

Exodus 14:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when Pharaoh drew nigh, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and, behold, the Egyptians marched after them; and they were sore afraid: and the children of Israel cried out unto the LORD.

Analysis

When 'the children of Israel lifted up their eyes' and saw Egyptian approach, fear replaced faith. Despite witnessing ten plagues and miraculous exodus, visible danger overwhelmed prior experience. Their response—'cried out unto the LORD'—shows mixed faith: they appeal to God while complaining to Moses. This realistic portrayal shows weak faith can still cry to the right source. God answers fearful prayers despite unbelief's mixture.

Historical Context

The approaching dust cloud of thousands of chariots would have been terrifying to unarmed civilians. This represented the same force that held them in bondage for 400 years—psychological trauma reinforced by current threat.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does fear sometimes make you forget God's past deliverances despite overwhelming evidence?
2. What does God answering fearful prayers teach about His patience with weak faith?

Interlinear Text

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|-------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------|
| וּפָרַע הַ | הִקָּר יִב | וַשָּׂאוּ | בְּנֵי | אֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל ל | |
| And when Pharaoh | drew nigh | lifted up | and the children | of Israel | H853 |
| H6547 | H7126 | H5375 | H1121 | H3478 | |
| עֵינֵיהֶם | וְהִנֵּה הַ | מִצְרַיִם | נִסַּע | אַחֲרֵיהֶם | וַיִּירָאוּ |
| their eyes | H2009 | and behold the Egyptians | marched | after | afraid |
| H5869 | | H4714 | H5265 | H310 | H3372 |
| מֵאֵד | וַיִּצְעֲקוּ | בְּנֵי | אֶל יִשְׂרָאֵל ל | | |
| them and they were sore | cried out | and the children | of Israel | | H413 |
| H3966 | H6817 | H1121 | H3478 | | |
| יְהוָה: | | | | | |
| unto the LORD | | | | | |
| H3068 | | | | | |

Additional Cross-References

Nehemiah 9:9 (References Egypt): And didst see the affliction of our fathers in Egypt, and heardest their cry by the Red sea;

Joshua 24:7 (References Lord): And when they cried unto the LORD, he put darkness between you and the Egyptians, and brought the sea upon them, and covered them; and your eyes have seen what I have done in Egypt: and ye dwelt in the wilderness a long season.

Psalms 34:17 (References Lord): The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

Psalms 107:6 (References Lord): Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them out of their distresses.

Psalms 53:5 (Parallel theme): There were they in great fear, where no fear was: for God hath scattered the bones of him that encampeth against thee: thou hast put them to shame, because God hath despised them.

2 Chronicles 18:31 (References Lord): And it came to pass, when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said, It is the king of Israel. Therefore they compassed about him to fight: but Jehoshaphat cried out, and the LORD helped him; and God moved them to depart from him.

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