

"YOU SHALL BE MY PEOPLE"

From Egypt to Mount Sinai

Lesson 3

October 18

After _____ years in Egypt and 10 terrible plagues, “all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt” (Exo 12:40-41). “And the people of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about _____ hundred thousand men on foot, besides women and children” (12:37).

As they make their way from Succoth to camp at Etham on the edge of the wilderness, Exodus 13 tells us:

And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of _____ to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of _____ to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night. The pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night did not depart from before the people. (13:21-22)

Those pillars eventually led the children of Israel to Pi-hahiroth and the shores of the Red Sea. Pharaoh had changed his mind, rallied his army, and started chasing his former slaves with more than 600 chariots. As the people turn on Moses with fear and doubt (14:10-12), they are told:

“Fear _____, stand _____, 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. The _____ will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.” (14:13-14)

With a strong wind through the night, the LORD drove the sea back and made dry land for Israel to cross. When the Egyptians tried? The waters returned and covered Pharaoh’s chariots and army.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians... Israel saw the great power that the LORD used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the LORD, and they _____ in the LORD and in his servant Moses. (14:30-31)

They even sing with Moses and his sister Miriam a song about the awesome God who had saved them (15:1-21). But these same people really struggled to hold onto fear and faith on the way to Mount Sinai.

- In Exodus 15:22-27 they grumbled against Moses about what they would _____, and the LORD miraculously made bitter water sweet.
- In Exodus 16 they grumbled against Moses and Aaron about what they would _____, and the LORD began providing manna and quail in the wilderness.
- In Exodus 17:1-7 they quarreled with Moses and asked, “Is the LORD _____ us or not?” and the LORD made water flow out of a rock.
- In Exodus 17:8-16 they were attacked by the Amalekites and reminded, “The LORD Is My Banner.”

If these people were going to truly live like God’s people, they had a lot of growing up to do.



For Class & Family Discussion:

- According to [Exodus 13:17](#), what was the shortest route from Egypt to the Promised Land? Why didn't God lead them that way?
- What important detail does [Exodus 13:19](#) bring up that stretches about 400 years back to [Genesis 50:22-26](#)? [Hebrews 11:22](#) also has something to add here...
- How did the people respond in [Exodus 14:10-12](#) when the Red Sea was in front of them and the Egyptian armies were approaching behind them? What impresses you about Moses' response in [14:13-14](#)?
- According to [Hebrews 11:29](#), what did it take for the people to walk down into the midst of the sea with walls of water on their right and left ([Exo 14:21-22](#))?
- Some of the hymns we sing today (*On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand*, for example) reference "the song of Moses" ([Exo 15:1-21](#)). What stands out to you? What's the message of that ancient song?
- Can we learn anything from all of that grumbling and quarreling we heard about in [Exodus 15-17](#)? What do many of us find it easy to grumble and complain about today? Does God care when his people grumble, complain, and quarrel? Let's take a look together at [Philippians 2:12-16](#) and [James 5:8-9](#). What's the real problem when we grumble and complain?
- In [Exodus 18:10-11](#), what did Moses' father-in-law firmly believe after he heard what had happened to the Egyptians?
- The apostle Paul makes an interesting connection in [1 Corinthians 10:1-14](#). What do we need to see and understand from these historical events in Exodus?