

Stand Still & Go Forward, Pt. 8

Pastor Al Brice | October 4th, 2020

Exodus 14:13-15 (NKJV)

“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.”

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

I. The Big Dilemma (a situation in which difficult choices have to be made between two unseemly and unfavorable alternatives.)

The children of Israel found themselves in what they thought was an impossible dilemma, go back to the old life of captivity and bondage or go forward and drown.

They found themselves between “the devil and the deep blue sea.” The Egyptian army was behind them and the Red Sea was in front of them but God did not bring them this far to abandon, leave, or forsake them. God knew what He was doing but they didn’t know that God had a plan that would bring glory and honor to His Name.

- The children of Israel, at the moment of this attack, allowed fear to control their outlook and speech; they saw themselves as victims, not loved by God, abandoned by God, thought their leader, Moses, had lost his mind telling them to stand in faith, and all because, they still embraced a victim’s mentality even though they had been delivered from their past circumstances. They were not looking forward with a forward looking attitude of the future, instead, they were only focused death, destruction, and defeat instead of what God had said concerning His plans for them. They turned on their leader, Moses, with disappointment, frustration, and anger. They verbally attacked him because they believed that he was being insensitive to their dilemma and thought that he had gone crazy in telling them to go forward!!

But that is what God had said to Moses!

Exodus 14:10-15 (NKJV)

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

II. What is your thinking when you face or, you are, presently, facing dilemmas?

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- Remember what Jesus said: **John 16:33 (NKJV)** “These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation (pressure; trouble; persecution; oppression; distress) but be of good cheer, I have overcome (prevailed and conquered; carry off the victory) the world.”
- Remember what God said: **Hebrews 13:5b-6 (Amplified Bible)**
...for He has said, "I WILL NEVER [under any circumstances] DESERT YOU [nor give you up nor leave you without support, nor will I in any degree leave you helpless], NOR WILL I FORSAKE or LET YOU DOWN or RELAX MY HOLD ON YOU [assuredly not]!" 6 So we take comfort and are encouraged and confidently say, "THE LORD IS MY HELPER [in time of need], I WILL NOT BE AFRAID. WHAT WILL MAN DO TO ME?"
- Remember who you are as a son and daughter of God: **Romans 8:31 (NKJV)** “What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?”
- **Romans 8:37 (NKJV)** “Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.”

1 John 4:4-6 (NKJV)

“You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. 5 They are of the world. Therefore they speak as of the world, and the world hears them. 6 We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.”

III. Keep believing, keep advancing forward, keep speaking the Word of God, and keep prophesying to your dilemma(s).

Moses was standing on the Word of God, what word(s) are you standing on and believing? What is dominating your thinking, fear or faith? What are you speaking out of your mouth, fear or faith?

MOSES said, SEE THE SALVATION OF GOD AND GOD SAID, GO FORWARD!!!

A. The Word of God secures our future and gives us hope and the Holy Spirit will lead us forward when we face our dilemmas because He knows all the plans of God.

Romans 8:24-28 (NLT)

“We were given this hope when we were saved. (If we already have something, we don’t need to hope for it. 25 But if we look forward to something we don’t yet have, we must wait patiently and confidently.) 26 And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don’t know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. 27 And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God’s own will. 28 And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.”

John 5:30 (NKJV) “I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.”

B. GO FORWARD (Forward is an acronym for the necessary principles that propel us forward)

1. **F is for the future.**

Things in this world do not happen by chance, no such thing as being lucky.

Jeremiah 29:11-13 (NKJV)

“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. 12 Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. 13 And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.”

Isaiah 46:9-10 (NKJV)

“Remember the former things of old, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, 10 declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet done, saying, ‘My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure.’”

a. **God has prepared our future and has already moved into our future.**

Deuteronomy 1:26-33 (NLT)

“But you rebelled against the command of the LORD your God and refused to go in. 27 You complained in your tents and said, ‘The LORD must hate us. That’s why he has brought us here from Egypt—to hand us over to the Amorites to be slaughtered. 28 Where can we go? Our brothers have demoralized us with their report. They tell us, “The people of the land are taller and more powerful than we are, and their towns are large, with walls rising high into the sky! We even saw giants there—the descendants of Anak!” 29 “But I said to you, ‘Don’t be shocked or afraid of them! 30 The LORD your God is going ahead of you. He will fight for you, just as you saw him do in Egypt. 31 And you saw how the LORD your God cared for you all along the way as you traveled through the wilderness, just as a father cares for his child. Now he has brought you to this place.” 32 ‘But even after all he did, you refused to trust the LORD your God, 33 who goes before you looking for the best places to camp, guiding you with a pillar of fire by night and a pillar of cloud by day.’”

b. **Even though the Lord has gone before and secured our future doesn't mean that we will not be attacked by our enemies or face difficult times.**

Deuteronomy 3:1-2 (NLT)

“Next we turned and headed for the land of Bashan, where King Og and his entire army attacked us at Edrei. 2 But the LORD told me, ‘Do not be afraid of him, for I have given you victory over Og and his entire army, and I will give you all his land. Treat him just as you treated King Sihon of the Amorites, who ruled in Heshbon.’”

1 Corinthians 15:57-58 (NKJV)

“But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.”