

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

UNLEASHING THE POWER OF GOD

RLJ-1470

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NOVEMBER 16, 2014

PART 2: WATER & WAR

MARCHING OUT OF EGYPT

Pharaoh ordered the children of Israel to leave Egypt. The departure took place from the city of Rameses, which was located in the province of Goshen. The people were given four days' notice to assemble in Rameses. When the order came to leave, it was not a small amount of people as there were 600,000 men, plus women, children and a mixed multitude of other nationalities. It is estimated that there were some 3 million people, plus all their cattle and other farm animals.

When they traveled from Rameses to Succoth, it was in a northeast direction on the highway that led from Egypt to Gaza. The distance between these cities was about 20 miles and it must have taken several days before the last group in this long line of people and animals reached Succoth.

However, God did not trust the children of Israel to go straight into the Promised Land and directed them south toward the wilderness around the Red Sea. **Exodus 13:17-20**

The Suez Canal did not exist at that time and they could have easily turned southeast and gone toward the Sinai wilderness area. God had a different plan and lead them in a southwesterly direction to Etham where they camped. The next place they camped was at Pihahiroth and from there they proceeded to Baalzephon and camped at the shore of the Red Sea. The distance from Succoth to Baalzephon was about 70 miles. **Exodus 14:1-2**

It must have taken several weeks to travel the 70 miles which included stops to eat and make camp at night. They finally arrived at the Red Sea and traveled south along the shoreline until they were told to stop and make camp.

GOD HARDENED THE HEART OF PHARAOH

Pharaoh and his political leaders soon realized that they had just lost a valuable work force in the Israelites as slave laborers. The plagues which had devastated their country were all but forgotten. God supernaturally hardened the heart of Pharaoh and his leadership, and when word came that the children of Israel had gone south and were encamped in the wilderness at the Red Sea, they decided to retrieve their former slaves. **verses 3-9**

GOD'S SUPERNATURAL EQUIPMENT

I want to give you an idea of what a huge undertaking it was for Moses to lead several million people. When the lead group started traveling in the morning, the rear group was still waiting in the camp. When the lead group arrived at the new camp at the end of the day, the rear group had just begun to walk. God had them



walking during the day and also at night. In order for this to happen, God provided them with supernatural lighting. **Exodus 13:21-22**

God told Moses, but not the rest of the people, that He was leading the group towards the wilderness because He did not trust them. **verses 17-18**

When Pharaoh and his army caught up with the children of Israel, God ordered an angel to move to the rear of the camp and put up a supernatural barrier between the two groups. **Exodus 14:19-20**

CROSSING THE RED SEA

Crossing the Red Sea was a supernatural engineering feat that should make every Christian praise God for His supernatural power and willingness to use it against Satan and his evil forces.

It is estimated that the location for the crossing was 18 miles wide and 1,800 feet deep in the middle. When God prepared the crossing, Moses stated that a strong east wind blew all night. Why would God do such a thing? The answer is simple. The dirt on the bottom of the ocean is saturated with water and difficult to walk on. God dried it so that it would be easy for 3 million people to cross with their animals.

The Lord parted the sea so that the water stood like vertical walls on each side and sent an east wind to dry the sea floor. Moses' sole participation was to stretch out his hand over the sea. **Exodus 14:21**

The next morning Moses ordered the children of Israel to walk between the walls of water. This took faith since no one had ever seen water standing vertically, defying the law of gravity. The road that God created initially went down until it reached its lowest point at 1,800 feet below sea level and then they had to ascend up to the other side.

The path through the waters was wide enough so the Israelites could walk side by side. God moved some 3 million people with their cattle and farm animals across the Red Sea in a 24 hour time period! When they finally got to the other side the next morning, Moses was told to stretch forth his hand and the sea walls broke down and the pathway disappeared.

When the last of the Israelites was almost across the pathway, the Lord removed the barrier that had held back the Egyptian army and they pursued the children of Israel into the Red Sea.

Once the Egyptian army was completely on the sea floor, God sent angels to remove the wheels of the chariots in order to slow them down. Pharaoh and his officers realized that God was fighting them and tried to turn back but it was too late. When the vertical walls of water collapsed, no one can survive getting hit by an avalanche of water. It is impossible to swim upward 1,800 feet while wearing armor, and even if you could, you still couldn't hold your breath that long. God destroyed Pharaoh and his entire army in one fell swoop. **verses 22-28**

WATER

Water became an important issue after the people departed from Egypt and arrived into the wilderness. Each person would need approximately half a gallon of water per day for drinking and making food. All the cattle and farm animals would need water as well. At a minimum, this would amount to 3,000,000 gallons of water per day that God had to furnish this large group. The average gasoline tanker truck in the U.S. carries 10,000 gallons, meaning it would have taken 300 tanker trucks to supply the necessary water for the Israelites each day.

God had never told Moses beforehand how He was going to supply food and water in the wilderness; the only thing Moses could do was to cry out to God.

Exodus 17:1-7

WAR

Moses did not have an army; instead, it was a rag tag group of 600,000 former slaves and their families with no formal training in warfare.

When Satan sent the army of the Amalekites to destroy them, Moses knew the only way he could win this battle was to rely upon the supernatural intervention of the Lord.

He told his assistant leader, Joshua, to pick out a number of men that could be sent out to battle, but Moses knew that all he had was a bunch of men who had never been trained as soldiers and did not know how to fight as an organized unit.

Nevertheless, Moses knew that the Lord was their help and told this rag tag bunch that he would stand on a hill with his rod while they battled the enemy.

verses 8-10

Moses participated in the battle by holding up his hand and God ordered His angels to start killing the Amalekites. It is difficult to hold up your arms for a long period of time without getting tired. God's angels stopped fighting when Moses' arms sagged down because his muscles were burning. It was then that Aaron and Hur stepped into action and held up Moses' hands until the battle had been won. **verses 11-13**

SUMMARY

No human king, regardless of the size of his kingdom, could have succeeded in a project like the exodus out of Egypt and the crossing of the Red Sea. God could have supernaturally transported the 3 million people from Egypt directly to the Promised Land in a split second and He would have had a bunch of former slaves who could not fend for themselves. **The faith of Moses and the willingness of the people to obey a God they did not really know were all that God needed as He supplied the necessary supernatural events.**

God is still working on this earth and the formula remains the same; God will call a few faithful people and then supply the miracles. **Matthew 19:25-26**

Jesus never changes; He will be the same today and tomorrow. **Hebrews 13:8**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?