

Exodus 14:15-16

And the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward. But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.

God had spoke to Moses and warned him that Pharoah and the Egyptians would come after the Children of Israel, and God told Moses that He (GOD) would deliver them; Therefore, Moses was able to encourage the Children of Israel because of what God had told him.

So here is Pharoah and his army coming after the Children of Israel and Moses tells them:

† ***Exodus 14:13-14 And Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace."***

Look at the last sentence in verse 14: ***"The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace."*** You read that and think, *"that is so awesome"* and we would feel encouraged, which we all should be by reading it. But then read God's word to Moses again in today's verses, especially when God says: ***"But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it."*** Notice God did not say, "stretch out your hand over the sea and 'I will' divide it." No God told Moses for him to stretch out his hand over the sea and divide it.

So what was Moses' response *"Well, I don't know God. I can't divide the Red Sea, I guess we are all going to die then"* No, not at all, Moses did not question God when God told him to do something. Why? Because I think that Moses learned that he was initially called by God to go lead the Children of Israel out of Egypt, even though Moses argued with God and even told God to send someone else.

† ***Exodus 4:12-13 Now therefore, go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall say." But he said, "O my Lord, please send by the hand of whomever else You may send."***

But as you read the story, God knew He had chosen the right man, regardless of what Moses thought about himself. Wait, read that one more time, a little slower:

"God knew He had chosen the right man, regardless of what Moses thought about himself."

Moses learned that while he was in Egypt, that he saw everything that God told him to do come to pass. Think of the ten plagues against Egypt. Moses learned that he was just a vessel chosen

by God and he just needed to be willing to be used by God. Once Moses learned that, we see the end results of Moses being obedient and not questioning God:

† **Exodus 14:21** *Then 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, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided.*

Once again, no questioning or doubting God, just being obedient to God, regardless how crazy or impossible it sounded. Moses did what he was told to do, which was “***stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it***” and God took that obedience and GOD divided the Red Sea “***and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided.***”

Did you also notice that it’s not like in the Ten Commandments movie, or even in the Universal Studios ride, where Moses is standing on a cliff, lifts up his rod (Staff) and the Red Sea divided right away? No, it says that the Lord did it “***by a strong east wind all that night***”

“***ALL that night.***” Now that’s what I would call faith to the extreme, because for us, we ask and expect God to jump right on in and take care of it right away. But God does not always do it that way, He simply says to have faith in Him and how He is going to take care of it, and He knows how long He needs, or wants to take to accomplish it.

So over the last several days, weeks, months, or even years, God has been showing you things and you have been growing in the Lord. So, now take what you have learned from the Lord, and remember how He has gotten you through those things in His timing, not yours, and how they have been beyond what you could ever hope for or imagine. Now go walk in that faith, just like Moses did.

† **Hebrews 11:6** *But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.*

† **Isaiah 55:8 (NLT2)** “*My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts,” says the LORD. “And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine.”*

† **Romans 8:25** *But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance.*