

Pillar (13:17-22)

- God often takes His people the long way because we are not ready.
- They are physically equipped for war, but not spiritually.
- They will not need to fight at all.
- They bring the bones of Joseph, who knew this day would come.
- God guided them by a pillar of clouds and fire.

Setting the Trap (14:1-9)

- God wants them to go to a place they will be trapped.
- He warns them Pharaoh will come, but God will deal with him.
- Pharaoh quickly changes his mind again.
- They all come exactly where God predicted.
- God's salvific work is always public and in the open.
- Sometimes God places us in difficult situations to help us trust and to show off.

God Explains the Plan (14:10-20)

- The people doubt when the actual moment comes, God was right they aren't ready.
- The people are crying out not in faith but in fear.
- They regret their salvation and what to return to slavery.
- Moses encourages them to what God will do.
- Unclear if God complaining about Moses or the people? (v 15)
- Moses is allowed to participate in working the miracle.
- God will harden their hearts again.
- They will see the miracle of the split seas and decide to fight anyway.
- The angel of God keeps them safe from the host of Egypt.
- This was a physical sign and reminder of God's presence and protection of them.

Sea Splits (14:21-30)

- Moses does as God says and the waters split.
- It appears a wind blows from the East all night to do this.
- This echoes the creation of dry land from the waters in Genesis.
- The pillar of fire throws the enemy into a panic and defeats their chariots.
- The Egyptians finally acknowledge who God is.
- None of the Egyptians survive and no Israelite's die.
- The waters may have split slowly, but they go back immediately.
- The Egyptians are dead in the water where they killed Israelite boys.
- Finally, the people fear God and believe Him and Moses.
- This is the climax and ultimate defeat of Egypt.
- It is like the 2nd Advent defeat of Satan after the redemption at the cross.

Song Overview (15:1-18)

- The song is a response to what God has done and how He has moved in history.
- It is the first worship song in the Scriptures.
- The people rightly respond to God's action with music and song.
- It starts with a call to praise God (15:1-3)
- It gives specific reasons to praise God based on what He has done (15:4-10).
- It praises God for what He is going to do in the immediate future (15:14-16).
- It praises God for what we hope God will do eternally (15:16-18).

Miriam (15:19-21)

- Miriam is a prophetess in her own right.
- She leads in worship and music.
- She is teaching the entire song to the people, not just the first verse.
- The song will be sung through generations all the way to Revelation 15:3

Bitter Water (15:22-27)

- They are tested after a massive victory and immediately fail.
- Their worry is understandable because 3 days without water is a long time.
- 3 days in the wilderness without water is a pattern being repeated.
- Following God has not been like what they expected.
- They finally find water, but it is undrinkable.
- Moses obey's God's weird command even though it makes no sense.
- The people must be faithful and obedient to avoid plagues themselves.
- Their obedience leads to water.

Application

- We will doubt God even after seeing and experiencing miracles.
- A life spent following Christ will not be endless victories and blessings without wilderness or enemies.
- Ultimate victory and salvation will not come through our own efforts but through faith in the LORD.