



# 8 | EXODUS 14:5-31

## WITH ME IN THE JOURNEY

*God brings you to the impossible to build your faith*

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### Call to Worship

#### Psalm 114

When Israel went out from Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language,  
<sup>2</sup> Judah became his sanctuary, Israel his dominion. <sup>3</sup> The sea looked and fled; Jordan  
turned back. <sup>4</sup> The mountains skipped like rams, the hills like lambs. <sup>5</sup> What ails you, O  
sea, that you flee? O Jordan, that you turn back? <sup>6</sup> O mountains, that you skip like rams?  
O hills, like lambs? <sup>7</sup> Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the  
God of Jacob, <sup>8</sup> who turns the rock into a pool of water, the flint into a spring of water.

## Songs

*In Christ Alone*

*How Great Thou Art*

*Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah*

*Behold Our God*

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### Announcements:

**GIVING:** You can give over Zelle through your bank with no fees. Also, we have a new secured mailbox at the church, so you may also give by sending a check to Living Hope, 6N171 Gary Avenue, Roselle, IL 60172.

## WITH ME THE JOURNEY

Exodus 14:1-31; 15:1-2

### Introduction

Open your Bible to the book of Exodus. We are in a series called “Safe and Secure in Jesus”. The title of our message is “With Me in the Journey”.

Sometimes we have a good idea of where we are going, and we are stopped dead in our tracks. The children of Israel were given deliverance from Pharaoh. God sent ten plagues to convince him. But God’s people find themselves in an impossible situation.

As a child of God, you must plan on facing impossible situations by faith. We cannot pray them away but instead realize that our Sovereign God and King is directing us to the impossible situations in life.

We find that God designs impossible situations for the Christian and gift wraps them in order for us to grow our faith in his great majesty and awe. He wants us to fear him with all our heart, to love him with all that we are.

If God always had us on the easy path, how would we and the nations appreciate his greatness? God gives us the impossible because he is the God of the impossible.

**Jeremiah 32:27**, “Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh. Is anything too hard for me?”

We know the answer to that!

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### 1. THE IMPOSSIBLE PLACE (Exodus 14:1-4)

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At this point in the story Moses has led God’s people from slavery to freedom, and all 2-3 million of them are marching toward the Promised Land. It’s the Exodus from Egypt. Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, has allowed the Hebrews, who were their slaves, to go free.

Free at last for the first time in over 400 years. The New Testament confirms this is a picture of our redemption from sin. We are freed, not from Egypt but from the Egypt of this world. This is the single most illustrative event of our salvation in the Old Testament. God frees his people from the bondage of slavery in Egypt.

The Hebrews leave the Nile valley, and they go many, many miles on their way back to their ancient homeland, Canaan. They are marching out, rejoicing in their new freedom when suddenly they encounter trouble.

## GOD'S DIRECTION (14:1-2)

God had told them to go to the most vulnerable place possible. He sets them up for failure it seems. The glory cloud leads them out of Egypt to a place where they could not escape Pharaoh's army. It wasn't bad leadership. Moses was merely following God in the glory cloud. It's all spelled out in verses 1 and 2. God had told them to "turn back and encamp...by the Sea" (Exo 14:2).

**Exodus 14:1-2** | Then the Lord said to Moses, <sup>2</sup> "Tell the people of Israel to turn back and encamp in front of Pi-hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, in front of Baal-zephon; you shall encamp facing it, by the sea.

The mountains were behind them and Pharaoh's army chasing them, and the Red Sea in front of them. God led them to an impossible place.

Remember, Moses and the children of Israel are following the glory cloud.

**Exodus 13:21-22** | And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night. <sup>22</sup> The pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night did not depart from before the people.

It is unmistakable that God led the children of Israel to this impossible place in front of the Red Sea to demonstrate his greatness. The Lord took responsibility for leading them into peril. He gave them specific, step-by-step instructions, leading them down a route to apparent ruin. The glory cloud led them to encamp right in front of the Red Sea. Crazy right?

Why? God set up a great battle to display his glory. It wasn't between Israel and Egypt. It was between God and Egypt. God says:

**Exodus 14:13-14** | ...Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. <sup>14</sup> The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent."

The sea was in front of them, Pharaoh's hosts behind them, and the mountains around them. And all this, pay careful attention, was ordered by God. **All the difficulties in the Christian's life are put there by a sovereign God.**

God is not the author of sin, but he is the Author of our sanctification!

But the truth is, **God has you right where he wants you.** The children of Israel were exactly where God wanted them.

## GOD'S DESIRE (14:3-4)

Most of the time when we get to an impossible place, we think, "how do I get out?" But God wants us to think differently. We are God's people. We are a people no longer at the mercy of our circumstances. We are blood bought people, freed from our Egypt. Our thought should never be: "How can I get out of this?" Our thought as we read in verses 3-4, should be, "How can I get God glory?" "How do I glorify God supremely in this circumstance?" Can I get any one here who will shout with David, "Oh magnify the Lord

with me, and let us exalt his name together”? That’s God’s heart down at the Red Sea. Look what we find.

**Exodus 14:3-4** | For Pharaoh will say of the people of Israel, ‘They are wandering in the land; the wilderness has shut them in.’ <sup>4</sup> And I will harden Pharaoh’s heart, and he will pursue them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, and the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD.” And they did so.

God deliberately orchestrated the Exodus events as an occasion for demonstrating the power how he wields over both his enemies and the elements. God says, “I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, and the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord” (vs 4b). “I will get glory! They shall know that all those pagan gods they worship are dead idols. They will know I am the LORD, Yahweh, the self-existent one. I am the one true and living God.” I am the I AM, God says.

The Lord creates ways of turning difficulties into deliverances and problems into praise. He gives beauty for ashes and an attitude of worship for the spirit of heaviness. God brings us low that he may exalt us in usefulness for his kingdom.

**There is no condemnation for the child of God.** Ever. Let me repeat that. There is no condemnation for the child of God. Ever. Ever. Ever. God’s one purpose is to get glory for himself by conforming you to Christ’s image. He’s never in a position of vengeance or anger over you. All justice and anger and vengeance has been satisfied when it was poured out on his Son Jesus. This is why Christians often get tripped up in sin. They are not satisfied by the love of God in the Gospel. God’s love is poured out on you. Drink it in. He’s got you in an impossible place to get glory out of you and out of the hardship you are in right now.

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## 2. THE IMPOSSIBLE PROMISE (Exodus 14:5-9)

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God promises something amazing that we just read about. “I will get glory” (vs 4b). What an impossible promise! How does God get glory in an impossible situation? First it comes by rediverting our focus.

### OUR FOCUS

We are aware of our enemy, but we must keep our eyes on our Sovereign Lord and King. We find out that the reason the children of Israel are in this impossible situation is because the Lord is hardening Pharaoh’s heart. Now it is recorded that Pharaoh has a hard heart ten times, but seven out of the ten, Pharaoh hardens his own heart. That should be a great warning to us. Nevertheless, God is going to get glory over Pharaoh. Here’s the principle: in your impossible situation, keep your eyes on God, not on God’s enemy. The glory and majesty of God will encourage you. God’s enemy wants you paralyzed in needless fear. God is the victor! Don’t be afraid. Focus on our Sovereign God.

**Exodus 14:5-9** | When the king of Egypt was told that the people had fled, the mind of Pharaoh and his servants was changed toward the people, and they said, “What is this we have done, that we have let Israel go from serving us?” <sup>6</sup> So he made ready his chariot and took his army with him, <sup>7</sup> and took six hundred chosen chariots and all the other chariots of Egypt with officers over all of them. <sup>8</sup> And the Lord hardened the heart of

Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued the people of Israel while the people of Israel were going out defiantly.<sup>9</sup>The Egyptians pursued them, all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and his horsemen and his army, and overtook them encamped at the sea, by Pi-hahiroth, in front of Baal-zephon.

God has the ultimate and unlimited power, not Satan. Keep your eyes on the Lord. That's the strategy. Pharaoh was scary, but he's only human. The divine Lord is our Guide. He will never leave us, and his power is limitless. Limitless! Keep tabs on the enemy but keep your eyes on the LORD!

The Lord devises ways of turning difficulties into deliverances and problems into praise. He gives beauty for ashes and an attitude of worship for the spirit of heaviness. God brings us low that he may exalt us in usefulness for his kingdom.

Have you ever felt pursued? Oppressed? Sensed the devil nipping at your heels? Sure, like Pharaoh, your enemy is near. He hates you. He's pursuing you.

### *The Parallels*

Consider the parallels between Pharaoh and Satan. Both are unyielding enemies, coveting the power of God for themselves. Both have been plundered by the Almighty, and both are enraged beyond endurance. Both have assembled vast armies for the destruction of God's people—yet neither seems to realize how utterly defeated he already was and is.<sup>1</sup>

The Bible likens Satan to different animals. In Genesis 3, he's a serpent trying to deceive God's people. That same serpent is the father of lies, always trying to get you to doubt God.

In Matthew 13, a bird trying to spoil God's harvest. He hates that you read God's Word, and he wants to keep you away from it and steal the seed through distractions and worries.

In John 10, Jesus considers the devil a wolf attacking God's flock. That's why we have to stay near our good Shepherd who lays down his life for weak little sheep like us.

And Peter tells us that Satan is a lion trying to devour God's children. He can roar but he cannot harm you in any eternal way. But he can harass you if you let him. So don't let him. Know the enemy's out there. Expose him as the liar and fool he is. But resist him by letting the Lord fight for you.

Acknowledge Satan's activity, but don't be intimidated by him. You can resist him in the power of God and by the blood of Jesus Christ.

Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. (Jas 4:7–8)

Resist him, steadfast in the faith. (1 Pet 5:9)

We do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places (Eph 6:12).

In Exodus 14, Pharaoh could threaten with brawn and bluster; he could stir up frightening clouds of chariot dust; he could terrify with a thousand swords. But he was

<sup>1</sup> Robert Morgan, *The Red Sea Rules: 10 God-given Strategies for Difficult Times* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2014).

powerless to actually harm the Israelites as long as they remained under the protective cloud of God's glory and grace. Dear saint, you are safe, under the shadow of the Almighty!

For all his insights and explanations about the evil one, the apostle Paul, in reality, focused on Christ. In the Pauline letters, the word *Jesus* occurs in 219 verses, the word *Lord* in 272 verses, and the word *Christ* in 389 verses. *Satan*, on the other hand, occurs in only 10 verses, and the word *devil* in only 6.<sup>2</sup> When things are going badly, when you feel trapped between sword and sea, when you're under assault, acknowledge the devil—but **keep your eyes on Christ**.

Christ can do the impossible. Christ has already defeated our Pharaoh. He will see you through. He will make a way.

### OUR FELLOWSHIP

When we find ourselves in an impossible situation, don't be surprised. It's God growing you. But don't be paralyzed either! Instead we need to pray! We need to fellowship with the Lord.

**Exodus 14:10** | When Pharaoh drew near, the people of Israel lifted up their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and they feared greatly. And the **people of Israel cried out to the Lord**.

“Their fear set them a praying, and that was a good effect of it. God brings us into straits that he may bring us to our knees” (Matthew Henry). We are not called to panic, but to pray. Referring to his days as a fugitive, David wrote,

“In my distress I called upon the LORD, and cried out to my God. He heard my voice from His temple” (2 Sam 22:7).

The urgency of their prayer was obvious, evidenced by the verb *cried*. They cried out not in faith, but in fear. James 5:16 tells us: “The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and wonderful results” (NLT).

They prayed, but they didn't imagine that God would actually answer their prayer. They prayed, but they prayed with wrong motives. They didn't want God's glory. They wanted their own comfort. **Pray, and then expect God to act**. It was William Carey who said,

“Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God” — William Carey

### OUR FAITH

We sometimes come down hard on the children of Israel, because they are acting out in fear, as if none of has acted this way. Listen to how fear just controls them.

**Exodus 14:11-12** | They said to Moses, “Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us in bringing us out of Egypt? <sup>12</sup>Is not this what we said to you in Egypt: ‘Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians’? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.”

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<sup>2</sup> Ibid.



Notice how **constraining and suffocating fear is**. Fear blinds our ability to see our great and majestic God. Fear leaves us all alone, fighting our battles all by ourselves. All God's people can see are two horrible options: go back to slavery in Egypt or die in the wilderness. There's always another option with God: trust God!

I love Moses' faith as a leader. He's not listening to the fear of the people around him. He's listening in faith to his great and awesome and Almighty God!

God had seasoned Moses for such a time as this. While they are speaking words of fear, Moses speaks words of faith.

**Exodus 14:13-14** | And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. <sup>14</sup>The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent."

### *Fear not*

**Exodus 14:13a** | And Moses said to the people, "**Fear not**, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord."

The Bible tells us to "Fear not" 366 times, and to fear God over a hundred times.

It's the same thing the angel said to the virgin Mary when she learned she was with child. "**Fear not!**" It's the same thing Jesus said to his disciples in their little boat in the midst of a great storm. "**Fear not!**" It's the same thing the angel said to Mary Magdalene when she was baffled at Jesus' body missing from his tomb. "**Fear not!**"

To each of these God was saying, "You may not understand your circumstances right now, but don't worry, I'm still in control!"

Paul said it this way:

**2 Corinthians 4:7-9; 16-18**, "We have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. <sup>8</sup>We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; <sup>9</sup>persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed... <sup>16</sup>So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup>For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, <sup>18</sup>as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen."

Don't look at your affliction or your place of impossibility. That will cause you to fear. Look to that eternal weight of glory that far outweighs your momentary affliction!

I believe God wants our backs against the wall sometimes. He gives us water when we are thirsty. He heals us not when we are well, but when we are sick. When our backs are against the wall he parts the Red Sea.

All God's purposes for you are good (Rom 8:28-30).

### *Stand Still*

**Exodus 14:13a** | And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, **stand firm**, and see the salvation of the Lord."

We don't like to be told to wait, do we? We want the trial over Just standing still is unthinkable in our society today. The most popular words in advertising today are: Now, Instant, Immediate, Fast.

I can get "fast cash". I can get in the "fast lane". I can microwave my food in minutes. I can get my oil changed in ten minutes of less. I can eat 'Fast Food' and go pick up my 'Fast Photos' during that hour. Everything's fast.

We don't like to wait. If someone is ahead of us in line, we are pacing. No wonder the concept of waiting on God is foreign to us. But the Bible says...

**Psalm 27:14**, Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.

Waiting on the Lord is when we quietly and calmly trust him until he provides clear direction. **Waiting on God is the opposite of panic.** It's different than trying to fix things or make things happen.

Stand still, stay with God, and don't get ahead of him. **You can try in your own strength to swim across the Red Sea**, but if you would have just waited he was just about to part the waters for you.

*See the Salvation of the Lord*

**Exodus 14:13a** | And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and **see the salvation of the Lord.**"

When our back is against the wall is when God does his very best work. "Man's impossibilities are God's opportunities!"

**Luke 18:27**, "What is impossible with man is possible with God."

God doesn't need our help. He is God all by himself. He is the Savior; I'm not. No one compares to him! Stand firm and see the salvation of the Lord!

## GOD'S VICTORY

Have you discovered yet that being a believer in Christ doesn't insulate nor isolate you from the problems of this sin cursed world? For those who insist on believing salvation is the end to problems I say, ok, but **it's the front end!** Struggles and difficulties continue, and oft times increase when you put your faith in Christ, for now you have a new enemy coming after you! Pharaoh is a picture of Satan pursuing his losses. But God wins the victory. He makes a miracle happen. Notice that this miracle came in 4 stages:

### 1. *The direction of the Lord (14:15-18).*

The Lord said to Moses, "Why do you cry to me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward. <sup>16</sup>Lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the people of Israel may go through the sea on dry ground. <sup>17</sup>And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they shall go in after them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, his chariots, and his horsemen. <sup>18</sup>And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gotten glory over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen."



There is a time when faith needs to turn to action. There is a moment when we need to stop acting and start acting in faith. God says, “Why do you cry to me? Tell the people... to go forward” (vs 15). Are you listening to God’s direction?

STOP ASKING AND START ASKING

**There comes a time when we need to stop asking and start acting!** It could be a loved one you are praying for – you want to see them saved. But asking is not enough. God says he wants action. Open your mouth. Move your feet. Go to that loved one and tell them clearly and gently who Jesus is and what he has done for them.

It could be an opportunity you are praying about. There are no red flags, you’ve been praying; you have peace. You need to take the opportunity. You need to move forward.

Sometimes it’s just more fun for us worrying ourselves into a big mess than walking by faith. **There comes a time when we need to stop asking and start acting!**

2. *The diverting of the glory cloud (14:19-20).*

**Exodus 14:19-20** | Then the angel of God who was going before the host of Israel moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them, <sup>20</sup> coming between the host of Egypt and the host of Israel. And there was the cloud and the darkness. And it lit up the night without one coming near the other all night.

God gave them a cloud, not a map, compass, or GPS. This cloud served 2 purposes. To guide them, and also to shelter/protect them. They were in an arid desert place, very hot by day, very cold by night. This cloud sheltered them from the searing sun and then it turned into a heavenly heater at night [pillar of fire]. It’s nice to sleep with a pillar!

Well, the cloud moved behind them like a wall between them and their enemies. The glory cloud of God’s presence fought against the Egyptians. God’s promise to you is the same. God promises to care for you!

Matthew 6:26, “Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?”

3. *The dividing of the waters (14:21-22).*

**Exodus 14:21-22** | Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. <sup>22</sup> And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on.

The Israelites must have had their jaws drop open as they saw the old prophet stretch out his hand to the sea and lift up his staff. The wind began to burst forth. The sea waters began to drift. Walls of water stood up. The people walked through on dry ground.

I don’t have a problem believing in this miracle. God made the sea and the dry ground under the water. The liberals say, no, it’s a misprint; it was the Reed Sea, which was more shallow, only a few inches in many places. Well then God did an even bigger miracle in drowning the entire Egyptian army in ankle deep water! Can you imagine being there for this great miracle?!

We have to trust God to make a way for his will to be done. It's God's own unique way. We can't tell God how he should have us carry out his will. That's not up to us. God could have built a bridge over the Red Sea, but it glorified him to have them walk on dry ground.

#### 4. *The drowning of the Egyptians (14:23-29).*

**Exodus 14:23-29** | The Egyptians pursued and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. <sup>24</sup> And in the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down on the Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic, <sup>25</sup> clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily. And the Egyptians said, "Let us flee from before Israel, for the Lord fights for them against the Egyptians." <sup>26</sup> Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen." <sup>27</sup> So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians fled into it, the Lord threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea. <sup>28</sup> The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained. <sup>29</sup> But the people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

Pharaoh was reaping what he had sowed. For what was it that Pharaoh had done to all the male Jewish babies? Drowned them!

**Galatians 6:7, "Be not deceived, God is not mocked, for whatsoever a man sows that shall he also reap!"**

Maybe your back is against the wall. Be encouraged, fear not, stand still, and see what God can do. God didn't deliver his people from slavery only to drown them when they were cornered. And God didn't save you only to forget about you now.

Do you believe God can remove impossible barriers? Amen! He can remove whatever is in your way from doing God's will. You surrender to God. You tell him sincerely that you're willing to do whatever he wants you to. Now you pray: Lord, remove whatever is keeping me from your will. God will do it. He removed the Egyptians for Israel. Now the Egyptians were the most technologically advanced civilization on the planet at the time. Was it hard for God to take them out? Not at all. He didn't break a sweat. He made the sun rise that morning and every morning since. He maintains Saturn's rings. How do you think a few puny Egyptians might cause the Lord Almighty any difficulty at all?

Why did God put so many obstacles in the way of his people? The answer is: to humble them.

**James 4:6, "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."**

#### God's Greatest Victory

Now God's greatest victory wasn't at the Red Sea. It was at the Cross of Jesus. There God dragged out Satan and put his defeat on full display. Praise God for our ultimate victory in the substitutionary death of Jesus. That means no condemnation. That means

his righteousness is your righteousness. You are justified: just as if you never sinned, and just as if you kept God's law perfectly. All because of Christ. That should humble you.

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### 3. THE PRAISE (Exodus 14:30-31)

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Israel got to observe this great miracle. They saw the Lord's great power and they believed and feared the Lord. Their faith grew.

**Exodus 14:30-31** | Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. <sup>31</sup> Israel saw the great power that the Lord used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the Lord, and they believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

What is the fear of the Lord? It is the awe of God. And that fear will cause you to break out in singing, like it did for Moses.

**Exodus 14:15-16** | Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the Lord, saying, "I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea. <sup>2</sup> The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.

Are you praising the Lord in all things? Or are you practicing your complaining. Would you repent of any complaining?

You may be going through incredibly difficult times. Look to the Lord! Look to Christ. He's moved the waters that would envelope you. Christ bore your sin on the Cross. There is not condemnation. Praise him!

Are you sad? Sing a hymn or a Psalm. Are you overwhelmed? Look to your great God!

Remember Paul and Silas in the jail cell in Philippi? They sang to God, and the Lord sent an earthquake and literally brought the prison down.

Sing to the Lord! It will be such a great day when Jesus comes again that it will require a song. The Apostle John described it in his revelation of Heaven. He saw:

...what looked like a sea of glass mixed with fire and, standing beside the sea, those who had been victorious over the beast and his image and over the number of his name. They held harps given them by God and sang the song of Moses the servant of God and the song of the Lamb:

"Great and marvelous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty. Just and true are your ways, King of the ages." (Rev 15:2-3)

John mentions the glassy sea to remind us of the exodus and the song that Moses sang by the shores of the sea. Then he tells us what he heard: a song of praise to God for who he is and what he has done.<sup>3</sup>

What has he done for you? Shout it! Sing it!

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<sup>3</sup> Philip Graham Ryken and R. Kent Hughes, *Exodus: Saved for God's Glory* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 2005), 411-412.

### *Conclusion*

A couple years ago, I visited my sister in Louisiana. I was told that the weather forecast was troubling, but my plane was on time. A dark and broody storm was hovering over the bayou. There were strong winds and some lightning. Arriving at the airport, I glanced at the menacing sky with foreboding. The clouds were iron gray and angry.

We took off with a sharp ascent, and the plane pierced the clouds and leveled off at a high altitude above them. I looked out my window on the plane.

The scene was breathtaking from 30,000 feet. The atmosphere was bright and majestic and peaceful and glorious on this side of the clouds—mountains of sunlit billows rising and falling below me as far as eye could see. They were the same clouds, but my perspective was different. Storms, I realized, look different from the upper side.

Isaiah 26:3, “You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You.”

Let’s keep our eyes on what Christ has done for us. Set your mind on him.