

Move Forward in Faith October 14-16, 2017

(Exodus 14:10-20) As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the LORD. {11} They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you brought us to the desert to die? What have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt? {12} Didn't we say to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone; let us serve the Egyptians'? It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!" {13} Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. {14} The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still." {15} Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why are you crying out to me? Tell the Israelites to move on. {16} Raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea to divide the water so that the Israelites can go through the sea on dry ground. {17} I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them. And I will gain glory through Pharaoh and all his army, through his chariots and his horsemen. {18} The Egyptians will know that I am the LORD when I gain glory through Pharaoh, his chariots and his horsemen." {19} Then the angel of God, who had been traveling in front of Israel's army, withdrew and went behind them. The pillar of cloud also moved from in front and stood behind them, {20} coming between the armies of Egypt and Israel. Throughout the night the cloud brought darkness to the one side and light to the other side; so neither went near the other all night long.

- 1. How many of the 10 Plagues can you name? (Cf. Ex. 7-11)
- 2. Read Ex. 14:1-9. What prompted Pharaoh to pursue the Israelites?

- 3. On a Bible atlas, trace the route of the Israelites.
- 4. What twofold purpose did God have in allowing the Egyptians to "corner" the Children of Israel? (cf. v. 13-14, 17-18)
- 5. Agree/disagree: When the Israelites saw the Egyptians coming, they prayed to God.
- 6. What do the words of v. 11-12 reveal about the Israelites?
- 7. In what way do you see yourself in their sentiments?
- 8. Is verse 13 Law or Gospel?
- 9. Compare v. 14 & v. 15. Did God want them to move or be stationary?
- 10 How would the movement of the Israelites be an expression of their faith?
- 11. What effect did the miracle of crossing the Red Sea have on Israel (cf. v. 31)
- 12. In your life, what will it mean for you to step forward in faith?