

# BETWEEN THE DEVIL & THE DEEP RED SEA

## *(Exodus 14)*

- Introduction:
1. Why does God allow His children to be placed in troubling situations; dilemmas that make us uncomfortable and often threaten to drive us to despair?
  2. (Habakkuk 1:2) *"How long shall I cry and You will not hear?"*
  3. (Job 3:11-26).
  4. Let's see if we can come to some answers to this question by examining an Old Testament example.

### **I. God's Plan**

- A. (Exodus 14:1-4).
- B. God's plan was not to lead them to safety, at least not right away.
- C. God directs them to a place just south of several Egyptian strong holds, north of the desert, on one side is the Red Sea, and on the other side is the Egyptian army.
- D. The reason: (v.4) so God could be glorified.
  1. God put his people in a difficult situation to demonstrate His power.
  2. Should we not view difficult times in the same way?
  3. The world is watching.
  4. (James 1:3-4).

### **II. The People's Reaction**

- A. (Exodus 14:10-12).
- B. They reacted in two ways.
  1. They looked up.
  2. And they lashed out.
- C. Notice the example of Jesus while suffering (I Peter 2:21).

### **III. God's Protection**

- A. (Exodus 14:13-30).
- B. God was busy working on their behalf.
  1. At times it was obvious.
  2. At other times it was subtle.
- C. Notice some of the things He did.
  1. He protected them by the cloud.
  2. He slowed the progress of the Egyptians.
  3. Finally, He destroyed them in the Sea.
- D. (I Corinthians 10:13).
- E. Remember, the Red Sea opened and closed at God's command, not at the command of the people.
  1. God is not tied to our time schedules.
  2. (Habakkuk 1:2-4; Revelation 6:10).
  3. Be sure that He will deliver us, but not until He has accomplished what He

wanted to accomplish.

- F. Also remember that deliverance may not be temporal but eternal.
  - 1. (Daniel 3:17-18).
  - 2. (Hebrews 11:8-10).

#### **IV. The People's Reaction**

- A. (Exodus 14:31).
- B. Their difficulty brought them to reverence and belief in God.
- C. (Psalms 119:67,71).

- Conclusion:
- 1. We will all have our "Red Sea Experiences".
  - 2. This account was not simply written for our amazement, but for our instruction.
  - 3. Some of the lessons we can learn from this account are:
    - a. Glorify God in difficult times.
    - b. When surrounded on all sides, look up.
    - c. God will bring deliverance to his people.
    - d. Allow difficult times to strengthen your faith.

"The hammer is a useful tool, but the nail, if it had feeling and intelligence, could present another side of the story. For the nail knows the hammer only as an opponent, a brutal, merciless enemy who lives to pound it into submission, to beat it down out of sight and clinch it into place. That is the nail's view of the hammer, and it is accurate except for one thing: The nail forgets that both it and the hammer are servants of the same workman. Let the nail but remember that the hammer is held by the workman and all resentment toward it will disappear. The carpenter decides whose head shall be beaten next and what hammer shall be used in the beating. This is his sovereign right. When the nail has surrendered to the will of the workman and has gotten a little glimpse of his benign plans for its future, it will yield to the hammer without complaint."

A.W. Tozer  
***"The Root Of The Righteous"***