

# God's Direction for Difficult Times Exodus 14:1-14

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC Sunday, Feb. 2nd

*Pr. 3:5-9 "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones. Honour the LORD..."*

In Exodus 14 God gave Moses some confusing directions that led Israel into a "Trap".

This path led to a large beach called Nuweiba. This left them trapped and word quickly reached Pharaoh, who pursued them. Using this event we have been focusing on some...

## "Principles for Problems."

- **Number One: Remember Who Brought You Here: (Ps. 37:23)**  
*"The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way."*
- **Number Two: Be More Concerned With God's Glory Than Yours. (Ps. 115:1)**  
*"Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory,"*
- **Number Three: Face the Problem, but Focus on the LORD. (1 Cor. 3:18)**  
*"But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord."*
- **Number Four: Calmly Give God the Time and Space to Work. Ps 46:10**  
*"Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted..." (See also Isaiah 40:31)*

## Principle Five: Go forward by Faith.

Faith (pis'tis) is conviction of and reliance on God's truth.

Ex. 14:15 *"And the LORD said unto Moses, Speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward."*

## 1. GOD'S GOALS (Guidance or Will) USUALLY UNFOLD PROGRESSEVLY

*John 13:7 "What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter."*

### A. This Is The Consistent Teaching Of Scripture.

Mt 6:10,11 *"thy will be done on earth... Give us this day our daily bread..."*

Mt. 6:34 *"take therefore no thought for the morrow..."*

Jn. 14:6 *"I am the way..." (Not, I'll show you the way.) See also 1 John 1:7*

### B. This Is The Basic Foundation Of Faith. (Heb. 11:1) (also Deut. 8:2,3)

*"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."*

1) "Substance" hupostasis a setting under (support), a concrete essence, or assurance

2) "Evidence" elegchos (el'-eng-khos) proof, conviction:—evidence.

*Just as the footing must be laid before the foundation (and building) So Faith comes before sight!*

*Walking by sight means "seeing is believing".*

*Walking by Faith means that: "believing is seeing"*

### C. This Is The Experience Of All Saints. (Heb. 11)

- 1) **Creation:** *"Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God." Vs 3 (Jn 1:3)*
- 2) **Noah:** *"by faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved..." Vs 7*
- 3) **Abraham:** *By Faith Abraham, when he was called... went out, not knowing where he went" Vs 8*
- 4) **Sarah:** *"By faith Sarah... was delivered of a child when she was past age..." Vs 11*
- 5) **Joseph:** *"by faith... made mention of the departing of Israel." Vs 22*
- 6) **Moses:** *"By faith Moses... chose rather to suffer affliction with the people of God that to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. "for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward." Vs 23,26*
- 7) **Israel:** *"by faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry land" Vs 27*

*"Now all these things happened for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition..." 1 Cor 10:11*

## 2. GOD'S **GRACE** USUALLY UNFOLDS PROGRESSIVELY.

### A. We're Not Given Grace Today For Tomorrow's Problems.

Deut. 33:25,27 *"Thy shoes shall be iron and brass; and as thy days, so shall thy strength be. ...  
The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms:"*

### B. Plodding (Persevering) Is Better Than **Plotting**. (Mt. 6:31-34)

#### 1) We can get paralyzed by procrastination.

a) It's often wiser to take the next natural step than to plan the next year. (Mt. 6:34)

### C. It's Easier To Change The Direction Of Something That's already moving.

1) A moving train can plow through a brick wall, but one brick on the track can keep a stopped train from moving.

2) The helm of a ship Dead in the water makes no difference in direction!

3) In Gen. 27 Eliezer obeyed, prayed, and watched at the well.

a) His prayer was very specific. Vs 13,14

b) Rebekah did everything in his prayer. 17-22

c) Notice Eliezer's response (26,27) *"worshipped...blessed be the LORD... I being in the way,  
(doing what I could and reasonably should have been) the Lord led me to the house..."*

## CONCLUSION: Not every apparent "Dead End" is!

1) Some difficulties or "Dead ends" are God's **Denials**, because we're going the wrong way.  
(Balaam in Numbers 22:22-26)

2) Some difficulties or "Dead ends" are **Detours**. God's trying to show us a better way.  
(Paul in Acts 16:7-10)

3) Some difficulties or "Dead ends" are God's way of **Detaining** us.  
(There's something you must learn first!) See 2 Cor. 12:7-10

4) Some difficulties are God's way of teaching us to trust and **Delight** in Him! (Ps. 37:4,5)

Go forward by faith in spite of our fears. Ex 14:15 *"The LORD said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward!"*

**Application:** Israel couldn't see the other side of the sea,  
*but they could see (and Take) the next step!*

Ps. 37:23,24 *"The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way. (hāpēs': to bend, incline or desire) Though he fall, he'll not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand."*

**Unknown to them, God had already prepared this place and this people for this time!**

*"Are you troubled o'er things to come? Is your future unsure?*

*And are you dreading the coming dawn? A long day to endure?*

*Fear not tomorrow. God is already there. He's charting the course you take.*

*He sees each hidden snare. He's waiting to guide you through each burden and care.*

*Fear not tomorrow. **God is already there.**"*

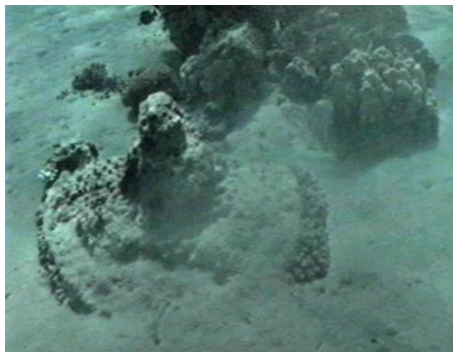
Collingsworth Family

*The Gulf of Aqaba is around 5,000 feet deep (1,500 m) for most of its length with a steep 45 degree slope to the bottom. However, on the side where the Israelites were trapped was the canyon they had just come through. Water rushing off the land soon after the flood had carried with it a tremendous amount of sand which had been deposited halfway out into the Gulf. Miraculously, a similar canyon had produced a tremendous deposit of sand originating from the other side. The location of both canyons was such that the sand reached each other and formed a land bridge of about 6/10ths of a mile wide (900 m) by 8 miles (13 km) long through the deep between the two sides. The slope both up and down on this land bridge was a gentle 6 degrees.*

But even then, at the deepest point, the land bridge was around 1,000 feet (300 m) deep. So given that it would take around 400 psi of pressure to hold back water 1,000 feet high, how could the Israelites survive such as wind as they passed through?

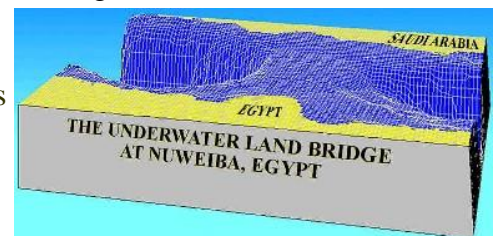
Perhaps most amazing of all, is the presence of an under water pathway. Along the length of the the Gulf of Aquaba, depths reach to an average of one mile and the Egyptian shoreline drops steeply under water at a slope of about 45 degrees. If the Israelites had tried to have crossed anywhere else along the Gulf of Aquaba they would have been faced with an extremely steep drop to about one mile. With all of their animals and wagons, the task would have been practically impossible. Only here, on the shores of Nuweiba, does the 'pathway' drop off at a gradual slope of one in fourteen, to a depth of just over 850 meters. On the Saudi side the slope climbs again at a slope of one in ten. The Bible describes it as, "Away in the sea and a " path in the mighty waters" (Isaiah 43:16, 17) The distance from Nuweiba to Saudi Arabia is about eight miles. And the width of the under water bridge is estimated to be 900 meters.

On diving down to the sea bed, in 1978, Ron Wyatt and his two sons found and photographed numerous coral encrusted chariot parts. Several dives since then have revealed more and more evidence. One of his finds included an eight spoke chariot wheel, which Ron took to the director of Egyptian Antiquities,



Dr. Nassif Mohammed Hassan. After examining it he immediately announced it to be of the eighteenth dynasty, dating the exodus to 1446 BC. When asked how he knew this Dr. Hassan explained that the eight spoke wheel was only used during this period, the time of Ramases II and Tutmoses (Moses). Chariot boxes, horse and human skeletal remains, four, six and eight spoke chariot wheels all lie as a silent testimony to the miracle of the parting of the Red Sea.

Ron found a column lying face down on the shore. On the Saudi side he found another exactly the same with an inscription in Archaic Hebrew that read, "MIZRAIM (Egypt), SOLOMON, EDOM, DEATH, PHARAOH, MOSES, YAHWEH." He believed that they were erected by Solomon to commemorate the crossing of the Red Sea. The inscriptions on the column found lying on the shore were eroded away. The authorities have since set it in concrete.



[https://www.ronwyatt.com/red\\_sea\\_crossing.html](https://www.ronwyatt.com/red_sea_crossing.html)