

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

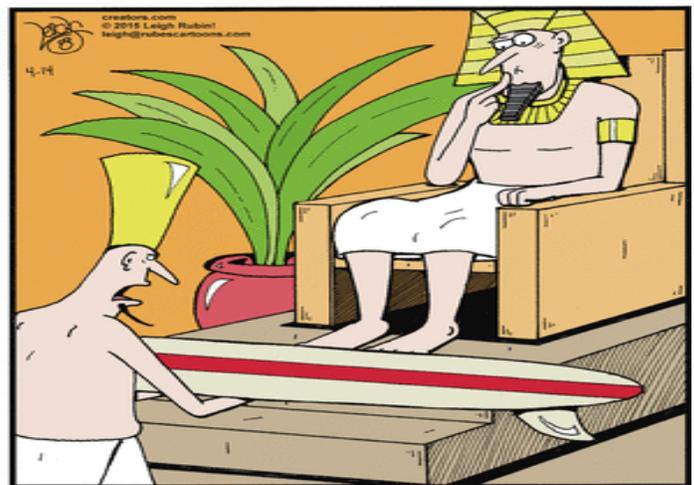
- 1) 03 Sept 2017 Exodus 01-04 Reluctance
- 2) 10 Sept Exodus 05-10 Confrontation
- 3) 17 Sept Exodus 11-12 Liberation
- 4) 24 Sept Exodus 13-14 Victory**
- 5) 01 Oct Exodus 15-18 Sufficient
- 6) 08 Oct Exodus 19-24 Commanded
- 7) 15 Oct Exodus 25-31 Equipped
- 8) 22 Oct Exodus 32-34 Rebellion
- 9) 29 Oct Exodus 35-40 His Presence
- 10) 05 Nov Leviticus 01-07 Set Before
- 11) 12 Nov Leviticus 08-15 Set Apart
- 12) 19 Nov Leviticus 16-22 Set Free
- 13) 26 Nov Leviticus 23-27 Set Futures

INTRODUCTION

- Pharaoh doesn't give up, and neither does God. Pharaoh learns the hard way that God can come across to the wicked as tortuous (ESV).. [Ps 18:26](#)

Passage	Comments
Exodus 13:1-22	<p>Reminders to Remember What God Has Done</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv2, 11-13; 15-16. Sanctify EVERY firstborn – man & beast. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Initially, the 1st born child was to be 'offered up' (i.e., dedicated) to the service of the Lord, but God eventually substituted the tribe of Levi instead..... Num 3:12, 45 ♦ Thereafter, each firstborn child is redeemed by an offering of 5 shekels of silver (~\$35) Num 18:15-16 (1 shekel = ½ oz of Silver @ \$14/oz = \$35) ♦ Eventually, Jesus Christ will become the ultimate redemption price and sacrifice for everyone • vv3-8. Remember + Powerful Hand + Leaven; and vv9-10; 14; 16. Need for a Sign + Reminder on Forehead + Law of the Lord on the Mouth + Powerful Hand again ♦ Remember → The Jews are constantly told to recall the miracles of God as if they might cease some day. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☞ We are very forgetful creatures. Hence the need for rote repetition, commemorative holidays, and prominent visual reminders (e.g., symbols: ☞, ☞, ☞, cross necklaces, and phylacteries). Peter said he would "not be negligent to put us always in remembrance of such things" 2Peter 1:12 ☞ Many times, we are challenged to remember His works of old. God is the same Today, Yesterday, and Forever, but we should realize He changes His ways for different generations..... Psalms 40:5; 77:11; 105:5; 143:5 ☞ God established the Jewish culture with festive feast days having strong spiritual significance pointing backwards to the Exodus and forward to the coming of Christ. ♦ Powerful Hand → Euphemism that it doesn't take much effort for God to intervene on the behalf of His people. Akin to saying, "My little pinky finger can hurt you." We will see this Powerful Hand or His Powerful Right Hand come up frequently over the next few chapters. Highlight 'em. ♦ Leaven → Leaven seems to be symbolic of something bad, such as sin or "delayed obedience." In the process of baking, leaven needs time to rise, and the Jews did not have time. When it comes to godly obedience, we cannot delay for one moment. Delayed or partial obedience is disobedience, and God emphasizes that concept over and over with the analogy of Leaven. What Bible characters are noted for their delayed or partial obedience? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Samson? <input type="checkbox"/> Balaam? <input type="checkbox"/> King Saul? <input type="checkbox"/> Others? • vv17-20. No shortcut to the Promised Land. If God is their Savior, Rescuer, Defender, Protector, Deliverer, & Liberator, why not take the Jews straight through Philistine Land. Certainly, His "Powerful Hand" could zap all their enemies dead with no trouble. With God on their side – who controls everything, why even have the need to physically fight? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Consideration #1. The Jews were not a bunch of mindless robots. They had been through a lot, they had raw emotions, and were vulnerable with their weak faith and hard hearts. Does seeing miracles increase one's faith?

Passage	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Consideration #2. Knowing their bullheadedness, God had to guide them slowly, sensibly, and lovingly – testing them along the way. Plus, even God has trouble herding stubborn cows. He wants pliable sheep..... Hosea 4:16 ♦ Consideration #3. Plus, God has a pastor's or shepherd's heart. God knows His sheep, and if He were to drive them through wolf territory, though He could save them, they would be spooked, routed, mauled, scattered, and wounded. God preferred to spare them such misery. ♦ Consideration #4. God prefers to work within the natural and physical laws He created for mankind, so to supernaturally "ZAP" Israel's enemies dead or to give His people an effortless and trouble-free journey was not His preferred means to mature His people. He wanted Israel (and us) to humbly walk through life with a heavenly focus, though it might mean to toil at making a living and suffering loss. • vv20-22. The LORD (Yahweh) led by a Pillar of Fire by night and a Pillar of Cloud by day for 40 years. God might have used a natural phenomenon called a fire whirl, fire devil, fire tornado, or a fire twister, but it definitely would have been classified as a supernatural event since it lasted for 40 years following a predetermined course, not a random wandering. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Other seemingly supernatural wonders would have included clothes and sandals not wearing out for 40 years (Deut 4:8), and their feet and ankles not swelling during all those years walking (Neh 9:21) ♦ Another perspective. God possibly restored a recuperative law of nature that was once present on earth before the fall of man and which has not been seen since. BUT, we may see it once again in the Millennial Kingdom when God's chosen ones, who live nearly 1,000 years, will outlive the works of their hands (Isaiah 65:22), and, definitely, when the New Heaven and Earth are established..... Rev 21:1
The Power of God's Right Hand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ex 15:6 Your right hand, O LORD, is majestic in power; Your right hand, O LORD, shatters the enemy. • Ps 16:11b In Your right hand are pleasures forever. • Ps 17:7 We take refuge at Your right hand from those who rise up against us. • Ps 21:8 Your right hand finds out those who hate you. • Ps 48:10b Your right hand is full of righteousness. • Ps 60:5b Save us with Your right hand • Ps 63:8b Your right hand upholds me. • Ps 89:13 You have a strong arm; Your hand is mighty, Your right hand is exalted. • Ps 91:7a A thousand may fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand, • Ps 138:7b Your right hand will save me.



"I haven't the foggiest notion, either, your highness. It's from Moses. He called it a 'parting' gift."

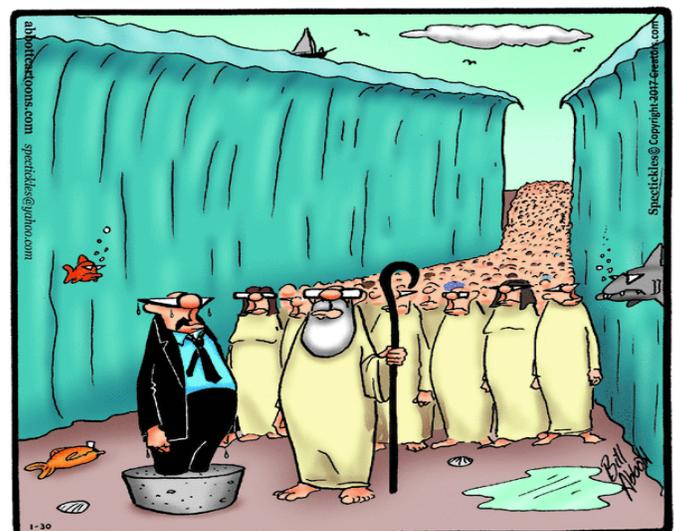
Passage	Comments
Exodus 14:1-9	<p>Pharaoh Doesn't Have a Chance – His Ego is His Undoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv1-4. War Strategy → Deceive the Enemy (by wondering aimlessly) and Set a Trap for them. Does God still do this today? Consider the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Ps 7:16 The evil thoughts of the wicked will return upon his own head. ♦ Ps 34:21 Evil shall slay the wicked ♦ Ps 92:7 When the wicked sprouted up like grass and all who did iniquity flourished, it was only that they might be destroyed forevermore. ♦ Ps 94:23 God brings back their wickedness upon them and will destroy them in their own evil ♦ Ps 140:11 Evil shall hunt the violent man to overthrow him ♦ Ps 146:9b God thwarts the way of the wicked. • vv5-9. God channels Pharaoh's heart Prov 21:1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ If God hardened Pharaoh's heart, would Pharaoh be held accountable for his actions? Consider the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If Pharaoh was a robot, no he would not be accountable ▪ However, God instills freewill within men and angels, so, everyone, including Pharaoh, is totally accountable for their words, thoughts, and deeds ▪ Since God knows everyone's heart, He knows when someone has reached the point of no return, so He can seal their fate at that moment in time and still let them live for decades to further accomplish His will. ♦ Pharaoh's real motivation to chase Israel down seems to be GREED. He saw a chance not only to capture & bring back the slaves, but to acquire all the treasure they had taken from their Egyptian neighbors.....Exodus 15:9
The Point of No Return	<p>Consider This. Just as some can accept Christ early in life at a specific point in time and be sealed from that point forward, others can reject Christ early in life at a specific point in time and doom themselves to Hell from that point forward (Rom 1:24, 28; 1Cor 1:18; 2Cor 4:3-4; Heb 6:4-6; Heb 10:26; 2Pet 2:20-22; 1Jn 2:19; 1Jn 5:16, 17)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ See lesson on John 12 for more on this topic <p>NOTE: None of these passages, nor the rest of Scripture, allude to a believer losing their salvation. After all, a believer's fate is sealed, "Having believed in Christ, (we) were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise"Ephesians 1:13</p>
Exodus 14:10-20	<p>Israel Has a Chance if They Stand Still, Shut Up, & Watch!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv10-12. "...and they became very frightened." If only they had remembered how God worked miraculously in the preceding days and weeks. But, like us, they do not see beyond the moment they are in. Is this due to a lack of faith, or because of a hard heart? • vv13-14. Over 100x in the Bible (80x in the OT) we are told "Do not fear", "Fear Not", or "Do not be afraid" of something because God has got our back – BUT do we listen? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ "According to Scripture, the best way to learn is to 'Sit Down, Shut Up, and Listen'" – anonymous Christian school teacher. In this passage, the Jews are told to, "Stand still, Be Silent, and Watch." The only difference between the Teacher's claim and this passage's claim, is one audience is inside a building, and the other is outdoors. • vv15-16. "Why are you crying to me? GO!" God basically told Moses to "stop fearing – start obeying – then watch for Me" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Can we pray too much? When is it time to stop whining and start obeying? ♦ Recall how God had to ask Elijah twice, "What are you still doing here, Elijah?" Elijah basically had a woe-is-me attitude, "I'm the only one left." And God had to coax him off of his rump and send him on his way 1Kings 19:9-16 • vv17-18. God hardens Pharaoh's heart one more time and entices the Egyptians to pursue the Jews – BUT they will learn a hard lesson – GOD is in control (I am Lord) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ How long or what does it take to convince obstinate people their foolish ways are killing them? Sometimes, never!

Passage	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ When a man hardens his neck after much reproof (10x Pharaoh was warned) he will suddenly be broken beyond remedy Proverbs 29:1 • vv19-20. The Angel of the Lord got involved. Again, this is a unique manifestation of a wondrous work of God – never to be repeated, & which the Jews (and we) must remember that God is able to rescue His people in ways He chooses, else we become stubborn and obstinate..... Nehemiah 9:17
Who is the "Angel of the Lord"?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angel of the Lord appears 48 times in the OT. Scholars believe many of these are possible and probable appearances of Christ in the OT → a Christophony, especially when the "definite article" appears before it → "the Angel of the Lord" • The first time "the Angel of the Lord" appears in Scripture is to a non-Jew, Hagar, Sarah's Egyptian maid Gen 16:10 • AND, it is conceivable that Adam and Eve frequently and physically conversed with Jesus (God-incarnate) while in the Garden, for "they heard the sound of the LORD (Yahweh) God walking in the garden in the cool of the day." Gen 3:8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Recall what Yahweh יהוה means from last week's Hebrew lesson: "Behold the Outstretched Arm – Behold the Nail" ♦ It could be surmised that every time Yahweh is mentioned in Scripture it is an inferred reference to Jesus Christ ♦ Another consideration → God the Father is always portrayed in Scripture as 100% spirit John 4:24
Exodus 14:21-31	<p>The Most Prominent Miracle in the Bible Takes All Night</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv21-30. Since it took ALL night for an east wind to dry up the river bed, the element of time indicates this was not a supernatural miracle where any laws of nature were broken • v31. The true purpose of God's miraculous wonders, be they providential or supernatural → People would fear the Lord and they would believe in Him and in His servants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Sometimes people believe. Other times, their belief is short-lived since people have a short memory ♦ ...and at other times, people won't believe a miracle even if someone were to rise from the dead..... Luke 16:31

CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS / CONSIDERATIONS

- Since God may not be working the supernatural wonders we would like to see, how do we discern if God is at work in our lives or the lives of others?
- Scripture says "God is good to all" (Ps 145:9), so what tangible or non-tangible evidence do we have that would entice non-believers to become Christians if they are somehow already being blessed on a daily basis?

NEXT WEEK: Exodus 15-18. The Song of Moses summarizes God's wonders during Israel's march out of Egypt; and we see God providing sustenance while Israel continually yearned for more stuff. How grateful are we with God's provisions in our lives?



"Wow, my day just keeps getting better and better!"