**Stand Still**

*Exodus 14:10-14*

1. After Joseph, there arose a Pharaoh that did not know him, and he oppressed the Israelites.
2. God saw their oppression, and sent Moses to lead them out of the bondage in Egypt.
3. With mighty plagues God performed, the Exodus ensued. Yet, there would be an ultimate triumph at the end of the road.
4. God hardened the heart of Pharaoh to follow the Israelites. They came to the red sea and the Israelites were seemingly trapped, but they had God on their side.
5. **Exodus 14:10-12** – They assessed the situation, but without remembering all that God had accomplished thus far. They panicked, complained, and reached rash conclusions.
6. **14:13-14** – Moses gave them instruction to stand still. God would deliver them.
   1. **14:15-18** – The Lord gave Moses instruction.
   2. **14:30-31** – The Lord was victorious over the Israelites.
7. We can learn much from this story, as it was recorded ***“for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope” (Romans 15:4)***.
8. Stand Still
9. The Devil wants us to panic (**cf. Exodus 14:10-12** – The Israelites were squirming and panicking because the Egyptians were closing in.)
10. Panic leads to bad decisions.
    1. The Israelites concluded it would have been better to stay in Egypt. Their panic caused doubt in God.
    2. **Numbers 13:31-14:4** – 10 of the 12 spies brought back a bad report. The people panicked at the report, and wished to go back to Egypt.
       1. This caused the Lord to keep them from entering the promised land **(cf. 14:22-23)**.
       2. **The promise was conditional. The devil knows this, and seeks to cause panic so we do not meet the conditions.**
11. Instead of Panicking, We should Stand Still (**cf. Exodus 14:13)**.
    1. God’s presence should cause us to be still. Be at peace (**cf. Psalm 46:10-11**).
    2. **Isaiah 30:15 – The strength of God’s people is in calm, quiet assurance and confidence.**
    3. **This is so because of what we remember and expect when we stand still 🡪**
12. See the Salvation of the Lord
13. Consider God’s Power.
    1. **Job 36:24-37:5** – Elihu, Job’s friend. God is all powerful to the extent we cannot comprehend.
    2. **Job 42:1-2** – Job’s conclusion – Nothing is impossible for God. His purposes are not withheld from Him.
    3. **This should cause great confidence if we are on His side. These are no mere claims without substance, but backed with accounts** 🡪
14. Consider God’s Past.
    1. **Joshua 2:8-13** – Rahab the harlot had heard of the power of the Lord.
    2. **She trembled because she was in the Lord’s path of destruction.**
    3. **The Israelites should have been extremely confident having God on their side.**
15. Consider God’s Provision.
    1. **Romans 5:6-8** – God provided the perfect sacrifice for us. Because of this we have hope. (**cf. 1 John 2:1-2** – in our struggles God continues forgiveness when we ask and repent.)
    2. **1 Corinthians 10:13** – God always provides a way for escape.
    3. We need not panic, for God has given us a sufficient sacrifice, and continues to provide ways of escape.
16. Consider God’s Promises.
    1. **Hebrews 6:16-18** – God cannot lie. His promises are certain. If we meet the conditions, we will make it to heaven.
    2. We must have confidence in God’s promises!
17. Move Forward
18. There are times to stand still, but then there are times to move. God does not want us to be idle, but faithful and obedient.
19. **1 Corinthians 10:1-2** – The Israelites were saved when they went forward. They did what the Lord commanded to do, and He delivered them.
20. **Philippians 2:12-13** – We must work out our salvation – move forward. But know that the Lord is working in us to do His will. We must trust Him enough to take action.

**Conclusion**

1. It is easy for us to be swallowed up in all our trials, temptations, and struggles if we are not careful.
2. God wants us to stand still, not panic. He wants us to consider who He is, and what He has promised us.
3. In doing so, we receive the necessary strength and confidence to move forward in our lives for Him. If we do so, He is faithful to follow through with His promise of eternal life.