

Faith in Action

Part 9

“29 By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned.” (Hebrews 11:29)

That was amazing thing what God did to His people and He enabled them to pass the Red Sea on dry land. It was in this way:

“1 Then the LORD said to Moses, 2 'Tell the Israelites to turn back and encamp near Pi Hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea. They are to encamp by the sea, directly opposite Baal Zephon. 3 Pharaoh will think, 'The Israelites are wandering around the land in confusion, hemmed in by the desert.' 4 And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and he will pursue them. But I will gain glory for myself through Pharaoh and all his army, and the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD." So the Israelites did this. 5 When the king of Egypt was told that the people had fled, Pharaoh and his officials changed their minds about them and said, "What have we done? We have let the Israelites go and have lost their services!" 6 So he had his chariot made ready and took his army with him. 7 He took six hundred of the best chariots, along with all the other chariots of Egypt, with officers over all of them. 8 The LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, so that he pursued the Israelites, who were marching out boldly. 9 The Egyptians--all Pharaoh's horses and chariots, horsemen and troops--pursued the Israelites and overtook them as they camped by the sea near Pi Hahiroth, opposite Baal Zephon.” (Exodus 14:1-9) It was planned by the Lord that he will harden the heart of Pharaoh and will incite him to change his mind and follow the Israelites and in this way God will destroy and will get victory over Pharaoh and the army of the Egyptians. The Lord had explained to Moses that he will caused Pharaoh to follow and pursue the Israelites with a big army. Moses being a leader, God explained to him that such thing He will do so Moses will get encouraged and impart that to the people. Certain times the Lord will allow such events to happen and to come across your life; His word explained that and His will allow it to happen in order for your faith to be nurtured and strengthened.

The faith of the Israelites was tested on reality and was put in the display: ***“10 As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the LORD.” (Exodus 14:10)*** You are different person when you hear about such an experience from when you pass really through it. There is a difference between you hear about it and give your opinion from being be there in reality. The Israelites were elated to leave Egypt but they were frightened when Pharaoh and his army pursued them. They expressed the following to Moses their leader:

“11 They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you brought us to the desert to die? What have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt? 12 Didn't we say to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone; let us serve the Egyptians'? It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!" (Exodus 14:11-12) The real situation of hazard that God allow his people to pass through was so important in order that what is deep in their hearts and inside them will

be exposed to God and to themselves in order to be corrected and dealt with properly. Their frantic response and their desire to backslidden and going back was a defect in their faith that needed to be strengthened and built up to be enabled to face further life events, hardships and dangers in order for them to inherit the Promised Land.

Paul and Barnabas said to the disciples: ***“Strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. “We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God,” they said.” (Acts 14:22)***

Moses as man of faith did the same to strengthen the Israelites at the edge of the Red Sea; ***“13 Moses answered the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. 14 The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still.” (Exodus 14:13-14)***

- A- Do not be afraid:*** You are not alone God is with you.
- B- Stand firm:*** Do not be shaken and intimidated to quit or to go back. Build up your faith in God; this is the moment that you need to rely fully on God.
- C- You will see the deliverance of the Lord:*** You will witness what God would do to save you from the trouble that you are facing today.
- D- The Egyptians you see today you will never see again:*** God will remove them away; those who are troubling you, you will not see them again.
- E- The Lord will fight for you:*** You don't need to trouble yourself. And you don't need to fight, the Lord Himself will fight for you.
- F- You need only to be still:*** What had been entrusted to you to do that what you need to achieve, other things are not your responsibility, God will be the one to handle and deal with the rest of the situation.

“15 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Why are you crying out to me? Tell the Israelites to move on. 16 Raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea to divide the water so that the Israelites can go through the sea on dry ground.” (Exodus 14:15-16) That was God final instruction to the Israelites, ***“to move on.”*** What is ahead of them they need to do and to walk in the way that God is opening for them. The same for you, when things are beyond your perspective and power, you just need to move on with God's instructions and finally you will find yourself on the safe side without any enemy. Do you think that you can divide the Red Sea if God will not do that to you? Do you think that you can defeat the big enemy if God will not do it to you?

My Dear and Beloved: Faith is needed for you for the following reasons:

- 1- To cross hardships and difficulties.
- 2- To deal with and overcome your enemies.
- 3- To reach safely your destination that God had ordained for you to reach.

As you receive Christ as Saviour and Lord over your life, then you need to put your faith into action and translate it to fully trust and reliance on Him as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the Cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your word that encourages me so much to go on in life overcoming hardships and trials, defeating my enemies and to reach safely to where you are called me to be. Lord builds up my faith on your word and commands so I can reach and achieve what you ordained for me to achieve. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.*