

The Red Sea Part 3

Preaching from the past

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Well, we'll be ready this morning. We've got to close today, don't we? "The Sea Saw the God of War." I was thinking today that I've done a lot about the Red Sea and maybe some of you'd like to know why is it called the Red Sea. There are some reasons. To me, the most practical, I guess, is this one: it's called the Red Sea in your Bible because of the winds came across the Sahara Desert on the western side of the Red Sea and picking up the sand, blows it out over the sea so that it lies on top of the water. Then it's sundown when the sun drops just even with the horizon, right on the horizon, the rays of the sun come out across that Red Sea and with that sand on top of the water, it turns it a brilliant crimson red, a color that's outstanding. Now, I've never seen it myself but all that I can read and discern, it is a beautiful beautiful color.

It's called the Red Sea in your Bible. Modern may today, if you look it up, modern man calls it by two names. They call it, number one, the Desert Sea, the Desert Sea because it lies between the Sahara Desert and the wilderness of the Arabian Peninsula on the east side. This one always tickled me, it's a sea that ought not to exist. Now that's what man says. They can't say and erode it, because there's no streams or creeks coming in. Now since we have satellite, there was a time when the Sahara Desert had streams and rivers and they see them, but of course, they are not there now. But it tickled me to see them say that it ought not to be there and the reason that it ought not to be there is if you go all the way beneath the silt, the dirt that the water is on top of, that part which God is gonna congeal today, if you go all the way to the bottom, the Red Sea is really a crack in solid rock. Beneath all of that is solid, of solid rock, and that's why they can't understand how did it get there? How do you get something the size of California, over 9,000 feet deep in its deepest trough, how does it just get there?

Well, sometime if you'll just get alone and meditate a little bit, here is the Red Sea right here. That's the largest map I had today, and if you'll read carefully in your Bible again and again and again, the arm of God is associated with the Red Sea, maybe it's just me but I don't have any bit of trouble seeing God just lay his arm right down in there, there's his two fingers, and God just did that because that's where he is going to get him an everlasting name, a glorious name because of the warfare. Personally, I believe it is the arm of God. I think that's why it's there and I don't have any trouble, I have trouble thinking of the erosion eroding a trough 9,000 feet deep, that's a lot of erosion. I don't

believe it's that. I don't believe the earthquakes did it. I believe God put it there personally that he might get honor to his name and personally, personally I see the arm of God.

The other name that they call it today is the Perfect Sea. It is called the Desert Sea or the Perfect Sea. Now they are amazed about the Red Sea, they call it the Perfect Sea. The Perfect being because of all the waters in the world, it is a perfect aquarium. It is salty. It is fed by the Indian Ocean, but it is so far from the Indian Ocean that it is more like an aquarium and it is a perfect aquarium. One-fifth, 1/5 of all the rare fish species in the world are found in the Red Sea. The map I have this morning shows the diving points where they dive because of the unusualness of the coral. I have a list of the unusual fish that you can only find in the Red Sea, a list of them, 1/5 of all of the world's species.

The waters are so rich that some of the fish reach weight of 400 pounds, and I've often thought as they crossed through the Red Sea and the waters stood on either side, you know, the fish had been used to just swimming anyplace they wanted and I can see them as they came up and came into that wall of water and all at once they're flopping off the ground. Boy, oh boy, oh boy, oh boy, oh boy. Man, can you imagine that, those fish coming right out of that wall of water and then picking them up, some of them 400 pounds in weight. Well, somebody said, an old black preacher was preaching and he, I can't do it like him but I heard and he had that fish coming up and just got his nose through the water and he was going, "What is this?" You know, like a black man can do and I can't do it? But I'm telling you, "What is this?"

I will show you this in Exodus 30, if you look there with me in Exodus 30 and then we'll come to the God of war, but in Exodus 30, I just want you to see this in verse 34, "And the LORD said unto Moses, Take unto thee sweet spices," now here were the spices that God was going to have a perfume made out of, it was "a confection after the art of the apothecary, tempered together, pure and holy," verse 35 said. Verse 35 said, "thou shalt beat some of it very small, and put of it before the testimony in the tabernacle of the congregation, where I will meet with thee: it shall be unto you most holy." You remember no one else was allowed to wear this perfume, no one else was allowed to make it. It was a perfume for the nostrils of God of such a sweet, special favor just for the tabernacle.

Now look in verse 34, the ingredients, "Take unto thee sweet spices, stacte, and onycha, and galbanum; these sweet spices with pure frankincense: of each shall there be a like weight." Now two of them are stacte and galbanum are gum from a certain tree. They were an aromatic gum. But the one that is the most interesting to me is the one called onycha. Onycha, o-n-y-c-h-a, comes from the shell of a certain mussel that's found only in the Red Sea and that day when God congealed the ground in the sea and the waters stood up, as the people come through, I just challenge any of you to go to any ocean, Pacific or Atlantic, you can't walk along the beach without picking up the shell. The shells just hold a fascination to us.

Judy and I were on a beach walking, it was cold so she didn't have on her bikini, we were just walking, but we did have a big bag and poor me and Miss Judy, dumb as all get-out,

you know, but we had a great big bag. Well, everybody else out there was hunting shark teeth because they were dredging in the channel, blowing the sand up. It is an opportunity to find the largest shark teeth from, as they call it, prehistoric time, and somebody came by and said, "You folks really are looking for a shark's tooth, ain't ya," by the size of the bag we had, but we didn't know. We weren't looking for sharks' teeth, we was looking for shells or anything.

Well, that day and night as they crossed through the Red Sea, here lay and the Hebrew word means an aromatic mussel, and the ground was covered with these shells and the Jewish people picked them up as they came through on dry ground. Literally, you take the shell and one portion of it is of a purple tint and it is that purple that you take a sharp knife and scrape that off and then grind it fine and it has, it has an aroma that was used in this perfume. Someone has said and as far as I know it's true, someone has said that the only reference to the seashell in the word of God, and it is that word onycha of that, that God had made.

So I don't know that they picked up them fish, I don't know whether the black preacher was right, but more, whether the fish stuck their little mouths out through the wall and said, "What is this?" I don't know but I do know that like I saw, they could not bypass those shells and they picked them up and God had a reason for it. Remember God has a reason for everything. You remember when they left Egypt, they spoiled the Egyptian and you remember one thing they got, the women got from the Egyptian women which they didn't have as slaves was their mirrors. The Egyptian women had mirrors but the Jewish slave women, they didn't. Think how much later we could sleep and still make church on time if our wives didn't have a mirror. So they spoiled them, taking the mirrors from the Egyptian women which was something that the Jewish woman wanted, she wanted a mirror, when they got out into the wilderness and got ready to build the tabernacle, God came to the women and said, "You'll give your mirror. I have something special for it." And the Jewish women laid them down again and you can read your Bible, something very very special in the tabernacle was made from them mirrors. So when God put it in their heart to pick up the shell, maybe the kids got fussed, "Come on, hurry up, what are you doing?" But no, the things that are in our cart many times God puts them there for on down the road he plans to use it.

If any man desire the office of a bishop, if you're sitting there this week saying, "Boy, I wish I didn't have to go back to work the end of the week. I wish I could just spend my life shepherding God's people." Well, you go ahead and lay yourself on the altar for that's a holy desire in your heart by the Lord.

Exodus 15, this morning: the sea fled because it saw the God of war. In Exodus 15, "Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea." Now chapter 15, the events going to take place in 14, Exodus 14, then in 15 because of this wonderful experience, Moses is going to create this song. In the midst of it, Miriam and the ladies are going to join in, and the language means that they were singing parts. The men sang and the women answered, and the men sang and the

women answered. Well, this is their song. Verse 2, "The LORD is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation: he is my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him." Here it is, "The LORD is a man of war: the LORD is his name." The black preacher took his text, "The LORD is a man of war and you can't whoop him." I like that, "The LORD is a man of war and you can't whoop him."

The sea saw the God of war. Now this war is a single war but it is made up of three campaigns, and you need to understand this: God won all three campaigns so God won the war. Sometimes I hear people say, "Well, we may be taking a beating right now, but God won the war." Well, maybe that sounds alright to you but look me straight in the God-given eyeball: every time you and me lose a campaign to the devil and his crowd, we also lose some good soldiers. A losing campaign is more expensive than you think. Some of you men that are trying to step out into the work of God, can I tell you it is essential for your wife and children that you win the opening campaigns of your life and of your ministry. It is essential. Many a wife who we want to be ugly about – listen, you better listen – back yonder a man led her out and the campaign failed and she and the children got stranded, nearly starved to death, lost everything that they had, if it hadn't of been for her daddy that bailed them out, and then all at once you and me, Brother John and Brother Moore, we lead them 10-15 years down the road and she ain't just said, "Woo! We're going again! Woo! We're going!" No. And then you and me want to get ugly and say, "Bless God, if he wasn't married to that old woman out there, I believe that man would do something for God."

[unintelligible] I'm a going to. What do you think I'm doing up here? Bless God, you don't have to tell me to bring it, I'm bringing it all. I'm looking you straight in your God-given eyeball, Jack, a lot of these women that you're nailing, you'd better go back a little bit further before you met them and you'd better find out how come she is dragging her feet. She may be the spiritual one in the outfit and he may jump every time a mosquito stings him. Well, that took care of all that shouting we had earlier in the day, didn't it?

Listen, all you stuck saying, "Well, it don't matter if we lose a few, we know who won the war." Puke. Just plain puke. You'd better go after winning the campaign, honey. I ain't too smart but if a boxer wins every round, he's just about got the fight made, don't he?

So there's gonna be three campaigns in this one war and God is going to win all three campaigns so I'm just gonna tell you ahead of time, God's gonna win the war. Now I want you to know in Exodus, if you'll turn there with me again, the Lord is a man of war, and if you'll look in Exodus 14:4, God knows what he's fighting about. Brother Moore brought that out, I just want to show it to you in the Bible. Exodus 14:4, "And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, that he shall follow after the," and here's what the war is all about, "and I will be honoured upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host; that the Egyptians may know that I am the LORD." Now that's what the Bible is all about. That's why God's gonna start the war, fight the war, and finish the war, and when we're all done, Egypt is going to know that God is God and all of those things they worship are a bunch of idols. Now because of the hour, I won't take time but that's repeated, Exodus 14:8, it's repeated so that they might know that. Again in verse 17 and 18, it is again repeated, verse 18,

"And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD." Now that's how come we're going to have a war.

Now while we're in chapter 14, let me just give you the names of the three campaigns and then we'll start. There's really three campaigns to this war. There is a west bank campaign, there is an east bank campaign, and there is a sea campaign. They all make one war but they all are all three distinct campaigns.

Now in the west bank, you have Israel and the Egyptians. They're on the west bank. If I can hold this up for you, they're over here on the west bank. This is the west bank. This is Egypt and here's the Red Sea, and they're on the west bank and the west bank campaign has to do with Pharaoh and his army.

Now let me read a little bit. I've not read much this week except here and there in the Bible but I want to start this morning, come quickly to Exodus 14 and let's begin reading in verse 8. "And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt," now notice that, verse 8, who is in charge of this war? The LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt. The LORD did it, "and he pursued after the children of Israel: and the children of Israel went out with an high hand. 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. 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. And they said unto Moses, Because there were no graves in Egypt, hast thou taken us away to die in the wilderness? wherefore hast thou dealt thus with us, to carry us forth out of Egypt? Is not this the word that we did tell thee in Egypt, saying, Let us alone, that we may serve the Egyptians? For it had been better for us to serve the Egyptians, than that we should die in the wilderness." Boy, you get the feeling already if God's gonna win this war, he's gonna have to fight it. These people ain't too encouraged about it all, are they? Talk about rather being red than dead, they'd rather lived in Egypt than to die in the wilderness.

Now notice what Moses said and I'm only gonna give you some words right here, "And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day." Now the words "Fear ye not, stand still," they are emphatic just like I spoke them to you. Moses didn't whimper at the people. Moses didn't say, "Er," and talk like that. [unintelligible] Moses got up and looked out at them and said, "Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD."

Now the words denote a frame of mind. He's not talking about physically. He didn't say stand still physically. Physically is a little bit later on. But I want you to understand these words, "stand still, fear not, see the salvation of the LORD," all of that has to do with the mind. Moses is saying to them, "I'm not talking about the frame of your body, the position of your body, I'm talking about the frame of your mind." He means, "Make yourself to stand with quiet minds looking up to God." Read Ephesians 6, "Having done all, stand."

"Fear not." That's in the mind. "Stand still," meaning make your mind quit going all of this racing, supposing, if-ing. "We're done! We're done! We're gonna die here!" "Stop it," he said, "Make your minds stop that." Listen to the New Testament, "Let the peace of God rule. Let it." Pastors, how many times have you spoke comforting words and it was like pouring water on a duck's back? You even spoke for God, even had the right words in the funeral home at the death of a child or in a hospital room, you had the right word, God gave you the right words, but the mind is racing in the person and they cannot receive it and Moses said, "First of all, we're gonna have to deal with your mind. Now stop it. Keep your minds from doing all that racing." And I'll tell you, sometimes, Brother Moore, I've seen missionaries and you can tell them and their wives have gotten together and let the mind race and they've fed each other. They fed each other and they are a mess and you try to do something with them, you're on the Board of Directors, we've had them leave just over that kind of business. Whose war is this? You'd better decide that. You'd better keep that on your mind.

Let me tell you just a little bit later, God's gonna win the battle without even firing a shot. We've got to read on, "which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians," I'm reading in the midst of verse 13, "whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever," meaning as you seem them today as a threat coming down on you, this is the last day you'll ever see that. You'll never see that again.

Now here in verse 14, it is talking about speech and action, "The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace." Now that's, there it is the action. Yes, there comes a time when you've got to deal with what action am I gonna take in this war, but before I ever decide about the action, I'd better get a handle on this business right up here, gotta get to this business because if I don't get it here, you know where my mind is gonna be? I believe I can talk a little Egyptian, "I believe I'll take back this, I didn't mean to ask my boss lady for that mirror." Huh? Where are you at this morning? Have you let your mind get you just about out of the will of God, just about out of the ministry? Have you let your mind just about get you so in a mess? Have you got yourself chastened by God? Because you're old enough to know better.

Now I know you've been in a lot of battles, now you come into one and you and your wife instead of quieting your minds in the place of God. A lot of chastening I bring on myself, brothers, many times God does take me to the woodshed because he saw me and found me letting my mind, Brother Barry, get out of hand, get full of fear, pressed with duty, use hard words. I know y'all don't do that.

Verse 14 does have to do with your action. God said, "Hey listen, I'm not asking you to fight. This is my war. I started it. I'm the man of war. I'll finish this thing. You stand still, you hear?" Verse 15, "And the LORD said unto Moses," boy, I like this, "Wherefore criest thou unto me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward." Remember he always tells them, "I brought you out that I might bring you in," and that means just like that day on the boat, he said, "Let us go over to the other side." I don't care what storm strikes while they're on the lake, God had already spoken, "We're going to the other side," and he said, "I brought you out that I might bring you in. I didn't bring you out so

you could die in the wilderness. Why are you crying to me for? I told you we were going to the land that flows with milk and honey and this ain't it." We always want reassurance but God speaks once. God don't lie. God don't exaggerate. God means what he said. God don't ever say, "Did I say that?" God don't ever let his mouth overload him. When God said, "I brought you out that I might bring you in, and you look at me, you follow Israel for the next 40 years, I done tell what happened, I done tell about their unbelief, I'm telling you, the day's gonna come they're going in." They're going in. I'm trying to read.

Verse 16, "But lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it: and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea. And I, behold, I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them: and I will get me honour upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gotten me honour upon Pharaoh, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen. And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel," now you've got to believe in an omnipotent God and an omnipresent God. I know it's said he was before them, now he's gonna go behind them, but their God is everywhere and this don't bother him, this ain't too much for him. "And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them; and the pillar of the cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them: And it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel; and it was a cloud and darkness to them, but it gave light by night to these: so that the one came not near the other all the night."

Now we're going to leave the west bank campaign there and we can safely do that for God has shrouded Egypt in that awesome darkness that could be felt, and they may very well be cursing, screaming, threatening, rattling their swords, harnessing their horses in the dark, they may be making all manner of noise as a roaring lion, they may be threatening, they may be making all manner of noise, but the truth is God has them shrouded in darkness and they're not coming any bit nearer to God's people than they are right now, I don't care what they do. No matter how they threaten, no matter how much noise they make, I don't care what they do, God shrouded them in darkness and we can safely leave them there and go on to the next campaign.

I want to go to the east bank. Now notice the very next verse, verse 21, "And 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 dry land, and the waters were divided." Now notice it was a strong east wind. I want now to come over here to this wilderness side and we'll deal now with the east bank campaign. Over here the west bank campaign is kind of on hold for the Egyptians are wrapped in darkness. Now then God's gonna give his attention over here. Remember, this sea lies basically north and south and it is a strong east wind. The sea after this, to understand this, if Brother John and me and this is the Israelites here and there's the Red Sea, the strong east wind, then, the wind was blowing towards them. God did not come here with his children and blow with his nostrils and the waters opened this way. No, God came toward them. Yes, God was with them but God was also all the way on the other side of the Red Sea on the east bank preparing and fighting a battle over there.

Remember earlier in the week we saw those mountains had to move, didn't they? Those mountains had to move. He can't bring his children across here and get here and there is no Cumberland Gap, there's no way through the mountains, so God went over there with earthquake, with lightning, with thunder. The night is described as a night of great terror. Now not great terror to the Egyptians for they're shrouded in darkness, but it is a night of great terror on the other side of the Red Sea.

Now look in chapter 15 and here is the east bank campaign. In chapter 15, notice with me, we read the first three verses, come to verse 13. I'll just start there. No, verse 10 is so good. "Thou didst blow with thy wind, the sea covered them: they sank as lead in the mighty waters." I shouldn't have read that. Verse 11, "Who is like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders? Thou stretchedst out thy right hand, the earth swallowed them." Now I started, should have, in verse 13 for the east bank campaign, "Thou in thy mercy hast led forth the people which thou hast redeemed: thou hast guided them in thy strength unto thy holy habitation." Now notice carefully beginning in verse 14, you have the people who are already living over on the east bank. They're already over there. That land's already spoken for. That's not government land, that's not free land, that land already has mentions of people in it. It's their land and I want you to know, they ain't too happy about seeing one million or two million people moving in. In fact, these people are God-haters and haters of God's people as much as the Egyptians.

What did they think? What brought them? They are going to leave their land. Their lands are there. You can look them up on a map: Edom, Moab. Moab is up by the Dead Sea on the eastern side of the Dead Sea. Edom is just a little below that. Both people came down from the Dead Sea region, came down here to the Red Sea. Oh, it was a night of great terror. What did they come for? Did the word get out? Did the word get out the Jews are leaving Egypt, the Jews are leaving Egypt? Did they come down just to gawk and see? Did Pharaoh send a runner and say to them people, "Hey, they've left us. You'd better get down there. If any of them get across that sea, you be sure you kill them." Did they say, "Hey, we could use a few slaves. They escaped from Pharaoh, we'll wait for them." Do you ever notice how the devil fights? You no more than get free from one thing and he'll tie you up in something else. Now that's all of your Christian life, you get one thing in hand and there'll be another battle.

I don't know what they were doing here. It had to be, no doubt, one of those three things but you talk about a night of great terror and you remember he said, "I'm gonna make me an everlasting name and a glorious name among Egypt, Israel and other men." Well, them "other men" are the east bank nations. They came down to look and see and to get ready and they wished they'd of stayed in the house for it thundered, it lightninged, there was an earthquake, mountains jumping up and down. Buddy, it was a scary night and all at once, that ain't all, God starts a war with them. They get to figure out God is coming, God is coming, and, boy, look at God. He is going to win without firing a shot.

Look in verse 14, "The people shall hear, and be afraid." Now notice, Moses started right off saying, "First thing you're gonna have to do in this war is get a handle on your mind." Now watch these, all these people are gonna be defeated not by fighting, they're not gonna take God on, but just in their minds they're going to give up. "The people shall hear, and be afraid: sorrow shall take hold on the inhabitants of Palestina." Notice that, sorrow, a fear and sorrow.

Verse 15, "Then the dukes of Edom shall be amazed." The word "amazed" means "shattered," it means "dismayed." They were shattered in their minds. They said, "Oh, oh!" By the way, you know these Edom and Moab, they were fierce nations. We'll get to Moab in just a minute, but Edom has always hated Israel. When Nebuchadnezzar came, Edom stood there and said, "Raze it! Raze it! Raze it!" Meaning, "Burn it to the ground! Burn it to the ground! Burn it to the ground!" God brought an awful judgment on them for doing that. But they hated God and all at once when God starts the east bank campaign, the Edomites, they're shattered in their minds. They're shattered. Well, don't that kind of sound like God's people today? Shattered. Dismayed.

Look at the next group, "the mighty men of Moab." Moab men were men as fierce as a lion. They were mighty men, that's what the Bible said. They were fierce like lions. Listen, you don't want to start a fight with a Moabite man, but God did.

Look at these mighty men, "trembling." Their knees, their bodies shook. They stood right there, "trembling shall take hold upon them." Did you ever not want to be scared but you're scared anyway? Did you ever want to not show fear? Did you ever say to yourself, "I know dogs can sense if you're afraid," so you said, "I ain't gonna be afraid"? But the dog said, "You're afraid, Jack."

Trembling. Trembling shall take hold. They were mighty men, lion-like men. They stood there. The Edomites just sunk down. The Edomites just said they're shattered. The Moabite men said, "Bunch of chickens, what is this? We just got here. Ain't even been no blood shed yet. We're ready to fight." But when God moved on the east bank campaign, it took hold of them. They couldn't shake it off. It took hold of them. It had them and they stood there and shook and shook and shook.

Look at that, "trembling shall take hold upon them; all the inhabitants of Canaan shall melt away." The other Canaanites said, "I've gotta go home. My wife's calling. I've got an appointment at Goodyear to get my oil changed tomorrow." And the Canaanites just melted away. That's the east bank campaign. He won without firing a shot, that's because he's God. That's because he's God.

Verse 16, "Fear and dread shall fall upon them; by the greatness of thine arm they shall be as still as a stone." You remember all those nations are unclean. The dog was unclean and the dog said, "If you guys got any sense, you'd shut your mouth." And all them unclean folks said, "they shall be as still as a stone." When Israel came up out of there two million or a million strong, they didn't harass them, they didn't say anything to them, they were still as stone to the people pass clean over.

Well, that took care of the east bank campaign. The west bank's okay, they're in darkness. The east bank, they're shattered. They can't fight no more. Well, then that just leaves the sea campaign. There is one more campaign. Not only did God come going, walking east to west in order that that side of the bank might be ready for his people, but there is a sea campaign that I want you to know about.

Look in Exodus 15 down at verse 9 and see if you recognize this as being more than Pharaoh. If you'll take your pencil and underline in one little verse, I want you to notice the personal pronouns, the personal references. Verse 9, "The enemy said, my lust shall be satisfied upon them; I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them." How many remember Isaiah 14:14, and the "I will's"? How many remember that? "I will. I will." Listen, now listen, you've got to watch this: if in any war like the one we're in in America right now, if you think it's just the present administration, we'll call them Egyptians, if you like, if you think it's just the cults, you missed it. Always that enemy is missed. He is missed. He hates Israel. Out of Israel will come the Lord Jesus Christ and he means to kill Israel, wipe it off the map. He means it and he has a secret weapon. If Egypt doesn't get it done, if Moab and Edom doesn't get it done, he has one more weapon that he knows is gonna get it done and it's the sea campaign and it's the reason God started over there and cleared the way. You'll see in a minute, had God walked with his people this way, oh listen, any one of us, if we'd of walked with God in the water opening like this, I tell you, it'd have been the biggest mass hysteria, people would have been turning around and running backwards. They'd have been trying to come in, this crowd would have been trying to get out. They'd have killed themselves. I tell you, it would've been the biggest mass hysteria, people would've been turning around and running backwards. They'd have been trying to come in, this crowd would've been trying to get out. They'd have killed themselves in the Red Sea, but God came this way. He took care of all those nations, took care of all those mountains. Now then, Satan's secret weapon in the sea is gonna handle it so that when he says to the children, the children, "Come on," there won't be one thing to harm them in the sea. They'll go through there picking up shells and talking and laughing and singing.

You say, "What was the secret weapon?" In your Bible in the book of Psalms, remember when I started with you in the book of Psalms, Psalm 74, remember when I started with you I told you, "Now don't get in this if you don't have a big God or you don't have faith or you don't believe the Bible literally, it'll just be too much for you." In Psalm 74:12, "For God is my King of old, working salvation in the midst of the earth. Thou didst divide the sea by thy strength." Now I hope you found it. Psalm 74:13 and 14. It is talking about the Red Sea, "Thou didst divide the sea by thy strength: thou brakest the heads of the dragons in the waters. Thou brakest the heads of leviathan in pieces, and gavest him to be meat to the people inhabiting the wilderness." In the sea lived, and I don't care how you cut it, the word "dragons" and the word "leviathan," dragons is the word in the Hebrew language, no other way out of it, for monsters. The Hebrews understood there were monsters and the monsters, the dragons, plural, were in the Red Sea.

Now don't let that get you all stirred up. In the book of the Revelation, you and I are gonna live to see the Euphrates open and right today, right today in the Euphrates, are four angels bound waiting, ain't they, Brother Moore? They're in there. They're in there. It ain't just in the past, it's today, them angels are in there. They're in there. We're gonna see it. We're gonna live to see that. I ain't gonna see it from down here, I'm gonna see it from the grandstand. That's the only way I'm gonna see this, Moore. I'm so glad. I prayed and prayed and prayed. And then God can talk to pilots, it embarrasses Judy, I walk right up to pilots in the Atlanta airport and say, "Sir, can I ask you a question?" And he thinks, you know, here's this little dumb passenger that wants to know how [unintelligible]. I say to them, "Well, the Bible said east wind, I want you to tell me about that." This is what they said, "Well, to Delta that means..." They didn't want to get over on the Bible ground, you know, start something, "Who's this crazy fanatic in the airport?" I had to know why is God coming this way?

Every picture I ever saw, God was going this way and the children of Israel were following. No sir, because right out there is the devil's secret weapon, the dragons are waiting on the children of God. It means monsters, fierce monsters. I don't have time this morning but you must read if you want to know who leviathan is, he is always a type of the devil. Look with me in Isaiah 27:1, and while you're doing that, I won't have time but if you'll read the entire chapter of Job 41, the entire chapter has to do with leviathan. He is the greatest monster, biggest monster, fierce monster. When you say, they're always laughing and saying dragons breathe fire and smoke, leviathan does. Leviathan does. Where do you think they got all those ideas about dragons? Look at me, where did they get them? Brother Moore, can't they? They got it right out of the Bible. They didn't know anything about dragons until they read the Bible, but in the Bible in the entire chapter, chapter 41, it is all about leviathan. You can read that can't anybody handle him. He done make everybody afraid. Boy, I wish I had time.

Isaiah 27. He is a type of the devil. "In that day the LORD with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea." If you'll look in Job 41, maybe I can just pick out a few things. I want to close. I know I've got to do it. Everybody's been so good and I always end up being bad. But Job 41, the entire chapter, there's 34 verses, all of them, you read them if you're a Bible believer. Now if you're no Bible believer, stay out of it.

There may be a word that you won't understand, it's in verse 18, "By his neesings a light doth shine." That word "neesings" is just an English word that means his sneezing. By his sneezing, when he sneezes, a light doth shine, "and his eyes are like the eyelids of the morning," that is, there's fire in his eyes. "Out of his mouth go burning lamps, and sparks of fire leap out. Out of his nostrils goeth smoke, as out of a seething pot or caldron. His breath kindleth coals, and a flame goeth out of his mouth. In his neck remaineth strength, and sorrow is turned into joy before him." I'm just picking out. Come on down just a little bit. Verse 33, "Upon earth there is not his like, who is made without fear." He knows no fear. No men, no group of men, no harpoon, no hooks, no nothing frightens him. "He beholdeth all high things," look at this, look at this, "he is a king over all the children of

pride." Was Pharaoh proud? Were the Edomites, the Moabites, the Canaanites, were they proud? He is king.

Now he was in the water, the dragons, leviathan, and God fought a sea campaign. Turn back, I just want to show you this. I won't take time but, boy, Psalm 74, come back there quick just one minute. Psalm 74. Boy, oh boy, oh boy, did they have a barbecue. Brother Adams would've liked to have been there. He could've made gumbo. Look at Psalm 74:14, "Thou brakest the heads," the heads. You wrestle not against flesh and blood but against principalities, powers, spiritual wickedness. His heads. Now look at this, "Thou brakest the heads of leviathan in pieces, and gavest him to be meat to the people inhabiting the wilderness." God wrung his head off. God popped him just like you'd do serpents. He picked him up by his head and popped him and his body flew out onto the east shore and they ate him.

Boy, oh boy, oh boy, oh boy, oh boy. Boy, oh boy, oh boy, oh boy. Hey, I'm glad when it comes to following God, sometimes he does say, "Son, I'm gonna get out a little bit ahead of you and you may not be able to see me, but don't be afraid but I've gotta take care of some things. Now don't get too close." I really believe this. It ain't them Egyptians as dangerous as they are, and they are a danger, and it ain't that crowd over there, the devil said they're entangled in the wilderness, they can't go back and they've got to try to get across, and if they cross that Red Sea... The Edomites over there, they thought, "You know, we're it." The devil said, "Them Edomites, they're so dumb." It's what was in the water. Do you know why there's a 9,000 foot deep trough? Leviathan. The very Hebrew word meant serpent, means to twine, it means as a serpent and that serpent occupied that deep trough. God knew he was there.

By the way, there was another leviathan. He's gonna kill this one but the devil ain't dead, is he? Even in David's day, David is gonna go down to the sea and see the ships and then he said, "And there goes leviathan and watch him play." You see, he ain't afraid of nothing. He can come up and play. He ain't afraid of nothing. So he existed in David's day. Poor creature.

We must close. I come back to Exodus 15 and we will close, I will close. I will close. I am going to close.

By the way, Exodus 15:8 said, "the depths were congealed." Someone told me this week, Sister Ruby Harrison, that Oliver B. Greene believed that there in verse 8, that the depths actually froze and the word does mean "harden as though frozen." I don't know that he froze it, I'm just saying Miss Ruby was telling me that that's in Oliver B. Greene's book. He did harden it and y'all know I can quit now, can't I?

Y'all know we gotta go back and finish this campaign. The darkness is gonna be lifted. The children of Israel, the way is open now so he goes on across, the children do, and somewhere about when they were in the midst, the darkness lifted, Pharaoh came into the sea charging, but in the morning time, boy, the Egyptians were glad for the morning, they said, "We've got them now. That night is going, we can see what we're doing." But they

grave heavily. That means that the horses were literally reared up in their harnesses pawing the air. There were chariot horses, they were trying to pull but it was though there was a semitrailer hooked to them. They pawed but the chariot wouldn't come on. That's because up out of the bottom, the water was coming up and the chariot wheels were going down. They were such powerful horses that God saw they wrung the axles off. Well, you don't want to start no fight with God. He knows how to fight, boy. You'd better just do what the ?? did and said, "I surrender all." Come on.

They all died, all the Egyptians died. Look in verse 31 and then I will, I've got two minutes. Chapter 14, verse 31, "And Israel saw that great work which the LORD did upon the Egyptians," and here it is, it's "the LORD did upon the Egyptians: and the people feared the LORD, and believed the LORD, and his servant Moses." And here's where I want to close now, with this fine chapter 13. I want to read this verse in just a moment.

Now all of this is a type. Jesus is with us today, amen? Jesus is with us today but he's also at the Father's right hand. We're his bride. We're his people. We're blood bought. We have the earnest of the inheritance, the Holy Ghost of God and he'll not be satisfied until we are caught away from this world. John said, "Even so, come quickly, Lord Jesus." Now when he comes, he will be there and 1 Thessalonians said that we be caught up to meet him in the clouds, which means that the Lord will descend down here into the second heaven where the clouds are and the birds fly. He's going to come that far down to us. Why is that? Because Ephesians 2:2 said there is a prince of the power of the air and you and I cannot see today but the heavens are literally full of dragons and leviathan. You say, "It's not so!" It is so, so, because Daniel in chapter 10 prayed and the angel came and said, "I was sent the very first day but they hindered me until Michael came." And God ain't gonna stand on the portals of heaven and say, "Come up hither," or you and I would have to pass through the prince of the power of the air and he knows that and that's why he's so appears in the air today, he knows we're homeward bound people and he fills the air expecting to stop us but God is coming this way and he won't call his children, it'll be no higher than the cloud, and there are no clouds above 50,000 feet. A rare thing. If you'll watch your weather map which sometimes your wife won't let you watch and you don't know it's gonna rain, you don't bring your umbrella like Brother S., because your wife won't let you watch it. But it's a rare thing that you'll see tops above 50,000 feet, maybe 52, 56 maybe, but rarely above 50,000 feet. That's why business jets usually have at least that altitude so they can take their executives regardless of the weather. They just go above.

So I know from the Bible that he will come beneath the clouds and here's the prince of the power of the air, but when he calls me out, the pathway to himself won't be anything to frighten the smallest of children. Miss Melody, you won't be limping along, you'll be flying with the best of us. You'll be, "Watch this, Stevie boy," as you do your back flip. I can hear him still saying, "Now don't scream yourself, Melody. Now, Melody."

By the way, here's the verse I wanted to close with. You know, in Exodus 13:19 and I'm all done. I am, John, and I'm four minutes over. Exodus 13:19, "And Moses took the

bones of Joseph with him," this night even stirred the dead. Joseph had laid at least 430 years but that night his bones are about to shake and the bones said, "It must be time. It must prove time." And then Christ arrives first, the bones are gonna be disturbed when God moves the prince of the power of the air, the dragon, leviathan. What did Romans say? He so moves Satan shortly under your feet, and he will deal with leviathan. If you study astronomy, not astrology, astronomy, one of the key figures in the 12 signs of the zodiac is the serpent. Leviathan actually in the zodiac circles like this, meaning he has every way of escape blocked. You bunch of blood-bought children, all your singing and shouting about going home, well, try it. Well, I ain't going until the call comes but when the call comes, I'm gonna take wifey by the hand, maybe we'll go five deep, it's the number of grace, five deep. If they stretch for 94 miles, how far back will the church stretch, brother, as we all go through the cleared path to home?

Thanks, Brother John.