



Lesson 48

The Red Sea Crossing

Story Elements

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Text: Exodus 13:17-14:31• Setting: approx. 1445 B.C. in Egypt• Characters: God, Moses, and Pharaoh• Plot: Pharaoh's hard heart lures him into a trap that will seal his fate and secure the deliverance of the Hebrews. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Key word(s): "see the _____ of the LORD" (14:13)• Climax: <i>And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you today: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more forever (Exo. 14:13)</i> |
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Starting the Journey to Canaan

1. (13:17-18) After the plagues had devastated Egypt, the Hebrews began their exodus out of Egypt.
 - a. They did not go in a direct route to Canaan (which would've been a much shorter journey) but were led by God into the wilderness of the _____, and therefore hostilities with the Philistines were avoided until much later when Israel would be better prepared for war.

APPLICATION → The faith of the Hebrews "was to be exercised and strengthened, and from the commencement of their travels we observe the same careful proportion of burdens and trials to their character and state, as the _____ Lord shows to His people still in that spiritual journey of which the former was typical."¹

- b. (13:19) Moses made sure that _____ remains were not left in Egypt but were taken along with the Hebrews as was promised (Gen. 50:25).
- c. (13:20-22) Israel journeyed from Succoth and came to Etham. During the day, the LORD gave them a cloud to cover them, and by night he gave them a pillar of _____.

Setting the Trap for Pharaoh

2. (14:1-9) Though the Hebrews had left Egypt, God was not done with Pharaoh.
 - a. By hardening Pharaoh's heart, God was luring him into a _____ that would demonstrate the LORD's mighty power to deliver.
 - b. At God's leading, the Hebrews reversed direction to "turn and encamp before Pihahiroth." This erratic course of the Hebrews would give the illusion that they were _____ and "entangled in the land" (14:3). Pharaoh would be convinced that Israel had become easy prey for his chariot army.
3. (14:10-14) The children of Israel lost hope when they saw Pharaoh's army approaching. They reminded Moses that they never wanted to leave Egypt and wished they had never listened to him, preferring rather to live as Pharaoh's slaves than to die as God's _____.

APPLICATION → Notice the double-sided unbelief: the Egyptians pursuing and the Hebrews despairing! "As the Egyptians were angry with themselves for the best deed they ever did, so the Israelites were

¹ Robert Jamieson, A. R. Fausset, and David Brown, *Commentary Critical and Explanatory on the Whole Bible*, vol. 1 (Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1997), 57.

angry with God for the greatest kindness that was ever done them; so gross are the absurdities of _____.”²

Seeing the Salvation of the LORD

4. (14:13-14) Caught between Pharaoh’s chariots and the Red Sea, Moses recognized that divine intervention was the only way out. He encourages the Hebrews in two ways:
- “Fear not, stand _____, and see the salvation of the LORD” - he tells them to leave it to God to deliver them.
 - “The LORD shall _____ for you” – he assures them that God will do all the fighting.

APPLICATION → Salvation is all of God. Whenever we try to add anything to it, other than our being the subjects in need of salvation, we steal God’s _____ and ruin our escape.

5. (14:15-18) Contrary to human intuition and nature, the Hebrews are commanded to “go _____” while Moses is told to lift his rod “and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it.”

APPLICATION → The Hebrews were to begin moving towards the sea before a path was cleared. This is how God teaches us to walk by faith and not by sight by requiring us to believe his promises before they are _____.

- (14:19-22) An east wind blew all night and divided the sea for Israel to crossover on dry ground. Meanwhile, the presence of God kept the Egyptians at bay while the Hebrews made the journey through to the other side.
- (14:23-25) But soon the Egyptians followed Israel into the middle of the Red Sea. The trap had been set, and now it would catch Pharaoh’s army.

APPLICATION → When hearts are hardened in sin, we should beware. Sinful confidence to continue in willful disobedience is God’s way of leading the wicked into a trap where their sin will be judged, and others will witness the _____ of God.

- (14:26-29) Moses was told to stretch out his hand over the sea again, but this time it would not part the waters but bring them together and _____ the Egyptians.

Exodus 14:30 Thus the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea shore. **31** And Israel saw that great work which the LORD did upon the Egyptians: and the people feared the LORD, and believed the LORD, and his servant Moses.

Answer Key: Key word(s): “salvation” • 1. a. Red Sea; → gracious; b. Joseph’s; c. fire • 2. a. trap; b. lost • 3. freemen; → unbelief • 4. a. still; b. fight; → glory • 5. forward; → realized; → holiness; c. drown

How to use this worksheet for personal Bible study: (1) Read the Bible passage given in the **Story Elements** section. (2) Read through the worksheet and try to fill in the blanks without looking at the **Answer Key**. (3) Check your answers with the key and make the necessary corrections. Keep in mind that some answers are a matter of opinion, and often more than one answer is correct. (4) Write down your own thoughts, applications, and questions for further study in the **Notes** section (if space allows).

² Matthew Henry, *Matthew Henry’s Commentary on the Whole Bible: Complete and Unabridged in One Volume* (Peabody: Hendrickson, 1994), 114.