



*India  
Christian  
Fellowship  
San Diego*

## **Battles Before the deliverance.**

### **Introduction**

The Bible tells us that our walk with God is going to be a journey of difficulties.

We are continually moving from strength to strength, victory to victory, glory to glory!

However, in between the mountaintops of victory there are valleys of the shadow of death!

In between the victories, there are struggles!

In between the breakthroughs, there are battles!

And before every new breakthrough, there is a harder battle than ever fought!

### **At every new level, there is a new devil!**

**Galatians 6:9** *And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. i*

**2 Corinthians 4:8-9** *We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; 9 Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;*

Do not go down in history as an “ALMOST!”  
**Acts 26:28 28,** Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.

## **Exodus 14:1-14:31**

Moses and the people of Israel found themselves in such a predicament. The Israelites found themselves trapped between Pharaoh’s Army and the Red Sea.

## **Four things about God’s Plan.**

### **1. God’s plans are not always rational 14.1-2**

The children of Israel were in effect asked to backtrack to go back in the same direction that they had just traveled.

The future looks impassible and the present seems impossible.

But you need to understand that they have been led to the place they now stand, not by Moses, not by coincidental wandering, but by God Himself.

It is a platform for the display of His almighty grace and power.

Not only will He deliver you, but in doing so He will give you a lesson that you will never forget .....

### **2. God’s plans are always made in advance.v.3-5**

God was not surprised, he knew how it would end before it ever began.

**Why did the same Israelites who had just witnessed the remarkable power and deliverance of God now become fearful and begin to murmur against Him?**

**a. Not all the company was Israelites.**

Exodus 12:38 revealed that a “*mixed multitude came out of Egypt with Israel.*”

**b. They do not have a point of reference:** Israel had not written scripture at this point in their history to turn to.

**c. Slave mindset:** As slaves they had always lived at the edge of subsistence and were easily given to fear.

The text says the Israelites were not just afraid, they were “very” afraid.

**d. They had their eyes on the Egyptians and not on the LORD.**

What fear does in verses Exodus 14:11- 12.

**Fear causes them to**

**A. Distort the truth**

**B. To be ruled by doubt rather than by faith**

**C. Short memory.** **Their** statement that it would have been better for them to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness exhibits a remarkably short memory.

Psalm 106:7-8, “*Our fathers in Egypt did not understand Your wonders; They did not remember the multitude of Your mercies, But rebelled by the sea—the Red Sea. (8) Nevertheless He saved them for His name’s sake, That He might make His mighty power known.*”

It is interesting to consider that Israel had trusted God for their deliverance but not for their circumstances.

We have trusted him to save us from sin but all too often, we will not trust him with our circumstances.

**3. God’s plans do not need your help only your obedience v.13-14**

**God gave him a promise:**

Promise Dispels fear  
Elevates faith  
Unveil future

**What will you do when you receive a promise from the Lord?**

- There are some established principles in God’s Word that we must understand, or we will get very frustrated with God’s promises.

**1. God’s TIMING is different from mine.**

- John 11:6 When he had heard therefore that he was sick, he abode two days still in the same place where he was.

God’s clock runs completely different than our clock

- 2 Peter 3:8-9 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning his promise ...
- Hold on to the promise until God’s time synchronizes with yours!

**2. God’s PERSPECTIVE is different from mine.**

- John 11:11 Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep.

- God is not frightened or perplexed by our situations. He knows exactly what He is “doing,” and also what He is “allowing.”
- Hold on to the promise when you can’t see what God is doing! (Your promise looks dead, but it’s really only sleeping!)

### 3. God’s **METHOD** is different from mine.

- **John 11:39** *Jesus said, Take ye away the stone.*
- **John 11:44** *And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go.*
- In almost every situation of life, if we had a preference we would do things completely different than God does things. We would make things a whole lot easier – or at least that’s what we think!

### 4. God’s **FEELING** is the same as mine.

- **John 11:33** *When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled,*
- **Hebrews 4:15-16** *For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.*
- **Lamentations 3:21-23** *This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope. It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.*

### **4. God’s plans are not limited to what is humanly possible v.21-31**

Coming to the Red Sea is just as much a part of God’s plan as crossing it.

A predicament in God’s hands is only a highway to the Promised Land.

### **Conclusion**

#### **God’s instructions through Moses are four-fold.**

1. **“Fear Not.”** He instructed the people first not to be afraid.
2. **“Stand still”** – reflecting faith and confidence in the delivering power of Jehovah.
3. **“Watch” – Moses says “see** what the Lord will accomplish for you today.”
  - God does not need your help.
  - You don’t need to fight, you need to stay out of the way.
  - Just watch Him work.

4. **Keep silent – “hold your peace.”** Often the hardest for us to do is this, because we feel that we just have to tell somebody about the predicament that we are in. But the only one who can do anything about our predicament already knows, He is waiting for us to look to him and be silent.

All of these instructions are directed to natural human responses to panic.

Why does God allow these predicaments to happen in our lives?

- ❖ Because it often takes these tight place to get us to look up to Him for our help.