

A. SERMON SLIDES

Slide 1: Title
Hope as Rescue
Exodus 14:10-31

Slide 2:
Exodus 14:10-31 (ESV)

When Pharaoh drew near, the people of Israel lifted up their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and they feared greatly. And the people of Israel cried out to the LORD. They said to Moses, “Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us in bringing us out of Egypt? Is not this what we said to you in Egypt: ‘Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians’? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.” And Moses said to the people, “Fear not, stand firm, 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 LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.”

The LORD said to Moses, “Why do you cry to me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward. Lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the people of Israel may go through the sea on dry ground. And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they shall go in after them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, his chariots, and his horsemen.

Slide 3:

And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gotten glory over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen.”

Then the angel of God who was going before the host of Israel moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them, coming between the host of Egypt and the host of Israel. And there was the cloud and the darkness. And it lit up the night without one coming near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. The Egyptians pursued and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh’s horses, his chariots, and his horsemen.

Slide 4:

And in the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down on the Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic, clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily. And the Egyptians said, “Let us flee from before Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians.”

Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.” So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal

course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians fled into it, the LORD threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained. But the people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great power that the LORD used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the LORD, and they believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Slide 5:

3 Questions of the Text

I. Why must we be rescued?

II. How does rescue happen?

III. Through whom does rescue happen?

Slide 6:

Why?

They said to Moses, “Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us in bringing us out of Egypt? Is not this what we said to you in Egypt: ‘Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians’? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.”

Slide 7:

They recast the story of their slavery

Slide 8:

God must rescue us because it is humanly impossible to break our yoke to the "not-god" without miraculous intervention

Slide 9:

(Please have these steps fade in separately)

The Path of Unbreakable Slavery:

Step 1: I must live for something (inward purpose)

Step 2: Whatever I am living for begins to control me (control)

Step 3: I'm stuck. It feels like it's too late (enslavement)

Step 4: I can't get out without dying (death/hopelessness)

Slide 10:

How?

Through a definitive, decisive one-time miraculous action from God on our behalf

Slide 11:

John 5:24 (ESV)

"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life."

Slide 12:

Truths from the narrative:

- * Salvation apart from the Law (apart from change)
- * One time event
- * We can do nothing?
- * Free will?
- * Behavioral changes?
- * Faith response?

Slide 13:

We are saved by the object of our faith, not the quality of our faith

Slide 14:

Through Whom?

1 Corinthians 10:1-2 (ESV)

For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea.

Exodus 14:31 (ESV)

So the people feared the LORD, and they believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Slide 15:

The Israelite people needed a lamb (substitute) and a mediator (Moses) in order to be rescued.

We need both as well!

B. GROUP DISCUSSION

1) Read Exodus 14 together. What things stand out to you? What is confusing or surprising to you? What is the main meaning of this story for you?

2) The Israelites will continue to craft a narrative of their slavery in Egypt that challenges the hardship following God in the desert. ("We had it better in Egypt") This will continue to be an issue for the next 40 years.

In what ways are they being honest, and in what ways does this prove the slavery mindset that had been perpetuated upon them? How does this educate us in understanding sin and rescuing people from sin?

3) God saves us once from Satan's power. This is not to challenge the need for identity shift and behavioral modification. But they crossed the Sea first, and everything comes after. How does this give nuance and clarity to our own salvation narrative? Does it?

4) How does Moses serve as a mediator in the text? How is Moses a foreshadowing and a Type of Christ for us to see? (Read I Corinthians 10:1-13)

5) Prayer and Praise