

Lenten Devotional 2020

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Day 14, Exodus 14

Nothing is Impossible

“Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you brought us to the desert to die? What have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt? 12 Didn’t we say to you in Egypt, ‘Leave us alone; let us serve the Egyptians’? It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!” (Exodus 14:11–12)

Just when you think the story is at an end, like any good story, the real crisis strikes. Pharaoh and his leaders begin thinking about the implications of letting Israel go. On the one hand they are the slave labour—how will the economy fair without them. On the other hand, they are setting free a nation who could become powerful enemies one day. In any case, regret of the decision sets in and Israel is pursued.

There are two perspectives in the story. God knows that Pharaoh will pursue and he is going to use that for his own glory. But, Israel doesn’t. Israel suddenly finds herself caught between the Sea of Reeds and the might of Egypt’s army. Fear sets in and they cry out against Moses and by speaking against Moses they are criticizing God. Weren’t we happy being slaves? Why would you force us to change it?

Before we become too hard on Israel—after all they have seen the Lord’s hand—we need to look at our own stories. How many times has God helped us? But, then, when a new situation, a hard situation arises that we begin to doubt God’s ability or desire to deliver us? Like Israel finds out, nothing is impossible for God. In short, we do not need to fear. God makes the impossible possible.

In Romans 8:32 Paul says, “He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?” God has done the hardest thing, he will not stop with the easier things. We do not need to fear new or difficult situations. Be at ease.

Prayer

Our rescuer, thank you for your great salvation in Jesus Christ. Help us to remember when life gets hard that you will graciously give us all things. We do not need to fret or fear, but trust in your good character which you have proven through your great Exodus. Amen.