

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.

If you are old like me or young but a movie buff, then you will remember the 1956 movie, **The Ten Commandments** with Charlton Heston who played Moses. If you have never seen it, check your streaming service and I would encourage you to watch it. But also know that it's 3 hours and 40 minutes long.

But in the movie, there is that one amazing scene where Moses (Charlton Heston) raises his arms, staff in hand, and the Red Sea parts right before our eyes. Back then, the affects were amazing, no CG or anything like that. In fact, you can go on the Universal Studios tour and go through the red sea on the tour in the tram and see how it was done in the movie.

Now as amazing as this all may sound, it's not 100% correct, per the bible. Yes, it is true that God parted the Red Sea so the children of Israel could walk through it on dry land. The error is what a lot of people don't realize, and that's what's in today's devotional verse. Don't see it?

† *the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night*

God causes a tremendous wind storm that caused the Red Sea to part, and it took *all that night* for it to happen, not just a few minutes right before their eyes like we see in the movies.

Could God had done it right away? You bet He could, without a doubt. Yet He chose not to. Why? The scriptures are not clear why, but I tend to believe it was to increase their faith.

Think about that for a moment. What if every time something happened in your life, and you prayed about it, then BLAME, done, fixed, let's move on, as the answer happens right before your eyes. But it does not always happen that way, does it.

Just like me, I am sure looking back on your life you can think of many times when you prayed and God did not answer as soon as you said Amen, in fact it could had taken weeks, months or even years before God answered. But one thing I do pray that you will take away from today's devotional is the last two words of my previous sentence.

See it?: **God answered!!!**

It's even in the bible.

† **2 Peter 3:9** *The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.*

Yes, this verse is talking about salvation for the most part, but I also believe it's also talking about our requests to God as well. If God said it will happen, then it WILL happen. He may just

be doing something, like causing the wind to blow to clear the way first so that you can walk on dry ground.

Think about that also. If the children of Israel saw the Red Sea parting and didn't wait until God had finished clearing the path, they would have jumped ahead and ended up walking on wet, muddy ground, which would have slowed them down. But no, they waited, so they could move through easily on dry ground.

You may see God working even now in your situation, but don't jump ahead or it will actually take you longer and it will be harder than if you wait until God says to move forward.

† **Numbers 10:5 (NLT2)** *When you sound the signal to move on, the tribes camped on the east side of the Tabernacle must break camp and move forward.*