

“Marvelous Truths About God – Part 4”  
Exodus 13:17 – 14:1-31  
(Preached at Trinity, June 3, 2007)

I’m supplying these notes for the benefit of busy pastors who may be engaged in bi-vocational work, feeling the pressure of preparing to preach twice on the Lord’s Day while trying to balance full-time secular work as well as caring for their families. While the notes of another man are no substitute for personal study, I pray that these may aid in the process of preparing to preach.

**Disclaimer:** These are the actual notes I bring with me to the pulpit, which I follow loosely. They are not designed for publication. While I try to make every effort to give proper credit to my sources from the pulpit, adequate citations will sometimes be absent from my notes. If anyone feels their intellectual material has been used without adequate citation, please contact me and I’ll make immediate correction giving credit.

1. As we’ve seen beginning with **Verse 17** and continuing through **Chapter 14** we have the account of Israel’s Exodus from Egypt as God protects them and leads them to safety. As we read of God’s great deliverance of His people we find several marvelous truths that will encourage us as we continue on our own journey to Canaan.
2. So far we’ve looked at six of these marvelous truths.
  - God’s way is always the best way
  - God is unfailing in His faithfulness to His people
  - God is always present to guide His people
  - God does all things for His own glory
  - God’s people will be hated by the people of this world
  - Unbelief is poison for the child of God and will always lead to fear and a mistrust of God – God wants us to trust Him with a childlike faith
3. Tonight I want to continue our journey through this passage as we examine some more of the marvelous truths God is revealing to us through His deliverance of His people from Egypt.
  - I. God fights our battles on our behalf – **Chapter 14:13-14**
    - A. Israel looked up and what they saw was terrifying
      1. Pharaoh’s armies were approaching them with great speed  
**Exodus 14:9** – “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.”
      2. Pharaoh’s army must have been a fearful sight  
**Exodus 14:10** – “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.”
      3. The Israelites were not trained in war. They didn’t have the sophisticated weaponry of the Egyptians.  
The Egyptian army would have crushed them.
      4. In **Verses 13-14** Moses makes two great statements to the Israelites
        - a. “Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD”
        - b. “The LORD shall fight for you”
    - B. “Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD”
      1. The expression “fear not” occurs 63 times in the Bible
      2. Fear is a terrible doubt of God

- a. Fear presumes that God either does not know or He does not care or that He does not have the power to help
  - b. Fear denies that God has a righteous purpose for your life? Do you think you will die one second before God ordains it or that something might happen that God has not decreed?
  - c. Are we willing to accept God's purpose? Are we willing to love God's purpose - His rule
- 3. The Israelites forgot God's purposes, His promises, and His power
  - 4. Fear is not of God

**2 Timothy 1:7** – “For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.”

- a. If fear is not of God then it must either be from the lies and deceptions of Satan or from the delusion of our own mind.
- b. God tells us as we look to Him He replaces our fears with power, and of love, and of a sound mind

“Power” – His infinite almighty power

“Love” – The great confidence we have of His infinite love for us

**Romans 8:38-39** – “For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, <sup>39</sup> Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

“Sound mind” – As we trust God the delusional lies of our mind are replaced with peace and confidence.

**Philippians 4:6-7** – “Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

**Proverbs 3:5-6** – “Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. <sup>6</sup> In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”

C. “The LORD shall fight for you”

- 1. This is one of the great truths that the Christian should find most comforting – God is fighting our battles for us.
- 2. This does not deny our responsibility and duty to fight
  - a. Israel would fight many battles in their possession of Canaan
  - b. We too will fight many battles in possession of our inheritance
  - c. Paul commanded Timothy
 

**1 Timothy 6:12** – “Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.”
  - d. We must press on with diligence as good soldiers of Christ

3. But the Bible gives us the marvelous truth that even while we are fighting God is there fighting for us  
**Exodus 14:14** – “The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.”
  4. This was demonstrated over and over in the conquest of Canaan
    - a. It was God who crushed the walls of Jericho
    - b. It was God who showed Himself mighty in their wars  
**Joshua 10:11** – “And it came to pass, as they fled from before Israel, *and* were in the going down to Bethhoron, that the LORD cast down great stones from heaven upon them unto Azekah, and they died: *they were* more which died with hailstones than *they* whom the children of Israel slew with the sword.”  
**Joshua 10:14** – “And there was no day like that before it or after it, that the LORD hearkened unto the voice of a man: for the LORD fought for Israel.”  
**Joshua 10:42** – “And all these kings and their land did Joshua take at one time, because the LORD God of Israel fought for Israel.”
  5. God would affirm this truth to Israel over and over. In **2 Chron. 20** we read where the Moabites and Ammonites came against Jehoshaphat in battle. He was grossly outnumbered and greatly afraid so he turned to God.  
**2 Chronicles 20:3** - And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.”  
God answered his prayer.  
**2 Chronicles 20:15** – “And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle *is* not yours, but God's.”
  6. When the Syrians had surrounded the city of Dothan Elisha knew he was well protected by the forces of God  
**2 Kings 6:15-17** – “And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do? <sup>16</sup> And he answered, Fear not: for they that *be* with us *are* more than they that *be* with them. <sup>17</sup> And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.”
- D. Sometimes our battles may seem overwhelming, but God fights on our behalf
1. Perhaps you are battling a particular sin  
**2 Corinthians 10:4** – “For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds”
  2. Perhaps you struggle with your discipline of prayer or Bible study
  3. Perhaps you are struggling with a relationship with a friend or loved one
  4. Perhaps you are facing opposition as you are seeking to witness to a lost person

5. Perhaps you are facing opposition as you are seeking to live a godly life
  6. God is fighting on your side
- 1 John 4:4** – “Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.”

II. There is a time for praying and a time for acting – **Verse 15**

- A. God mildly rebukes Moses – “Why are you speaking to Me at a time like this”
  1. Moses was a man of prayer. He sought the face of God always
  2. This was a time for Moses to act
- B. We are commanded to pray without ceasing.
  1. Prayer is an essential part of the Christian life  
But prayer must never be a substitute for action.
  2. Matthew Henry – “Moses had something else to do besides praying; he was to command the hosts of Israel, and it was now requisite that he should be at his post. *Every thing is beautiful in its season.*”
  3. Some Christians are paralyzed by inaction. They pray continually but they are always in a state of indecision and inaction.
  4. We are to pray and then act with wisdom and prudence according to God’s Word trusting in Divine direction.

Conclusion:

1. God commands us to trust Him. God is the Ruler of all creation. He governs this world with almighty power. He is able to do all His holy will.
2. He fights our battles on our behalf. He is able. Trust Him.
3. Israel had to learn to trust God – to follow Him through the waters.  
**Hebrews 11:29** – “By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry *land*: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.”
4. By faith you must trust Christ.  
There are numerous comparisons of the Exodus to our salvation in Christ. Just as Israel was led from the bondage of Egypt we have been saved from our own bondage to sin and Satan. The Exodus was designed by God to teach us about coming to Christ for salvation. Paul describes the comparison.  
**1 Corinthians 10:1-4** – “Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; <sup>2</sup> And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; <sup>3</sup> And did all eat the same spiritual meat; <sup>4</sup> And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.”
5. Just as Israel had to trust God and cross the sea God demands that embrace Christ – the great Rock of our salvation.