Through the Red Sea

Lesson 6, 3rd Quarter August 2-8, 2025.

EXODUS

Sabbath Afternoon, August 2

Memory Text:

"And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will show to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever. The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace." KJV — Exodus 14:13, 14

"And the Lord said unto Moses, Wherefore cried thou unto Me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward. But lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it: and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea." PP 287.1

"The psalmist, describing the passage of the sea by Israel, sang, "Thy way was in the sea, and Thy paths in the great waters, and Thy footsteps were not known. Thou leddest Your people like a flock, by the hand of Moses and Aaron." Psalm 77:19, 20, KJV. As Moses stretched out his rod, the waters divided, and the people passed through the sea, upon dry ground, while the waters stood like a wall upon each side. The light from God's pillar of fire shone upon the foam-capped billows, and lighted the road that was cut like a mighty furrow through the waters of the sea, and was lost in the obscurity of the farther shore." PP 287.2

"Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the LORD; awake, as in the ancient days, in the generations of old. Are thou not it that hath cut Rahab, and wounded the dragon? Are thou not it which hath dried the sea, the waters of the great deep; that hath made the depths of the sea a way for the ransomed to pass over? KJV — Isaiah 51:9, 10

How illogical it would be for God to be trying to awake himself, as though he, or His own arm, had been asleep. The prophet Isaiah was not speaking literally, of course, but he was, because God does His work with His servants. His servants, therefore, are His arm, and they shall judge (rule) the people, and the people shall trust on them.

Sunday, August 3

Go, and Worship the Lord

Read Exodus 12:31-36. What strange request does Pharaoh make and why, even as he gives permission for them all to leave?

"Now, his heaven-daring pride humbled in the dust, he "called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, Rise up, and get you forth from among my people, both you and the children of Israel; and go, serve the Lord, as ye have said. Also take your flocks and your herds, as ye have said, and be gone; and bless me also." Exodus 12:31, 32. The royal ornaments also and the jewels entreated the Israelites to depart "out of the land in haste; for they said, We be all dead men." PP 278.1

"The marvelous providences connected with Israel's deliverance from Egyptian bondage and with their occupancy of the Promised Land led many of the heathen to recognize the God of Israel as the true God. Many Egyptians, mingled with the Israelites, departed from Egypt. Many others were drawn to Israel's God by the miracles wrought among the children of Israel from among them." Exodus 7:5. Even priest Pharaoh was constrained to acknowledge Jehovah's power. "Go, serve the Lord," he urged Moses and Aaron, "and bless me also." Exodus 12:31, 32. PK 369.1

"The advancing hosts of Israel found that knowledge of the mighty workings of the God of the Hebrews had gone before them, and that some among the heathen were learning that He alone was the true God. In wicked Jericho the testimony of a heathen woman was, "The Lord your God, He is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath." Joshua 2:11. The knowledge of Jehovah that had thus come to her, proved her salvation. By faith "Rahab the harlot perished not with them that believed not," Hebrews 11:31. And her conversion was not an isolated case of God's mercy toward idolaters who acknowledged His divine authority. In the middle of the land a numerous people—the Gibeonites—renounced their heathenism and united with Israel, sharing in the blessings of the covenant." PK 369.2

Monday, August 4

Consecration of the Firstborn

Read Exodus 13:1-16. The Israelite firstborns were spared by God's grace during the final plague. Why this perpetual command, and what should it mean to us today?

"Furthermore, the first-born of both man and beast were to be the Lord's, to be bought back with a ransom. The Israelites were to remember that God had spared their firstborn when the Egyptian's firstborn had been slain. The firstborn, by reason of their preservation, had been justly exposed to the same doom but the plague, which had smitten the firstborn of all the Egyptians, had passed by the land of Israel and all the first-born in the land of Egypt. I hallowed unto Me all the first-born in Israel, both man and beast: mine shall they be: I am the LORD." Numbers 3:13. The Israelites were to remember that the Lord chose unto Himself the tribe of Levi for the work of the sanctuary, instead of the first-born of the people. "They are wholly given unto Me from among the children of Israel; instead of all the first-born of the children of Israel, have I taken them unto Me." Numbers 8:16. All the people were, however, still required, in acknowledgment of God's claim, to redeem their firstborn sons. Numbers 18:15, 16." PP 279.1

Moses had proclaimed throughout the land that in every dwelling where no blood was found on the doorpost, that very night the firstborn in each such dwelling would die.

Those who disobeyed the Divine injunction, were, on the day following loudly mourning and bearing their dead, while those who obeyed the command were joyously and orderly marching out of the cities. Yes, only those who were able to take orders were made free from slavery to Satan, therefore, prerequisite that we learn to take orders if we are to receive the seal of God in our foreheads.

When God was about to slay the first-born of Egypt, He commanded the Israelites to gather their children from among the Egyptians into their own dwellings and strike their door posts with the blood of the paschal lamb. Those who did not so obey, were slain with the sword, as were all of parents to gather in their children. This is your work, this is my work, and the work of everyone who has children. The truth. The angel is to place a mark upon the forehead of all who are separated from sin and sinners, and the destroying angel will follow, to slay utterly both old and young. ST 505.2

Tuesday, August 5

Crossing the Red Sea

Read Exodus 13:17-14:12. How did God guide the Israelites when they left Egypt, and what happened next?

"With their lives gift, we were bought with a price. Christ, the people of God, the seed of Abraham, are redeemed, not with silver and gold, but with the precious blood that was shed for us. Christ, the Lamb of God, was slain for us. Christ, the Rock, was smitten for us. The manifestation of God's power had kindled faith in the hearts of the bondmen and had struck terror to their oppressors. The Israelites had gradually asserted their ownership of themselves, and notwithstanding the sullenness of their flight, some provision had already been made for the necessary organization and control of the moving multitudes, they being divided into companies, under appointed leaders." PP 291.1

"The people took also with them "flocks, and herds, even very much cattle." These were the property of the Israelites, who had received their possessions to the king, as had the Egyptians. Jacob and his sons had brought their flocks and herds with them to Egypt, where they had lived as strangers and sojourners. Before leaving Egypt, the Israelites had claimed a recompense for their unpaid labor; and the Egyptians were too eager to be freed from the plagues to withstand the claim. The Israelites had spoiled the Egyptians, as had been foretold to their oppressors." PP 283.3

"The Israelites had a terrible expanse they journeyed. Already they began to wonder whether their course would lead; they were becoming weary with the toilsome way, and in some hearts began to arise a feeling of jealousy for the Egyptians, that the court were formed, and they followed. And now the Lord directed Moses to turn aside into a rocky defile, and encamp beside the sea. It was revealed to him that Pharaoh would pursue them, but that God would be honored in their deliverance." PP 283.2

"The Hebrews were encamped beside the sea, whose waters presented a seemingly impassable barrier before them, while on the south a rugged mountain obstructed their further progress. Suddenly they beheld in the distance the flashing armor and moving chariots of Pharaoh's mighty host, pursuing after them. The Israelites had seen the chariots of Egypt were seen in full pursuit. Terror filled the hearts of Israel. Some cried unto the Lord, but for the greater part hastened to Moses with their complaints: "Because there were no graves in Egypt, had thou taken us away to die in the wilderness? wherefore hast thou dealt thus with us, to carry us forth out of Egypt? is not this the word that we did tell thee in Egypt, saying, Let us alone, that we may serve the Egyptians? For it had been better for us to serve the Egyptians, than that we should die in the wilderness." PP 283.5

Wednesday, August 6

Marching Forward by Faith

Read Exodus 14:13-31. Despite their lack of faith, what did God do for the children of Israel?

"Moses was greatly troubled that his people should manifest so little faith in God, notwithstanding they had repeatedly witnessed the manifestation of his power in their behalf. He knew that God would be dishonored if the Israelites should be destroyed, when he had followed the express command of God! True, there was no possibility of deliverance except God should work for them, and Moses had been instructed to lift up his rod and stretch out his hand in the direction of the sea. Moses felt no fear of the consequences. He knew that God was with him, and his people. Yet, he prayed, "Lord, I pray Thee, save the solution of the Lord, that he will show to you today. For the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more forever. The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace." PP 285.1

"But now, as the Egyptian host approached them, expecting to make them an easy prey, the cloudy column rose majestically into the heavens, passed over the Israelites, and descended behind them, and spread out its dark and impenetrable folds between the Israelites and their pursuer and their pursuers. The Egyptians could no longer discern the camp of the Hebrews, and they knew not that the Lord was fighting against the Egyptians, and was using the cloud to place a light to the Hebrews, flooding the entire encampment with the radiance of day. PP 284.3

"Moses was commanded to lift up his rod and stretch out his hand over the sea, saying, "And the Lord said unto Moses, Wherefore cried thou unto Me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward. But lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it: and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea." PP 285.2

"The Egyptians pursued, and went in after them to the midst of the sea, even all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. And it came to pass, that in the morning watch the Lord looked unto the host of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and of the cloud, and troubled the host of the Egyptians." The mysterious cloud changed to a pillar of fire behind their astonished eyes. The thunders peaked and the lightning flashed. The Lord poured out water; the skies sent out a sound. There arrises also went abroad. The voice of Thy thunder was in the whirlwind; the lightning lightened the world: the earth trembled and shook." Psalm 77:17, 18, KJV. PP 287.3

"The Egyptians were seized with confusion and dismay. Amid the wrath of the elements, in which they heard the voice of an angry God, they endeavored to retrace their steps and flee to the shore they had quitted. But Moses stretched out his rod, and the piled up waters, hissing, roaring, and eager for their prey, rushed together and swallowed the Egyptian army in their black depths." PP 287.4

Thursday, August 7

The Song of Moses and Miriam

Read Exodus 15:1-21. What is the context of Moses' song?

"The Lord wrought wonderfully for the salvation of His people. He made a way of escape in the midst of the Red Sea. The waters were piled up as a strong wall, and a path of deliverance was made for the hosts of Israel following the leadership of Moses. Ch 106.4

"In pursuit of Israel the vast armies of Egypt ventured to traverse the sea by the same path. A dark cloud was before them, and yet they pressed on. When the whole army—"all the chariots, horses, his chariots, and his horsemen" were in the very bed of the sea, the Lord said unto Moses, "Stretch out thine hand over the sea." Israel had passed over on dry land, but they heard the shouting of the armies in pursuit. As Moses stretched out his rod over the sea, the embattled waters "fled and stood as a great wall rolled on in their natural course. Ch of the men of Egypt in that vast army, not one escaped. All perished in their determination to have their over way and to refuse God's way. That occasion was the end of their production." Ch 106.5

"As morning broke it revealed to the multitudes of Israel all that remained of their mighty foes—the mail-clad bodies cast upon the shore. From the most terrible peril, one night had brought complete deliverance. That vast, helpless throng—bondmen unused to battle, women and children, and flocks and herds—had passed safely through a path hedged presing behind—as their own path opened through the waters and their enemies overwhelmed in the sea. Not one of the Israelites had perished in the waters. Not one had lost his weapons; not one had been wounded or polluted. Not one had lost his life. Their enemies were left behind, and they were to see them no more. Ch 106.6

"Sing and the great deliverance which it commemorates, made an impression never to be effaced from the memory of the Hebrew people. From age to age it was echoed by the prophets and singers of Israel, testifying that Jehovah is the strength and deliverance of those who trust in Him. That song does not belong to the Jewish people alone. It points forward to the destruction of all the foes of righteousness and the final victory of the Israel of God. The prophet of Patmos beholds the white-robed multitude that have "gotten the victory" standing on the "sea of glass mingled with fire," having "the harps of God. And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb," Revelation 15:2, 3." PP 289.1

Friday, August 8

Further Thought

God, in His wisdom, brought Israel to the Red Sea for their own good, and though they could not see it this way, he nevertheless let His foamer's take divided the sea, took them safely across, and then let the waters crash down on the pursuing Egyptian armies.

Had Moses been as doubtful of God's power and leadership as were the people that were with him, what effect would his rod have had as he struck the sea with it? – None whatever. Moses was confident that God would do what He had promised in judgment of the finite, then Pharaoh's army would have either killed or enslaved Israel anew.

Their mighty deliverances should, therefore, forever establish our confidence in God, and should stand as everlasting memorials that the wisdom of men is foolishness with God, and that faith in Him does actually remove mountains and seas, too.

Notwithstanding these examples, though, men still expect God to work in accordance with their wisdom, and when circumstances arise that are beyond their control, they are in doubt and perplexity.

The Hebrew host well knew that they were led to the sea by following the cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night. Yet none of these wonders seemed to have made any lasting impression on them. There is a danger that we too, may forget the way the Lord has led us.

Today as in Moses' day many are duplicating the sins of that people. Some are all on fire one day, and all on ice the next. Others praise God in the top of their voices while their ship is sinking, and others, when the sea becomes rough and the waves start beating against them, then they see only a man at the wheel and rather than expecting God to calm the sea they begin to hunt for a passing off place. Still others are so completely given to promote themselves by continual fault-finding against the ones that bear the whole burden of the work, that they, like the murmuring Israelites, are continually murmuring against God's servants and leaderships, and forgetting one great truth one day and forgetting it the next day, yet expecting to be saved with the seal of God and to stand with the Lamb on Mt. Zion!