48.9-11)
 3. Our purpose is to "do all to the glory of God" (1 Cor. 10.31)
- B. How do we show honor to God?
 1. By living lives of faithful obedience. (Lev. 10.1-3)
 2. By worship that is both in spirit and in truth.
 - a) **JOHN 4.23,24:** *"for the Father is seeking such to worship Him"*
 - b) **AMOS 5.20-24:** God hates and despised hypocritical worship.
 - c) **MATTHEW 15.8,9:** Insincere worship is worthless.