

The Parting of the Red Sea: Are we stuck in the mud?

By Elaine Powers
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A post-election message to the church from the Book of Exodus:

EXODUS means

1. a going out; a departure or emigration, usually of a large number of people.
2. the Exodus, the departure of the Israelites from Egypt under Moses.
3. the second book of the Bible, containing an account of the Exodus.

I got this message on Tuesday of all days, election day. He knew that I would need this message; that WE would need this message. My heart was heavy; I had a knot in my stomach; I was fasting and praying for our nation and God brought me to Exodus and the parting of the Red Sea. I thought about what He had shown me all day and as the evening went on, it made more and more sense. God is so good. The Lord seemed to be encouraging the body, encouraging me, in our walks with the Lord. He seemed to be reminding me about what God is doing in the life of the bride: raising her up and preparing her for what's ahead. He was reminding me that He is the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords and that NOTHING touches our loves that He has not ordained from the beginning so be encouraged today.

I have been asking God for weeks now, maybe even months, to show me why I seem to be stuck. Our country is stuck in the mud, too. He reminded me of Luke 18, "that men ought always to pray and NOT lose heart." I have been losing heart. I have been crying out to God, knocking on His door, so to speak, about this country and about a situation in my life. It doesn't even matter what the specific situation is because that is not the point. You all have your own situation, your own place where you, too, seem to be stuck in the mud, but the word of God says in Luke 18: 7-8:

7 And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? 8 I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?"

This is not time to stop praying and give up. This, my friends, is time to get serious. This is time to press in. This is time to stand. Do you hear what the Spirit is saying?

So it's interesting that when I was asking God before Tuesday what He wanted me to talk about next, and He said, "The Red Sea." "What, Lord? Really? The Red Sea?" That's like in the past. Then He showed me prophetically that we are right here and He is getting ready to part the Red Sea for His people. WOW! Then I got really interested and excited to study this because that means that we are going over to the other side and our enemies will be defeated! Hey, I watched Charlton Heston on TV as that Moses guy. I saw the movie...I'm being a little glib here, but we know the end of the story...

Let's set the stage: Exodus chapter 13:

It was after the plagues and the Egyptians wanted to be rid of the Israelites. They had been there for 430 years, entrenched in the culture (Ex. 12: 40-42). Sound familiar?

Ex. 13: 3. Out of the house of bondage. Of what? Bondage: They were slaves. We are in bondage right now, enslaved in our culture and our religious systems.

By strength of hand, by His hand: He did what He had told them He would do: He took them out of Egypt.

Q. What has God told you that He will do?

V. 5: He is keeping His promise: taking them to the land flowing with milk and honey. They took a very long time getting there.

Q. (On Wed. morning when the election was over) How much time are we going to waste? Through disobedience, apathy, selfishness, pride...

V. 8, 14. Tell your sons...This is very important for us to do...We have a responsibility to the generations. In Ex. 10:2, it tells us why: So they may know that I AM the Lord. He wants to be known, He wants us to KNOW Him. Meditate on that...And so that our descendants will be established [stable, prepared, ready, fixed, restored].

Psalm 102: 28. 28 The children of Your servants will continue,
And their descendants will be established before You."

V. 9...And so that the Lord's law may be in your mouth. He wants us to know and speak forth His word and His truths. Not popular today in this country.

V. 15-16. There is a principle here: That when the enemy is stubborn about letting us go, the Lord will intervene on our behalf. And why? To show the strength of His hand; to show His glory. The only way that America, that His people, are going to be saved is by the strength of His hand.

V. 17-18. What does this verse say about the people, about US??? God knows our character. He knows that we are weak; He knows that we are fragile; He knows who we voted for.

Finishing chapter 13: V. 21-22. How could those guys mess up with all this help? They had the cloud. They had the fire. Really? I read this very self-righteously until the Lord reminded me that we have the Holy Spirit with us at all times.

Chapter 14. The parting of the Red Sea.

Verses 1-4. I will harden the heart of Pharaoh, "I." Why? So they will know that I AM the Lord. EVERYTHING that is happening is to show the Egyptians; the Democrats; the denominations] who God is.

V. 5-9. So Pharaoh and his army pursue the Israelites.

V. 10-12. The response of God's people: (1) Fear. (2) Blame God. (3) Regret. [These are demonic spirits.]

V. 13. Moses said: (1) Don't be afraid. (See #1 above) 2 Chron. 20: 15.
(2) Stand still. (Shut up and don't blame God.) 2 Chron. 20: 14,17.
(3) See the salvation of the Lord. (No need for regrets.) 2 Chron. 20:17.

Reference/parallel to Jehosaphat. 2 Chron. 17: 3-7. He delighted in God. In chapter 20, he was facing his

enemies (v. 2). God says the same thing: Don't be afraid. Stand still. See the salvation of the Lord. Verse 20: This is what we have to do.

Stand still = stand , present , set , stand still , stand up , withstand , stand fast.

Established = trust, believe, stand firm, last.

Prosper = advance, succeed, experience prosperity.

This is a later example of God saying exactly the same thing, and this is what He is saying to us, right now, today. He is the same yesterday, today and forever. And God is still fighting for His people.

Back to the Red Sea.

14: 14. So shut up. Really? Is. 30: 15.

15 For thus says the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel:

"In returning and rest you shall be saved;

In quietness and confidence shall be your strength."

But you would not...

I had to stop and meditate on this verse. I'm encouraging you to meditate on this verse. It worked something in me. God wants US to have quietness and confidence at this very time. He is with us; He is fighting for us; He will not leave us or forsake us.

V. 15. It's very interesting what God says to Moses. Why are you wasting time crying to Me?...Go forward. Go forward. It's time to stop crying (whining) and go forward.

I felt so stuck when I started this study. I feel like God is saying this to me, to us.

Q. What are we NOT doing?

V. 16. God tells Moses what to do.

Q. What is He telling you (me) to do?

I had to stop again and do some soul searching...

V. 17-18. And it will look really bad so that my enemies will know Me and I will gain the honor. Honor over not only Pharaoh [Obama] but his chariots and horsemen. This is what God showed me: Honor over all the people associated with that situation. God is going to get great glory in this country, in your situation. We are seeing such a small picture of what it means to God and what He wants to do. This boggled my mind.

V. 19-20. God set His heavenly hosts in place to work on our behalf, in this case, protection. When I got a hold of that, I started praying protection over people.

V. 21-22. Moses does what he is told. Obedience caused a wall of protection.

V. 23-28. The enemy keeps coming and the Lord steps in.

What does the Lord fighting for us look like?

1. It looks like the enemy is being given difficulty.
2. It looks like the enemy knows who is fighting for us.
3. It looks like the enemy is being pushed back.
4. It looks like the enemy is utterly destroyed.

V. 29-30. 5. We are protected and safe and our enemies are not.

V. 31. What is the result: We: (1) See the glory of the Lord. (2) Fear the Lord, NOT the situation. (3) Believe. [It's the same word, believe, that is used in 2 Chron. 20: 20.]

I am going to speak this over us:

20 So they rose early in the morning and went out into the Wilderness of Tekoa; and as they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Hear me, O Judah [House of Truth] and you inhabitants of Jerusalem [Venice]: Believe in the LORD your God, and you shall be established; believe His prophets, and you shall prosper."

God is about to part the Red Sea in your life. He is about to part the Red Sea for His bride. That means that all will see the glory of the Lord, that are enemy is completely and totally defeated. Do you hear what the Spirit is saying? Not a little defeated but completely and utterly. And why? So that they, as well as you, will see and know Him!

Think about that? He cares about your enemies just as much as He cares about you. Let's end with this thought because we know the end of the story:

Phil. 2: 9-11.

9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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