

Exodus 14:4

Then I will harden Pharaoh's heart, so that he will pursue them; and I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, that the Egyptians may know that I am the LORD." And they did so.

If you have read the book of Exodus or seen the movie The Ten Commandments or even been to Sunday School as a child, then you know about the story of how God parted the Red Sea and saved the Children of Israel from the Egyptians.

But when you think or even read of the story, did you realize that God told Moses this would happen before hand? Well. If you read today's verse, that's exactly what's happening. Let's read it starting in verse one from the Message bible:

† **Exodus 14:1-4 (MSG) *GOD spoke to Moses: "Tell the Israelites to turn around and make camp at Pi Hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea. Camp on the shore of the sea opposite Baal Zephon. "Pharaoh will think, 'The Israelites are lost; they're confused. The wilderness has closed in on them.' Then I'll make Pharaoh's heart stubborn again and he'll chase after them. And I'll use Pharaoh and his army to put my Glory on display. Then the Egyptians will realize that I am GOD." And that's what happened.***

So when Pharaoh and his army came after the Children of Israel, Moses had already heard from the Lord; Therefore, Moses could speak words of encouragement to them, which we read in verses 13-14.

† **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."***

If you didn't realize that God had spoken to Moses beforehand, you would think this was a bold statement by Moses. And even though God did speak to Moses beforehand, this still was a bold statement by Moses. But for Moses, it wasn't a problem, because he trusted in the Lord and what the Lord had told him that He would do. And as you read the rest of the story, you know that God parted the Red Sea and the Egyptians were drowned when the Red Sea came back upon them, and they all died.

† **Exodus 14:27-28 (MSG) *Moses stretched his hand out over the sea: As the day broke and the Egyptians were running, the sea returned to its place as before. GOD dumped the Egyptians in the middle of the sea. The waters returned, drowning the chariots and riders of Pharaoh's army that had chased after Israel into the sea. Not one of them survived.***

You may read that and think what a wonderful story it is and how Awesome God is, and you have no doubts whatsoever that God did this. Yet we know this, and we even know and believe with all our heart that God created all things out of nothing, the earth, the plants and animals, the people, all the planets and stars, beautiful sunsets. Yet how often, even though we believe that God has done all these awesome things...

“Wait, wait, wait Steve, I know where you are going with this, and I really don’t need to hear this right now. You have no idea what I am going through or what the doctor has told me or what is going on in my marriage or job or...” You may be thinking, and I hear you, but that does not change the fact that God is God and that HE can do **anything!!!** And I have to wonder if this next verse is for you, and even me at times:

† **Jeremiah 32:27** *Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh. Is there anything too hard for Me?*

This is not me asking you the question, this is God, and these are His words, not mine.

So I will go back to the question I was asking which was: Yet how often, even though we believe that God has done all these awesome things, yet we don’t think He can take care of us and our problem or situation? Or let’s put this into perspective, if God is saying to us all **“Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh. Is there anything too hard for Me?”** is your answer now, *“Well God, I suppose there are things too hard for you, which is my situation, and I have prayed and asked You to take care of it, but it hasn’t happened, so I guess it’s just too hard for you God.”* I know we would never say that or even think it, because we know that nothing is too hard for God.

Going back to Moses, God spoke to Moses before the Egyptians started pursuing the Children of Israel. And God wants to speak to you also before things happen, which we usually call storms in life. But if you are not in His word every day and in communion (prayer) with Him, how can He speak to you beforehand so that you have strength in the Lord to make it through the storm?

Also, if you believe that there is nothing too hard for the Lord... Then believe that there is nothing too hard for the Lord!!!

† **Psalm 119:133** *Direct my steps by Your word, And let no iniquity have dominion over me.*

† **Psalm 119:104-105 (MSG)** *With your instruction, I understand life; that's why I hate false propaganda. By your words I can see where I'm going; they throw a beam of light on my dark path.*