

Exodus 14:1-15:21 - 7 May 2020

“Why Not An Easy Life God?”

Introduction

The Book of Exodus opens up w/ millions of Israelites having been in Egypt for 430 years & become slaves.

We've just looked at the 10 plagues in Egypt and the giving of the Passover

This is the story of the Redemption, the salvation of God's people.

But what do we do when we've been redeemed, saved?

The world will see great foolishness in your walk of faith serving God.

But the Lord wants you to grow in this new faith

Oh, there will be testing of your faith

Tonight, we'll see the world's logic & God's logic behind the trying of our faith

1st step of the trying of our faith is when we fall into a tight spot
– The World’s Logic says, “They’re trapped!” (Chap 14:1-9)

Read Chap 14:1-4

1. God isn’t planning to lead them the short way to Canaan.
2. They need to grow in their faith.
3. If they’re led in an easy path, they can give self credit for the easy trip, but if it’s hard...
4. The placement of Israel encourages Pharaoh to pursue after Israel.
5. A walk of faith often leads us into a tight spot
6. Psm 23:4 – “Yea though I walk through the...”

Read Chap 14:5-9

1. The plagues of God weren’t enough to keep the Egyptians repentant. Now they want Israel back!
2. “Why have we let Israel go?”
 - a. It’s not Israel that is trapped, but Egypt!
 - b. Egypt depended on slave labor, now it’s gone

**2nd step of the trying of our faith is choosing to trust God –
The World’s Logic says, “Take second best” (Chap 14:10-14)**

Read Chap 14:10-12

1. What would have been “better” for them?
2. They think their choices were to be slaves in Egypt or to die in the wilderness. Wrong!
3. There are 3 choices
 - a. Stay in bondage in Egypt
 - b. Begin a walk of faith and flake out dying in the wilderness
 - c. Begin a walk of faith and to stand fast in the liberty wherein Christ has set them free
4. Turn to Heb 3:8-13
 - a. Turn from sin to enter into God’s rest

Read Chap 14:13-14

1. Standing fast = just doing what you know is right (continuing to leave Egypt). (Read Gal 5:1)
2. Don’t worry about fighting against Egypt
3. Walk of faith = watching what the Lord will do

3rd step of the trying of our faith is the results – The World’s Logic will be confounded when they see that He is God (Chap 14:15-18)

Read Chap 14:15

1. Israel needs to just keep going into what they know is right.
2. We often try praying, when we already know the mind of the Lord!
 - a. “Lord should I tithe?” Don’t pray.
 - b. “Lord should I obey You went the govt contradicts you Word?” Don’t pray.
3. Just continue getting away from sin & into God’s arms.

Read Chap 14:16-18

1. The result of our walk of faith will be that the whole world will be confounded.
 - a. “How could that have worked out!”
 - b. The world is leave without excuse for running away from God, b/c of how they see Him use you in their lives!

1st step of the trying of our faith is when we fall into a tight spot – God says, “I’m protecting you!” (Chap 14:19-22)

Read Chap 14:19-20

1. God will often isolate or insulate us for a while.
2. There’s two ways to look at this
 - a. God is preventing me from having liberty
 - b. Or... God is protecting me!
3. Read John 10:27-29
4. Did Noah’s ark prevent him from having liberties? Maybe
 - a. But it definitely protected him from danger!

Read Chap 14:21-22

1. It’s in this place of protection that we have
 - a. The physical space
 - b. The mental space
 - c. The spiritual space
 - d. To see and hear God do amazing things.
2. We’re often busy finding our own way out that we can’t see the Lord is making a way for us!

2nd step of the trying of our faith is choosing to trust God
– God says, “I’ve got something better” (Chap 14:23-31)

Read Chap 14:23-25

1. The world thought Israel was trapped
2. The world’s wisdom would’ve said, they should have settled for 2nd best (as slaves in Egypt)
3. God says, “I’ve got something better, but it takes faith to go there.”
4. Vs 25 – Egyptians were surprised that the Lord was fighting for Israel
 - a. Thought the Lord was just a territorial God.
 - b. They had no faith to see beyond the earthly
 - c. Do you have faith to believe that God wants to fight for you?
 - d. Do you believe God doesn’t want you to settle into a 2nd best life of sin?
 - e. Do you believe God has something better for you than to live daily w/ guilty conscience?
 - f. Does it surprise you to know God loves you?

Read Chap 14:26-31

1. This is the life of faith that God wants for us.
 - a. To See, Fear and Believe
 - b. This is experiencing God
2. Do you have experiences that have increased your faith?
3. Now isn't this better than settling as slaves to sin?
4. A benefit of this walk of faith is that we're prepared for all the world could throw at us.
 - a. Read James 1:3-4
 - b. Know God thru His Word (II Tim 3:17) and live it out in a walk of faith. It's better

3rd step of the trying of our faith is the results – God is praised for His salvation (Chap 15:1-21)

1. We've seen that results of walk of faith toward the world is that they come to see that He is God
 - a. They don't receive the benefits though.
2. Now the results of not settling for 2nd best for the believer is praise to God.
 - a. That's what He's looking for all along!
3. Chap 15:1-21 is a praise to God
 - a. It's a song
 - b. Yes a song should be intellectually understood, but there's a higher purpose!
 - i. It's meant to stir your spirit!
 - ii. It's meant to aid you in praise to God!
4. We're going to recite this song together
 - a. You should think about your own salvation as we recite this together.

-----RECITE-----

Isn't it right to just praise the Lord for His goodness!!!

Conclusion

So God hasn't given us an easy life.....of slavery, He's asked us to step into a daily walk of faith.

- 1. #1 – When we fall into a tight spot...**
 - a. The world will say, “Ah, they're trapped”
 - b. The Lord would say, “I'm protecting you with my grace”
 - c. God is testing us to prove us, so we'll know what is in our heart.
- 2. #2 – We need to choose to trust Him**
 - a. The world will say, “Take 2nd best & stay with us”
 - b. The Lord would say, “I've got something better”
 - c. Do you believe there's something better than daily living w/ a guilty conscience?
- 3. #3 – There are results of our walk of faith**
 - a. World will see that He is God
 - b. We praise Him for His great salvation!