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Exodus 14
8/14/24

Sermon Recap

Pastor Jason explores the story of the Israelites crossing the Red Sea as a parallel to baptism, symbolizing leaving the old life for a new one in Christ. Despite temporary dead ends, walking by faith leads to God's guidance and protection. Fear in overwhelming circumstances can deepen trust in God, with godly leadership reminding us of God's faithfulness.

Discussion Questions

How can the story of the Israelites crossing the Red Sea encourage you in difficult times?

- Pastor Jason discussed how the Israelites trusted in God to see them through seemingly insurmountable obstacles.
- Can you share a time when you faced a challenge and found strength in the Lord?

Why is it important to trust in God's plan even when it leads to temporary dead ends?

- Pastor Jason highlighted how God opened doors for the Israelites and protected them, despite facing obstacles.
- Have you ever felt like God led you to a dead end? What happened? Did your faith grow?

In what ways can fear deepen our trust in God?

- Pastor Jason pointed out that fear, while natural, should not make us give up but instead lead us to trust in God.
- Can you describe a time when fear led you to rely on God more than you had before?

Based on the story of Moses and the Israelites in Exodus 14, why is it important to have godly leaders in our lives?

- Pastor Jason emphasized Moses' role in guiding and reassuring the Israelites during their journey, reminding them of God's faithfulness.
- Who are godly leaders in your life, and how have they impacted your faith journey?

How can the symbolism of the Red Sea crossing and baptism inspire you to leave behind your old life and embrace a new life in Christ?

- Pastor Jason drew a parallel between the miracle of the Red Sea and the significance of baptism as entering into a new life.
- What specific steps can you take to strengthen your relationship with God and grow in your new life in Christ?

Prayer Prompts

- Pray for the courage to step out in faith even when it feels vulnerable or uncertain.
- Ask God to help us trust that He is our protector and guide, even in times of fear.

- Thank God for past moments of salvation and deliverance and ask for faith in future challenges.
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Teaching Notes:

The Red Sea is a type for us of a believer's baptism.

**Baptism demonstrates you are dead to your old life...
...and alive with a new life in Christ.**

We look back on baptism as a significant step of faith & new life.
And the Red Sea will also be a significant step of faith & new life.

14:1 Now the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: **2** "Speak to the children of Israel, that they turn and camp before Pi Hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, opposite Baal Zephon; you shall camp before it by the sea. **3** For Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel, 'They are bewildered by the land; the wilderness has closed them in.' **4** Then I will harden Pharaoh's heart, so that he will pursue them; and I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, that the Egyptians may know that I *am* the Lord." And they did so.

By setting the Jews up to be in a vulnerable place...
...The Lord is setting Pharaoh up for judgment.

Sometimes those walking by faith appear to others to be lost.
It is in these places where God can reveal Himself powerfully.

5 Now it was told the king of Egypt that the people had fled, and the heart of Pharaoh and his servants was turned against the people; and they said, "Why have we done this, that we have let Israel go from serving us?"

As Pharaoh changes his heart, God hardens it.

How quickly we can forget the pain & judgement of sin!

6 So he made ready his chariot and took his people with him. **7** Also, he took six hundred choice chariots, and all the chariots of Egypt with captains over every one of them.

8 And the Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued the children of Israel; and the children of Israel went out with boldness.

His hard heart sets the cast for God's justice and our judgment.

Jesus said, Matthew 10:28 And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Boldness literally “high hand.”

God will take them to the edge of faith where their fear dwells.

9 So the Egyptians pursued them, all the horses *and* chariots of Pharaoh, his horsemen and his army, and overtook them camping by the sea beside Pi Hahiroth, before Baal Zephon.

10 And when Pharaoh drew near, the children of Israel lifted their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians marched after them. So they were very afraid, and the children of Israel cried out to the Lord.

Fear doesn't mean you quit, it means you trust more deeply.

11 Then they said to Moses, “Because *there were* no graves in Egypt, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you so dealt with us, to bring us up out of Egypt? **12** *Is* this not the word that we told you in Egypt, saying, ‘Let us alone that we may serve the Egyptians’? For *it would have been* better for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness.”

All of the things they feared came rushing in.

Is it better to live safely as Pharaoh's slaves or live free as a God's servants?

13 And Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. **14** The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.”

These are the times when we need godly leaders.

What is their part?

...Do not be afraid. Don't let fear grip you...

...Stand still and watch.

What will the Lord do?

He will fulfill their salvation & eliminate their enemies.

15 And the Lord said to Moses, “Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward.

Even Moses cries.

16 But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry *ground* through the midst of the sea. **17** And I indeed will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them. So I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, his chariots, and his horsemen. **18** Then the

Egyptians shall know that I *am* the Lord, when I have gained honor for Myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen.”

Here it is again...the Egyptians shall know I am the Lord.

This is the most important thing we can know: God is the Lord.

19 And the Angel of God, who went before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud went from before them and stood behind them.

God moves behind them and protects them.

20 So it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. Thus it was a cloud and darkness *to the one*, and it gave light by night *to the other*, so that the one did not come near the other all that night.

A protective divine night light kept them safe all night.

21 Then 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 into dry *land*, and the waters were divided. **22** So the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry *ground*, and the waters *were* a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. **23** And the Egyptians pursued and went after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh’s horses, his chariots, and his horsemen.

All night the wind blew. The waters were walled up.

24 Now it came to pass, in the morning watch, that the Lord looked down upon the army of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and cloud, and He troubled the army of the Egyptians.

Trouble is sometimes translated destroy or discomfit.
Usually this is what God does.

25 And He took off their chariot wheels, so that they drove them with difficulty; and the Egyptians said, “Let us flee from the face of Israel, for the Lord fights for them against the Egyptians.”

They try to flee, but they will not get away.
His desire for payback costs him his life and his soldiers.

26 Then the Lord said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the waters may come back upon the Egyptians, on their chariots, and on their horsemen.” **27** And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and when the morning appeared, the sea returned to its full depth, while the Egyptians were fleeing into it. So the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea. **28** Then the waters returned and covered the chariots, the horsemen, *and* all the army of Pharaoh that came into the

sea after them. Not so much as one of them remained. **29** But the children of Israel had walked on dry *land* in the midst of the sea, and the waters *were* a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

30 So the Lord saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore.

This is a picture of our old life being dead in baptism.

Romans 6:11 So you also should consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus.

31 Thus Israel saw the great work which the Lord had done in Egypt; so the people feared the Lord, and believed the Lord and His servant Moses.

Here is a key purpose fulfilled...

...they fear & believe the Lord & Moses His servant.