

**Have you ever faced a struggle that seemed insurmountable?**

**Have you ever felt like success was impossible?**

**Have you ever asked God for a miracle?**

**Do you believe God still performs miracles?**

I NEED A

MIRACLES



- You are the God who works **wonders**; You have made known Your strength among the peoples. Psalm 77:14
- Therefore they [Paul and Barnabas] spent a long time there speaking boldly with reliance upon the Lord, who was testifying to the word of His grace, granting that **signs** and **wonders** be done by their hands. Acts 14:3
- Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Hebrews 13:8
- Jesus said, “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father.” John 14:12

1. Creation - Genesis 1:1-27
2. Enoch's translation - Genesis 5:24
3. The Flood - Genesis 7:17-24
4. Confusion of tongues at Babel - Genesis 11:3-9
5. Sodomites blinded - Genesis 19:11
6. Cities of Sodom and Gomorrah destroyed - Genesis 19:24-25
7. Lot's wife turned to a pillar of salt - Genesis 19:26
8. Donkey speaking in human voice - Numbers 22:21-35
9. Burning bush - Exodus 3:3
10. Moses' rod changed into a serpent - Exodus 4:3-4, 30
11. Moses' hand made leprous - Exodus 4:6-7, 30
12. Aaron's rod changed into a serpent - Exodus 7:8-10
13. River turned to blood - Exodus 7:20-25
14. Frogs - Exodus 8:1-15
15. Lice - Exodus 8:16-19
16. Flies - Exodus 8:20-24
17. Death of Egyptian livestock - Exodus 9:1-7
18. Boils - Exodus 9:8-12
19. Hail - Exodus 9:18-24
20. Locusts - Exodus 10:1-20
21. Darkness - Exodus 10:21-23
22. First-born destroyed in Egypt - Exodus 12:29-30
23. Pillar of cloud and fire - Exodus 13:21-22; 14:19-20
24. Crossing the Red Sea - Exodus 14:21-23
25. Bitter waters sweetened - Exodus 15:25
26. Manna sent - Exodus 16:13-36
27. Water from the rock in Rephidim - Exodus 17:5-8
28. Amalek defeated - Exodus 17:9-13
29. Strange fire on Aaron's sacrifice - Leviticus 9:24
30. Nadab and Abihu destroyed - Leviticus 10:1-2
31. Israel's judgment by fire - Numbers 11:1-3
32. Miriam's leprosy - Numbers 12:10-15
33. Korah and his gang destroyed by unnatural means - Numbers 16:31-35
34. Murmurers destroyed by a ravaging plague - Numbers 16:41-50
35. Aaron's rod blossoms - Numbers 17:8
36. Water from the rock in Kadesh - Numbers 20:8-11
37. Brazen serpent healed many bitten by fiery serpents - Numbers 21:9
38. Jordan supernaturally divided - Joshua 3:14-17
39. Fall of Jericho - Joshua 6:6-20
40. Dew on Gideon's fleece - Judges 6:37-40
41. Sun and Moon stood still - Joshua 10:12-14

42. Angel in flame - Judges 13:20
43. Lion slain by Samson - Judges 14:5-6
44. Thirty Philistines killed by Samson - Judges 14:19
45. Water from the hollow place Lehi - Judges 15:19
46. City gates carried away by Samson - Judges 16:3
47. Dagon's house pulled down by Samson - Judges 16:29-30
48. Dagon's fall before the Ark - 1 Samuel 5:1-12
49. Men of Beth-shemesh destroyed - 1 Samuel 6:19-20
50. Thunder and rain in harvest time - 1 Samuel 12:18
51. Uzzah's mysterious death - 2 Samuel 6:6-7
52. Jeroboam's hand withered and restored - 1 Kings 13:4-6
53. Rending of the altar in Bethel - 1 Kings 13:5
54. Drought ordered by Elijah - 1 Kings 17:1; James 5:17
55. Elijah fed by ravens - 1 Kings 17:4-6
56. Widow's oil and meal supernaturally increased - 1 Kings 17:12-17
57. Widow's son raised from dead - 1 Kings 17:17-23
58. Sacrifice consumed by fire - 1 Kings 18:38
59. Rain in answer to prayer - 1 Kings 18:41
60. Captains destroyed by Elijah's command of fire - 2 Kings 1:9-12
61. Jordan divided by Elijah's mantle - 2 Kings 2:8
62. Elijah translated to heavens in a chariot of fire - 2 Kings 2:11
63. Jordan divided by Elisha with Elijah's mantle - 2 Kings 2:14
64. Waters of Jericho healed - 2 Kings 2:20-22
65. Young mockers of Elisha torn by bears - 2 Kings 2:24
66. Waters supernaturally supplied for Jehoshaphat - 2 Kings 3:16-20
67. Widow's food supernaturally multiplied - 2 Kings 4:1-7
68. Shunammite's widow's son raised from dead - 2 Kings 4:19-37
69. Poisoned pottage made harmless - 2 Kings 4:38-41
70. Hundred fed with 20 loaves - 2 Kings 4:42-44
71. Naaman cured of leprosy - 2 Kings 5:10-14
72. Gehazi struck with leprosy - 2 Kings 5:27
73. Axehead caused to float - 2 Kings 6:5-7
74. Ben-Hadad's plans revealed - 2 Kings 6:8-13
75. Syrian army defeated - 2 Kings 6:18-20
76. Resurrection by touch with Elisha's bones - 2 Kings 13:21
77. Sennecherib's army destroyed by an angel - 2 Kings 19:35
78. Hezekiah healed - 2 Kings 20:7
79. Shadow returned to sundial - 2 Kings 20:11
80. Uzziah afflicted with leprosy - 2 Chronicles 26:16-21
81. Three men delivered from fiery furnace - Daniel 3:19-27
82. Daniel delivered from the lion's den - Daniel 6:16-23
83. Preservation of Jonah in the belly of a fish for 3 days - Jonah 2:1-10

# Miracles in the Old Testament

<https://www.experiencetherock.com/wp-content/themes/trc/docs/miracles.pdf>

1. Water made wine in Cana - John 2:1-11
2. Son of nobleman healed in Cana - John 4:46-54
3. Christ passed unseen through crowd in Nazareth - Luke 4:28-30
4. Demoniac in synagogue healed in Capernaum - Mark 1:23-26
5. Peter's mother-in-law healed in Capernaum - Matthew 8:14-17
6. Draught of fishes in lake of Galilee - Luke 5:1-11
7. Leper cleansed in Capernaum - Matthew 8:1-4
8. Paralytic healed in Capernaum - Matthew 9:1-8
9. Impotent man healed in Jerusalem - John 5:1-9
10. Withered hand restored in Galilee - Matthew 12:10-13
11. Centurion's servant cured of palsy in Capernaum - Matthew 8:5-13
12. Widow's son raised in Nain - Luke 7:11-17
13. Demoniac healed in Galilee - Matthew 12:22-23
14. Tempest stilled in lake Galilee - Matthew 8:23-27
15. Two demoniacs cured in Gadara - Matthew 8:28-34
16. Jairus' daughter raised from dead - Matthew 9:23
17. Woman with issue of blood healed - Matthew 9:20-22
18. Blind men cured - Matthew 9:27-31
19. Dumb spirit cast out in Capernaum - Matthew 9:32-33
20. Five thousand supernaturally fed - Matthew 14:15-21
21. Walking on the sea - Matthew 14:25-33
22. Syro-phonician daughter healed - Matthew 15:21-28
23. Four thousand supernaturally fed - Matthew 15:32-39
24. Transfiguration of Christ - Matthew 17:1-6
25. Tribute money supernaturally provided - Matthew 17:24-27
26. Deaf and dumb man healed - Mark 7:31-37
27. Blind man healed - Mark 8:22-26
28. Devil cast out of boy - Mark 9:14-29
29. Miracles by the seventy - Luke 10:17
30. Ten lepers cleansed - Luke 17:11-19
31. Jesus passed unseen through crowd in the temple - John 8:59
32. Man born blind healed - John 9:1-7
33. Lazarus raised from dead - John 11:38-44
34. Woman with infirmity cured - Luke 13:11-17
35. Man with edema is cured - Luke 14:1-6
36. Two blind men cured in Jericho - Luke 18:35-43
37. Fig tree cursed and withered - Mark 11:12-14
38. Malchus' ears healed - Luke 22:50-51
39. Second draught of fishes - John 21:1-14
40. Resurrection of Christ - Luke 24:6

41. Christ's appearance to Mary Magdalene - Mark 16:9
42. Christ's appearance to other women - Matthew 28:9
43. Christ's appearance to two disciples - Luke 24:15-31
44. Christ's appearance to Peter - 1 Corinthians 15:5
45. Christ's appearance to ten apostles (Thomas absent) - John 20:19-24
46. Christ's appearance to eleven apostles (Thomas present) - John 20:126-28
47. Christ's appearance to seven disciples fishing - John 21:1-24
48. Christ's appearance to eleven apostles in Galilee - Matthew 28:16-17
49. Christ's appearance to five hundred brethren - 1 Corinthians 15:6
50. Christ's appearance to James - 1 Corinthians 15:7
51. Christ's appearance to eleven apostles on day of Ascension - Acts 1:2-9
52. Outpouring of the Holy Spirit - Acts 2:1-14
53. Christ's appearance to Paul at his conversion - Acts 9:1-5; 1 Corinthians 15:18
54. Lame man cured by Peter - Acts 3:6
55. Death of Ananias and Sapphira - Acts 5:5, 10
56. Many sick people healed by Peter - Acts 5:15
57. Apostles freed from prison by angelic intervention - Acts 5:19; 12:7-11
58. Stephen's great miracles - Acts 6:8
59. Dying Stephen's vision of Christ - Acts 7:55-56
60. Philip cast out unclean spirit - Acts 8:6-13
61. Ananias' vision - Acts 9:10
62. Paul's sight restored - Acts 9:17-18
63. Aeneas healed of palsy - Acts 9:34
64. Dorcas restored to life - Acts 9:40
65. Cornelius' vision - Acts 10:3-4, 30-32
66. Peter's vision - Acts 10:9-20
67. Agabus' prophecies - Acts 11:28; 21:11
68. Peter released from prison by angelic intervention - Acts 12:7-11
69. Elymas blinded - Acts 13:11
70. Lame man cured by Paul - Acts 14:10
71. Damsel delivered from evil spirit - Acts 14:10
72. Paul's vision on the way to Damascus - Acts 16:9
73. Earthquake released Paul and Silas - Acts 16:25-26
74. Gift of tongues - Acts 19:6
75. Special miracles by Paul - Acts 19:11-12
76. Evil spirit overpowered Sceva's seven sons - Acts 19:13-16
77. Eutychus restored to life - Acts 20:10
78. Paul unharmed by viper's bite - Acts 28:5
79. Publius' father healed - Acts 28:8
80. John's vision on Patmos - Revelation 1:9; 22:21
81. Innumerable miracles of Christ not recorded but witnessed by the apostles - John 20:30; Acts 10:38-39

# Miracles in the New Testament

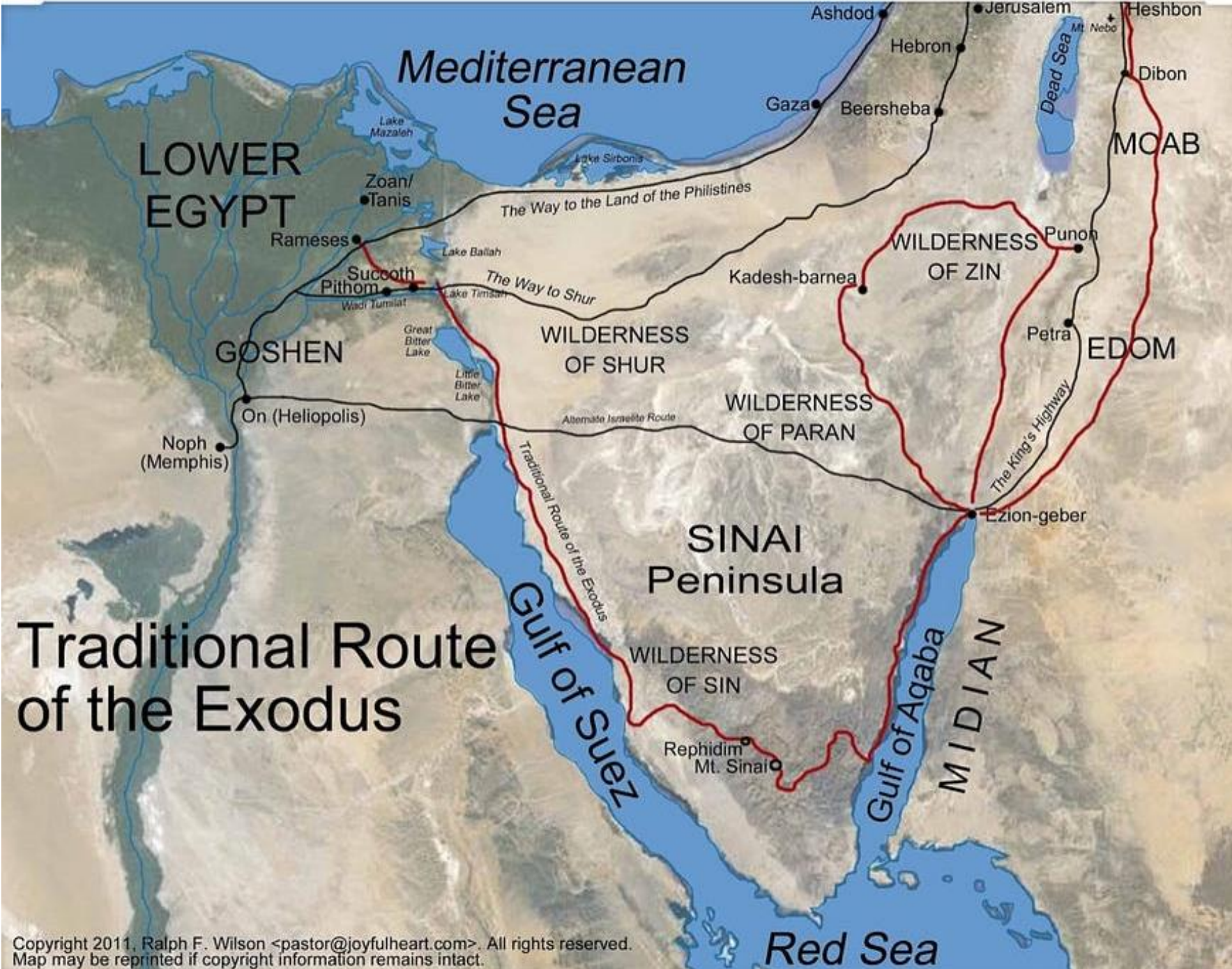
<https://www.experiencetherock.com/wp-content/themes/trc/docs/miracles.pdf>

# **The Splitting of the Red Sea**

**Exodus 13-14**

The scope and historical significance of this miracle are truly awesome, and that event is often pointed to by other biblical writers as proof of God's power and goodness.

- Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, 'I brought your fathers out of Egypt, and you came to the sea; and Egypt pursued your fathers with chariots and horsemen to the Red Sea.'" Joshua 24:6
- The Levites declared... "You divided the sea before them, so they passed through the midst of the sea on dry ground; and their pursuers You hurled into the depths, like a stone into raging waters." Nehemiah 9:11
- He turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot; there let us rejoice in Him! Psalm 66:6
- Him who divided the Red Sea asunder, for His lovingkindness is everlasting, Psalm 136:13
- Thus says the Lord, Who makes a way through the sea and a path through the mighty waters, Isaiah 43:16
- "For I am the Lord your God, who stirs up the sea and its waves roar (the Lord of hosts is His name)." Isaiah 51:15
- By faith they passed through the Red Sea as though they were passing through dry land; and the Egyptians, when they attempted it, were drowned. Hebrews 11:29



# Traditional Route of the Exodus

# Belief vs. Doubt

- Prior to the test of faith at the Red Sea, the people of Israel had witnessed God perform TEN miracles known as the plagues.
- When I see God at work TODAY, will my faith remain strong TOMORROW?

Now when Pharaoh had let the people go [*Beshalach* בְּשַׁלַּח], God did not lead them by the way of the land of the Philistines, even though it was near [close]; for God said, “The people might change their minds when they see war, and return to Egypt.” Exodus 13:17



The coastal route (the *Via Maris*, known as “the way of the sea”) was the shortest and most common way to go from Egypt to Canaan. Yet it was also the road where Egypt’s military outposts were. God knew the people of Israel were not ready to face this yet, so He led them a different way.

- <https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/exodus-13/>

Why did God lead Israel the long way around the wilderness? The detail appears in Exodus 13:17–18, immediately after Israel leaves Egypt. The text says that God did not lead them by the way of the land of the Philistines, although that route was near. Instead, God led the people around by the way of the wilderness toward the Red Sea. At first glance, this seems inefficient. If God was delivering His people, why not bring them by the shortest road? Why lead them through a longer and more difficult path? The passage gives the reason clearly. God said, “Lest the people change their minds when they see war and return to Egypt.” The shorter route may have been faster, but it would have exposed Israel too soon to conflict they were not ready to face. Israel had just come out of slavery. They had been oppressed for generations. They had seen God’s power in the plagues, but they had not yet learned to trust Him as a free people. Their bodies had left Egypt, but their fears, instincts, and patterns of dependence were still shaped by Egypt. So God led them by a longer road, not because He was confused, but because He knew their weakness. - Undaunted Disciple

The wilderness was not a mistake in the route. It was part of the formation of the people. There, Israel would learn dependence. They would learn that bread could come from heaven, water could come from a rock, and guidance could come by cloud and fire. They would learn that freedom was not merely leaving Egypt, but learning to live under the rule and provision of God. Theologically, this shows that God's leading is not always measured by speed. Sometimes the shorter path would destroy what God intends to build. A quick arrival is not always the same as a prepared heart. So, the long way was mercy. It protected Israel from battles they were not yet ready to face and placed them in a setting where they had to learn God's faithfulness step by step. This also explains why the wilderness becomes such an important place in Scripture. It is where God exposes unbelief, but also where He teaches dependence. It is where Israel complains, but also where God provides. It is where weakness becomes visible, but so does grace. God led Israel the long way because He was not only taking them out of Egypt. He was preparing them to belong to Him. The road was longer than they expected, but it was not wasted. Because God was not merely interested in bringing His people to a destination. He was forming them along the way. - Undaunted Disciple

Hence **God led the people around by the way of the wilderness to the Red Sea**; and the sons of Israel went up in martial array from the land of Egypt. Moses took the bones of Joseph with him, for he had made the sons of Israel solemnly swear, saying, “God will surely take care of you, and you shall carry my bones from here with you.” Exodus 13:18-19

- Moses acknowledged that the entire nation owed their everlasting gratitude to Joseph whose dreams were finally fulfilled. – Aaron Goldscheider
- Joseph said to his brothers, “I am about to die, but God will surely take care of you and bring you up from this land to the land which He promised on oath to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob.” Then Joseph made the sons of Israel swear, saying, “God will surely take care of you, and you shall carry my bones up from here.” Genesis 50:24-25
- After leaving Egypt, the people of Israel carried two sacred chests with them in the wilderness... the Holy Ark and the coffin of Joseph.

Then they set out from Succoth and camped in Etham on the edge of the wilderness. The Lord was going before them in a **pillar** [column... עַמֻּד *ammud*] **of cloud** by day to lead them on the way, and in a **pillar of fire** by night to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night. He did not take away the **pillar of cloud** by day, nor the **pillar of fire** by night, from before the people.

Exodus 13:20-22

Now the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, “Tell the sons of Israel to turn back and camp before Pi-hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea; you shall camp in front of Baal-zephon, opposite it, by the sea. For Pharaoh will say of the sons of Israel, ‘They are wandering aimlessly in the land; the wilderness has shut them in.’ Thus I will harden Pharaoh’s heart, and he will chase after them; and I will be honored through Pharaoh and all his army, and the Egyptians will know that I am the Lord.” And they did so. Exodus 14:1-4

# Why did God tell Israel to turn back?

- To experience the wonder of God I need to be in the place He wants at the time He wants. Going too fast or too slow, even on the right path, results in missing that divine moment.
- We always want the shortcuts, but God knows best what we need to experience and learn in order to grow us as disciples of Jesus.
- God knows what we can handle and what we can't.
- If God wants to take me the long way in order to protect me and teach me, that longer journey is a blessing not a curse.
- Am I willing to listen to God's guidance and follow His path?
- Am I willing to obey Him, even if He guides me the long way?

When the king of Egypt was told that the people [of Israel] had fled, Pharaoh and his servants had a change of heart toward the people, and they said, “What is this we have done, that we have let Israel go from serving us?” Exodus 14:5

- Perhaps Pharaoh thought that plagues were the limit of God’s power; that *now* he could successfully strike against Israel.
- There is an analogy in this to the spiritual life. We sometimes think that Satan will let us go easily, or we think that once we leave his kingdom he will forget about us. Yet just like Pharaoh after Israel, Satan pursues us, attempting to keep us at least on the fringes of his domain and hoping to destroy us if he can.

So he [Pharaoh] made his chariot ready and took his people with him; and he took six hundred select chariots, and all the other chariots of Egypt with officers over all of them. The Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and he chased after the sons of Israel **as the sons of Israel were going out boldly**. Then the Egyptians chased after them with all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, his horsemen and his army, and they overtook them camping by the sea, beside Pi-hahiroth, in front of Baal-zephon. Exodus 14:6-9

- The idea behind the Hebrew words **with boldness** (*ruwn yad*) includes the idea of rebellion against authority (1 Kings 11:26-27). The rebellious nature of Israel was *good* when it was against Pharaoh and all it stood for; it was *bad* when it was against the LORD, Moses, and all they stood for. The trouble with most rebels is that they rebel against the wrong things.



# The Exodus

From the Land of Egypt

# How many Jews on this Journey?

Now the sons of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand men on foot, aside from children. Exodus 12:37



As Pharaoh drew near, the sons of Israel looked, and behold, the Egyptians [Egypt – singular proper noun] were marching after them, and **they became very frightened; so the sons of Israel cried out to the Lord.** Exodus 14:10

- God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Psalm 46:1
- “The panic of the people is hardly to be wondered at when we think of their circumstances.” - G. Campbell Morgan

Then they said to Moses, “Is it because there were no graves in **Egypt** that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you dealt with us in this way, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the word that we spoke to you in Egypt, saying, ‘Leave us alone that we may serve the **Egyptians** [Egypt – singular proper noun]’? For it would have been better for us to serve the **Egyptians** [Egypt – singular proper noun] than to die in the wilderness.”

Exodus 14:11-12

- Israel was not yet a week out of Egypt and they already distorted the past, thinking that it was better for them in Egypt than it really was.

The story of the disgruntled Israelites teaches us that miracles are never enough to sustain our faith. Seeing isn't believing, but rather the other way around.

Miracles are insufficient for faith; people get excited about them while they occur, but they soon forget them and return to a state of desperation and despair.

– Hebrew 4 Christians

But Moses said to the people, “Do not fear! Stand by and see the salvation of the Lord which He will accomplish for you today; for the **Egyptians** [Egypt – singular proper noun] whom you have seen today, you will never see them again forever. The Lord will fight for you while you keep silent.” Exodus 14:13-14

But Moses said to the people, “Do not fear! **Stand by and see the salvation of the Lord which He will accomplish for you today;** for the Egyptians whom you have seen today, you will never see them again forever. **The Lord will fight for you while you keep silent.”** Exodus 14:13-14

The Jerusalem Talmud explains that when faced with the oncoming Egyptians, the Children of Israel divided into four groups. One group said, “Let’s go into the sea and end our lives!” Another group said, “Let’s return to Egypt!” Another said, “Let’s make war on [the Egyptians],” and the fourth group said, “Let’s cry out against them!” To the group that said, “Let’s go into the sea,” Moses said to them, **“Stand and see the liberation that God will work for you today.”** To those who said, “Let’s return to Egypt,” he said, **“The Egypt you see today you will never see again...”** To those who said “Let’s make war with them,” Moses said, **“God will fight for you,”** and to those who said, “let’s cry out...” he said, **“Be quiet!”**

Then the Lord said to Moses, “Why are you crying out to Me? Tell the sons of Israel to go forward.”

Exodus 14:15

- There are times to pray
- There are times to act

[Then the Lord said to Moses...] “As for you, lift up your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, and the sons of Israel shall go through the midst of the sea on dry land. As for Me, behold, I will harden the hearts of the **Egyptians** [Egypt – singular proper noun] so that they will go in after them; and I will be honored through Pharaoh and all his army, through his chariots and his horsemen. Then the **Egyptians** [Egypt – singular proper noun] will know that I am the Lord, when I am honored through Pharaoh, through his chariots and his horsemen.”

Exodus 14:16-18

The angel of God, who had been going before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them. So it came between the camp of Egypt and the camp of Israel; and there was the cloud along with the darkness, yet it gave light at night. Thus the one did not come near the other all night.  
Exodus 14:19-20

- The pillar of cloud moved from “guide to guardian”
- We often have little idea how much God does to protect us from the attacks of our unseen enemies. We sometimes feel that we are overwhelmed in a present spiritual struggle, but we may not know what it would be like if the LORD pulled back His protection. - <https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/exodus-14/>

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; **and the Lord swept the sea back** by a strong east wind all night and turned the sea into dry land, so the waters were divided.

## Exodus 14:21

- Other passages (such as Exodus 13:18 and 15:14) identify this body of water as the *Red Sea*. The Hebrew phrase for *Red Sea* is *yam suph*, which clearly means “Reed Sea.” Scholars and archeologists have attempted for years to positively identify this body of water.
- “The term aptly describes the lake region north of the Gulf of Suez comprising the Bitter Lakes and Lake Timsah. It is possible that the Israelites went along the narrow neck of land on which Baal-zephon stood and that the Biblical Sea of Reeds was modern Lake Sirbonis. We are certain that the crossing was in this area because the Israelites found themselves in the Wilderness of Shur after crossing the sea (Exodus 15:22).” (Charles Pfeiffer)
- We don’t know exactly where the place was, and what the exact geography was. This is especially true because an area like this will change geography every flood or drought season. We do know there was enough water there to trap the Israelites and to later drown the Egyptians. We can surmise that this was perhaps 10 feet of water or so. We also can surmise that there was enough width in the crossing for the large group of Israelites to cross over in one night.

# “Splitting the Sea” in the Psalms

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the Lord swept the sea back by a strong east wind all night and turned the sea into dry land, so the waters were divided. Exodus 14:21

- He turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot; there let us rejoice in Him! Psalm 66:6
- You divided the sea by Your strength; You broke the heads of the sea monsters in the waters. Psalm 74:13
- He divided the sea and caused them to pass through, and He made the waters stand up like a heap. Psalm 78:13
- Thus He rebuked the Red Sea and it dried up, and He led them through the deeps, as through the wilderness. Psalm 106:9

The waters saw You, O God; the waters saw You, they were in anguish; the deeps also trembled. The clouds poured out water; the skies gave forth a sound; Your arrows flashed here and there. The sound of Your thunder was in the whirlwind; the lightnings lit up the world; the earth trembled and shook. Your way was in the sea and Your paths in the mighty waters, and Your footprints may not be known. Psalm 77:16-19

The sons of Israel went through the midst of the sea on the dry land, and the waters were like a wall חֹמָה to them on their right hand and on their left. Exodus 14:22



From Torah we read how the children of Israel were trapped before the sea with no way of escape. Moses then cried out to God who told him to march forward - right into the waters - as the Pillar of Cloud settled between the people and Pharaoh's advancing army.

According to midrash, when Moses lifted his staff to divide the sea, at first nothing happened. The people waited anxiously at the seashore, wondering what to do. Finally, Nachshon ben Aminadav, a descendant of Judah (Numbers 1:7), waded into the water "up to his nose," and the winds then began blowing to divide the waters (Shemot Rabbah). The great miracle of *kiryat yam suf* קריית ים סוף the splitting of the Sea of Reeds (the word "suf" means "reed," see Exodus 2:3) therefore happened because someone found courage and took a step of faith.

Then the **Egyptians** [Egypt – singular proper noun] took up the pursuit, and all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots and his horsemen went in after them into the midst of the sea. At the morning watch [3 am], the Lord looked down on the army of the **Egyptians** [Egypt – singular proper noun] through the pillar of fire and cloud and brought the army of the **Egyptians** [Egypt – singular proper noun] into confusion. He caused their chariot wheels to swerve [bog down, sink], and He made them drive with difficulty; so the **Egyptians** [Egypt – singular proper noun] said, "Let us flee from Israel, for the Lord is fighting for them against the **Egyptians** [Egypt – singular proper noun]."

Exodus 14:23-25

Then the Lord said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters may come back over the **Egyptians** [Egypt – singular proper noun], over their chariots and their horsemen.” So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal state at daybreak, while the **Egyptians** [Egypt – singular proper noun] were fleeing right into it; then the Lord overthrew the **Egyptians** [Egypt – singular proper noun] in the midst of the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen, even **Pharaoh’s entire army that had gone into the sea after them; not even one of them remained.** **But the sons of Israel walked on dry land through the midst of the sea, and the waters were like a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.** Exodus 14:26-29

# An Act of Faith

- God told Moses to *do* something with his hand connected with the motion of the sea. We know that it was not really the power of Moses' hand that held back the sea or allowed it to come crashing back upon the Egyptian army. It was the power of God at work.
- God could have performed this miracle just as easily without Moses' cooperation. Yet, God often uses people to take part in His miraculous works. We can say that many miraculous works of God are yet to be done because no person has stepped forth to be the one who will stretch out their hand. - <https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/exodus-14/>
- Are you ready to stretch out your hand?
- Are we as a church ready to stretch out our hands?

# What might be holding our miracles back?

It has been said that it was easier for the LORD to get Israel out of Egypt than it was for Him to get Egypt out of Israel. The LORD knew the process would be an arduous one, requiring 40 long years of study in the desert under the instruction of Moses, and yet despite all this the people “were unable to enter because of unbelief” (Hebrews 3:19; 4:11; Psalm 95:7-11).

- Hebrew for Christians

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the hand of the **Egyptians** [Egypt – singular proper noun], and Israel saw the **Egyptians** [Egypt – singular proper noun] dead on the seashore. When Israel saw the great power which the Lord had used against the **Egyptians** [Egypt – singular proper noun], **the people feared the Lord, and they believed in the Lord and in His servant Moses.**

## Exodus 14:30-31

- We can say that the deliverance of Passover and the miracle of the Red Sea go together. If not for the victory won at the Red Sea, the redemption at Passover would have meant nothing. But they would have never made it to the Red Sea without the miracle of God's redemption at Passover. In the same way, the redemption of the cross would mean nothing without the miracle of the resurrection. The two works of deliverance must go hand in hand.

# The people fluctuated between trust and complaining, between belief and unbelief

- So the people believed; and when they heard that the Lord was concerned about the sons of Israel and that He had seen their affliction, then they bowed low and worshiped. Exodus 4:31
- They said to them, “May the Lord look upon you and judge you, for you have made us odious in Pharaoh’s sight and in the sight of his servants, to put a sword in their hand to kill us.” Exodus 5:21
- As Pharaoh drew near, the sons of Israel looked, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and they became very frightened; so the sons of Israel cried out to the Lord. Then they said to Moses, “Is it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you dealt with us in this way, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the word that we spoke to you in Egypt, saying, ‘Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians’? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.” Exodus 14:10–12
- When Israel saw the great power which the Lord had used against the Egyptians, the people feared the Lord, and they believed in the Lord and in His servant Moses. Exodus 14:31
- So the people grumbled at Moses, saying, “What shall we drink?” Exodus 15:24
- The whole congregation of the sons of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The sons of Israel said to them, “Would that we had died by the Lord’s hand in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat, when we ate bread to the full; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.” Then the Lord said to Moses, “Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a day’s portion every day, that I may test them, whether or not they will walk in My instruction. Exodus 16:2–4
- Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water that we may drink.” And Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?” But the people thirsted there for water; and they grumbled against Moses and said, “Why, now, have you brought us up from Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?” Exodus 17:2–3

- The importance of the parting of the Red Sea is that this one event was the final, decisive act in God's delivering His people from slavery in Egypt. The parting of the Red Sea was truly the birth of a nation. - <https://www.gotquestions.org/parting-Red-Sea.html>
- God can do miracles for any reason He chooses, but many times He performs a miracle to serve as a transition, a breakthrough from one season or chapter of life to the next.
- If we are asking Him for miracles in our lives and in our church, are we ready for a new chapter? Are we asking for a breakthrough?

# Praying for Miracles at First Melissa

- Salvations of family members and friends
- Healing of marriages and broken relationships
- Healing of illness and sickness
- Creating and deepening connections among the Body of Christ
- Raising up the next generation of faithful followers of Jesus
- Church construction loan paid off
- Expansion of our church property
- Upgrades to our existing church facilities and campus
- Construction of new church facilities
- Expansion of ministry opportunities

# Steps in a “Red Sea” Miracle

- Remember God’s past grace and provision
- Ask God for a breakthrough in this current situation
- Ask God to turn the page on this chapter of life
- Hear and believe the promises of God
- Believe God even when you cannot see the path forward
- Reject fear
- Raise your hands in obedience
- Step forward in faith
- Trust God’s timing
- Sing and dance in response to God’s miracle power