

Exodus 14:1-12

Then the LORD said to Moses, “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. Pharaoh will think, ‘The Israelites are wandering around the land in confusion, hemmed in by the desert.’ 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.

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!” So he had his chariot made ready and took his army with him. He took six hundred of the best chariots, along with all the other chariots of Egypt, with officers over all of them. The LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, so that he pursued the Israelites, who were marching out boldly.

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. As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the LORD. 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? 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!”

Slavery has [layers](#).

Exodus 14:13-14

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. The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still.”

"deliverance" - *yeshua* (*yesh-oo'-ah*): salvation; Joshua; [Jesus](#)

Exodus 14:15-16

Then the LORD said to Moses, “Why are you crying out to me? Tell the Israelites to move on. 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.

2 Timothy 2:5-6

For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all people.

Exodus 14:30-31

That day the LORD saved Israel from the hands of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore. And when the Israelites saw the great power the LORD displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the LORD and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant.

Romans 6:14

For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.

Group Questions

1. What are some common "slave masters" today, and how do they keep control over people's lives?
2. When stress comes, why might addicts run back to their substance, even when they want to be free from it? How is this similar to the way that all sin works?
3. There's a paradox of believing you are forgiven, but at the same time, not feeling free from sin and still experiencing guilt or fear. Have you ever experienced this contradiction in your own faith journey? How did you reconcile it, or are you still wrestling with it?
4. Review Exodus 14:1-5. Why did God have the Israelites camp where they were boxed in? For some of you, does this apply to anything you're facing today?
5. When the sin you used to serve comes after you, it does not love you, it didn't die for you, it doesn't define you. Jesus does. How does this reminder of God's love and grace offer hope and encouragement when struggling with sin and fear?
6. Objectively, what does it mean that a Christian is free from sin? Consider Romans 6:1-4. How can you apply this subjectively to work the feeling down into your heart?