

Through the Bible for Children: Exodus Lesson 13

A PATH IN THE SEA
Exodus 12:37- 15:21

When the children of Israel left Egypt they traveled from Rameses to Succoth. There were about six hundred men, plus the children. Also, a mixed multitude made up of peoples that were not Israelites traveled with them, along with their flocks and herds. There were many, many animals.

The people baked dough that had no chance to raise for their bread, because they left Egypt so quickly, they had no time to prepare any food for their journey.

The children of Israel had lived in the land of Egypt for about four hundred thirty years. At the end of those years, all the host of Israel left Egypt, every one on the very same day.

The night that they left was a night to be remembered and celebrated by the Hebrews for all of their days. They were to teach their children and each succeeding generation of the Lord's great deliverance by celebrating the Passover each year, and dedicating the firstborn male of each family and animal to the Lord.

When Pharaoh let the Israelites go, the Lord did not lead them through the land of the Philistines, though it was close, for the Lord said, "I don't want the people to be involved in war, so that they want to return to Egypt." Instead, the Lord led the people through the wilderness of the Red Sea.

When he left Egypt, Moses took the bones of Israel's ancestor Joseph with them, because Joseph had made his children promise that when they went back to the land of Canaan that they would take his bones with them and bury his bones in the land that God had promised to his people.

The people began their journey back to the land that God had promised. The Lord led them in the day time by a pillar of cloud and at night by a pillar of fire. In the day the cloud overshadowed them and gave them protection from the heat of the sun. In the night the fire gave them light and comfort from the cold night air.

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to the children of Israel telling them to camp by Pihahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, so that Pharaoh will think that they are trapped in the wilderness. I will harden his heart and he will follow after them to bring them back to Egypt. Then I will be honored because of Pharaoh and his army, so that all the Egyptians will know that I am the Lord."

So it was that Pharaoh was told where the Israelites were camping. His heart and the hearts of his advisors were turned against the Israelites, and they said, "Why have we let the children of Israel escape from being our slaves?" Then Pharaoh had his chariot made ready, and gathered his army. He took six hundred chosen chariots, and all the chariots of Egypt, with captains over every one of them. The Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh the king of Egypt, so that he pursued after the Israelites with all his horses and chariots and men. When Pharaoh overtook the children of Israel, they were camped by the Red Sea.

When the children of Israel looked and saw that Pharaoh was coming, they were terribly frightened and cried out to the Lord. Then they said to Moses, "Is it because there were no graves in Egypt that you brought us out here to die in this wilderness? Didn't we say to you while we were in Egypt, leave us alone so that we may serve the Egyptians? It would have been better to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness."

Then Moses said to the people, "Don't be afraid! Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will show you today. The Egyptians which you see today, you will see no more for ever. The Lord shall fight for you, and you will hold your peace."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Tell the people to move forward. Then lift up your rod and stretch out your hand over the sea, and divide it, after this the children shall cross over the sea on dry land, right through the middle of the sea. I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians that they will follow you. Then I will get honor over Pharaoh and all the Egyptians, so that the Egyptians will know that I am the Lord.

The angel of God which went before the camp of Israel in the pillar, rose up and stood between the camp of Israel and the camp of the Egyptians. The pillar brought darkness to the Egyptian, but to the Israelites it brought light, so that the Egyptians could not see the Israelites.

Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the Lord caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, so that the waters were divided making a dry road through sea. Then the children of Israel walked right down into the middle of the sea on dry ground. The waters were a wall on their right hand and on their left.

When the Egyptians were finally able to see, what they saw was that the Israelites were crossing the Red Sea on dry land, immediately the Egyptians began to pursue after Israel. Then the Lord looked on the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and cloud and began to cause the Egyptians trouble, so that their wheels fell off of their chariots and they could not drive them. When this happened the Egyptians became frightened and said, "Let us flee from the face of Israel, for the Lord is fighting for Israel against us."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the waters will come upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and horsemen."

Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the waters returned to their normal course, drowning all the Egyptians, and their horses. Not one of them survived.

The Lord delivered the children of Israel that day from their enemies, and the Egyptians pursued them no more. Israel saw the great work of the Lord which he did to the Egyptians, and they feared the Lord and believed him, and his servant Moses.

Moses and the children of Israel sang a song of celebration unto the Lord and praised him for his wonderful deliverance. This song is found in Exodus 15:1-19.

When the Lord led Israel out of Egypt he gave them a very visible sign so that it was easy for them to know which direction they should go. Though God is spirit and we can not see him, he showed them his presence by the pillar of cloud in the day and the pillar of fire at night. No matter where they were, every person could see that the Lord was with them. In I Corinthians 10:1-4, we see that it was Jesus who traveled with the children of Israel in that pillar. How wonderful to know that even though we can't see him, Jesus travels with each of his children all the days of their lives every where that we go.

LEARN: I will sing unto the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and rider hat the thrown into the sea.

The Lord is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation: he is my God, and I will prepare him and habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him.

Exodus 15:1b,2

will sing unto the Lord,
or he hath triumphed
gloriously:
the horse and the rider hath
he thrown into the sea.

The Lord is my strength and
and he is become my ^{song,} salvation:
he is my God, and I will
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my father's God, and I will
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Exodus 15: 1b, 2





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Exodus 15: 16, 2



1. Color the scenes inside and outside.
2. Color Moses and the people and cut them out - also pillar of cloud.
3. Fold the paper as marked
4. Paste people in appropriate places.
5. Tell the story





