

Worship

This term we are thinking about hope. As you read this story, pay attention to what God says and does for the Israelites to save them.

After God performed many miracles, Pharaoh finally released the Israelites from Egypt. Moses led the people out into the wilderness, but then Pharaoh changed his mind and came after the Israelites with his army.

Pharaoh gathered all the chariots in Egypt to chase after the Israelites and bring them back as slaves again. Even Pharaoh mounted his chariot and set out for the Israelite camp.

From far away, the Israelites could see Pharaoh and his army coming for them. They were struck with fear and cried out to the Lord. They turned to Moses and said, "Have you brought us here to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us? It would have been better for us to stay as slaves in Egypt than die out here alone!"

Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and see what the Lord will accomplish for you today. He will fight for you. Just keep still."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea to divide it. Tell the Israelites to go forward and walk through the middle of the sea on the dry ground. The Egyptians will follow and know that I am the Lord."

Then an angel of God went before the Israelites to lead them. A cloud formed between the Egyptians and the Israelites. Moses stretched out his hand, and a strong wind created a path of dry land through the sea, with walls of water on both sides.

The Israelites traveled through the sea safely to the other side. The Egyptians followed them through the parted waters, but the wheels of their chariots became clogged in the mud. Moses stretched out his hand again so that the water would crash over the Egyptians.

The Israelites saw the great work of the Lord and how he saved them from the Egyptians. They saw this and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Reflection

What complaint did the Israelites make to Moses?

How did God save them from the Egyptians?

What are you most afraid of right now? How can you ask God to help you overcome this fear?

Prayer

Dear God, Help us to share the Hope of our hearts with one another

Enable us to give Hope to others through Your work amongst us

Use us to transform our nation and to spread Your Hope to every corner of this nation.

Amen