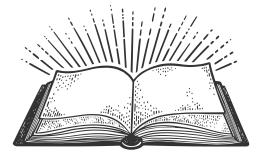


Romans 15:4

For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.



12:31 Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron in the night and said, "Get up, get out from among my people, both you and the Israelites! Go, serve the Lord as you have requested! 32 Also, take your flocks and your herds, just as you have requested, and leave. But bless me also." 14:5 When it was reported to the king of Egypt that the people had fled, the heart of Pharaoh and his servants was turned against the people, and the king and his servants said, "What in the world have we done? For we have released the people of Israel from serving us!"

⁶ Then he prepared his chariots and took his army with him. ⁷ He took 600 select chariots, and all the rest of the chariots of Egypt, and officers on all of them. 8 But the Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he chased after the Israelites. Now the Israelites were going out defiantly. ⁹ The Egyptians chased after them, and all the horses and chariots

Pharaoh and his horsemen and his army overtook them camping by the sea, beside Pi Hahiroth, before Baal Zephon.

¹⁰ When Pharaoh got closer, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians marching after them, and they were terrified. The Israelites cried out to the Lord, ¹¹ and they said to Moses, "Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the desert? What in the world have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt?

- 12 Isn't this what we told you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone so that we can serve the Egyptians, because it is better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!"
- ¹³ Moses said to the people, "Do not fear! Stand firm and see the salvation of the Lord that he will provide for you today; for the Egyptians that you see today you will never, ever see them again ¹⁴ The Lord will fight for you, and you can be still."

19 The angel of God, who was going before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them. ²⁰ It came between the Egyptian camp and the Israelite camp; it was a dark cloud and it lit up the night so that one camp did not come near the other the whole night.

²¹ Moses stretched out his hand toward the sea, and the Lord drove the sea apart by a strong east wind all that night, and he made the sea into dry land, and the water was divided. 22 So the Israelites went through the middle of the sea on dry ground, the water forming a wall for them on their right and on their left ²³ The Egyptians chased them and followed them into the middle of the sea—all the horses of Pharaoh & his chariots.

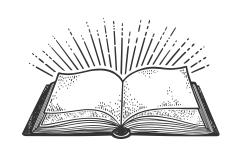
²⁴ In the morning watch the Lord looked down on the Egyptian army through the pillar of fire and cloud, and he threw the Egyptian army into a panic. ²⁵ He jammed the wheels of their chariots so that they had difficulty driving, and the Egyptians said, "Let's flee from Israel, for the Lord fights for them against Egypt!" 26 The Lord said to Moses, "Extend your hand toward the sea, so that the waters may flow back on the Egyptians, on their chariots, and on their horsemen!"

²⁷ So Moses extended his hand toward the sea, and the sea returned to its normal state when the sun began to rise. Now the Egyptians were fleeing before it, but the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the middle of the sea. 28 The water returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen and all the army of Pharaoh that was coming after the Israelites into the sea—not so much as one of them survived!

²⁹ But the Israelites walked on dry ground in the middle of the sea, the water forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. 30 So the Lord saved Israel on that day from the power of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the shore of the sea. ³¹ When Israel saw the great power that the Lord had exercised over the Egyptians, they feared the Lord, and they believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Exodus Chapter 15

"The Song of Moses and Miriam"



- * God confronts evil
- * God rescues slaves

* God guides people to a better land

* God lives among his people

3 Ways to Relate to God

Pharaoh: "Who is the LORD, that I should obey him?" (Ex.5:2)

Although Pharaoh wavers in his responses to Moses, at the end of the day, despite all that he has witnessed, he refuses to obey anything other than his own impulses.

Romans 1:18-22

¹⁸ The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, 19 since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. 20 For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse. 21 For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²² Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools

3 Ways to Relate to God

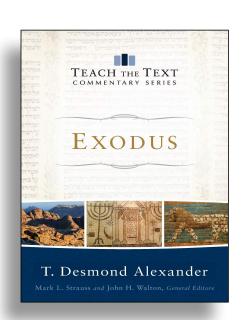
Israelites: "Moses, have you taken us away to die in the desert? (Ex.14:12)

Exodus 14:10-12

¹⁰ When Pharaoh got closer, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians marching after them, and they were terrified. The Israelites cried out to the Lord, 17 and they said to Moses, "Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the desert? What in the world have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt? 12 Isn't this what we told you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone so that we can serve the Egyptians, because it is better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!"

"Pharaohs final response to the departure of the Israelites reveals that he still has not grasped and accepted the Lord's true identity.

Ironically, the Israelites also appear to have only a partial understanding of God."



EXODUS - T.D. Alexander pg. 67

"We could serve the Egyptians, or we could die." There's something missing here, isn't there? A reasonable group of people would say, "We've just seen the Lord of Moses, this Lord God, send 10 major plagues into Egypt. We've just seen this God give irrefutable, empirical evidence of his omnipotence and of his commitment to us, and he has brought the most powerful military and political nation on the face of the earth to its knees."

3 Ways to Relate to God

Israelites: "Moses, have you taken us away to die in the desert? (Ex.14:12)

There is a difference between knowing God and trusting him!

3 Ways to Relate to God

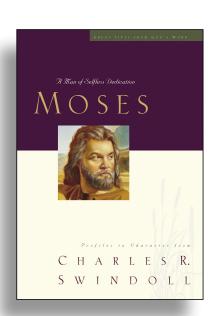
Moses: "Do not fear! Stand firm and see the salvation of the Lord...
The Lord will fight for you, and you can be still." (Ex.14:13-14)

Moses is a changed man from when we met him at the burning bush. Not only has seen God face to face, But his maturity (TRUST) has come through listening to God and following him.

God is Committed to our Maturity

We shouldn't be surprised that God cares more about our character than our comfort.

"coming to the Red Sea is just as much a part of his plan as crossing it. It may well be that the Lord is breaking a habit born in Egypt, a habit that has no business living in the promised land. Those habits are tough to break.



God is Committed to our Maturity

We shouldn't be surprised that God cares more about our character than our comfort.

The reality is we tend to grow more thought trials than ease. God's desire is for us to experience the peace and confidence that comes only from trusting him and following him.

Homework:

This week, ask God not for an easy life, but for his spirit to teach you to trust him more.