

ALL THE KING'S MEN

Exodus 14:15-31

Calvary Church of Pacific Palisades
May 15, 2011 ♦ Sunday Morning Worship

STORY – Friend called traumatized ... cruising Sunset, wife in car. On radio display God Only. “What is God trying to say to me?”

I got on the internet and started looking for “God Only” and found Beach Boys, “God Only Knows”. Called him back ... he assured me that the station was not Coast or KEarth; FM AM Sportstalk.

Wondering why as pastor I would seek reasonable explanation. ***“Nice if we could just accept the miraculous.”*** Most trying to explain miraculous in some plausible, scientific way.

Difficult to speak of supernatural, can't explain the unexplainable ... everything we believe depends on it.

God's supernatural power is revealed throughout history, even today. Can't miss it ...

The Israelites in bondage 430 years, miraculous events, set free, pursued by their oppressor. Hemmed in by the Red Sea, with the only thing between them and a murderous army is a pillar of cloud/fire.

And then God acts, with supernatural power, TO REVEAL HIS GLORY, to finish what He started ...

10 COMMANDMENTS ... CHAPTER 13 1:03:36 to 1:06:06 fade out sound then stop video.

Please open your Bibles to Exodus 14. Page 50.

Pharaoh considered what he lost ... God hardened his heart. 600 Chariots in pursuit.

Israelites cry out to Moses ... ***“it would have been better had we died in Egypt than desert.”***

Moses reassures the people ... ***“The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The Lord will fight for you, you need only be still.”***

Then God gives direct orders to Moses ... **Read Exodus 14:15-18**

Notice v. 18 ... I am the Lord, I will gain glory. This story is about god, God's GLORY. Glory revealed ...

GOD DEMONSTRATES HIS SUPERNATURAL POWER.

This “act of God” (insurance term for natural disaster) is designed to reveal His GLORY ... supernatural power. This is an “act of God” which cannot be explained in terms of secondary causes.

There have been many attempts to explain the story of crossing of the Red Sea; how it happened.

Documentary ... Santorini exploded, sending a Tsunami that sucked out the water as 2 million Israelites crossed on dry ground, and then surged in as the Egyptian charioteers (bogged down in mud and sand) were swept away by the water. Remember the pictures tsunami surge.

Dispute about where the crossing was ... Red Sea or Sea of Reeds. Yam Suph.

Adventurer in search of truth scuba Red Sea; purports to have pictures of chariot wheels.

“The problem is moral rather than intellectual; the critics don't want to deal with the implications of there being supernatural phenomenon so they try and explain it away.”

Miss the miracle. Fail to attribute it to God's supernatural power when His fingerprints are all over it.

Ill. STORY David Price ... recounting a time when God supernaturally delivered him.

Reno Air Races ... rookie season. P-51 Mustang WWII fighter named Cottonmouth.

Engine malfunctioned and needed to land immediately.

On approach, landing gear down ... voice that said “Race 49 you are going way too fast”.

When I say 3 “I want you to ground loop your plane.” Touch down and throw it into a 360 spin.

Recognized the voice of experience, Bob Hoover ... hovering over, watching, experienced.

1 – 2- 3 David did it. Counterintuitive, trained never to do it. Almost flipped, tore up wing and prop. Skidded to a stop 200 yards off the runway. Got out of the plane, unhurt and walked over to a cliff looked down at 300 foot drop. Bob Hoover could see cliff at end of the runway, while David couldn't. Heard a voice, trusted enough to be obedient, and his life was spared. Coincidence or God's providence?

Apparent that even in this story God mixes the natural (strong east wind) with the supernatural. Yet, it all comes from Him, through His power. God demonstrates His supernatural power.

GOD REVEALS HIS SUPERNATURAL PLAN.

v. 15 Stop crying and move on. Let go of your pity party and do something. Get moving. God's plan included their obedience. Liberation would not happen without obedience. Get moving.

v. 16 Use the power I've given you ... you are powerful; remember. Stop acting so powerless.

God's plan included the Leaders obedience as well.

v. 18 Supernatural deliverance brought about by God to prove His supernatural power.

God works supernaturally through our actions. But it requires obedience on our part.

God's supernatural plan includes US.

Read Exodus 14:19-20 GOD PROVIDES HIS SUPERNATURAL PROTECTION.

We are never alone when backed into a corner, "I will be with you always." "Never leave or forsake".

The Angel and the pillar moved from the front, to the rear; stood between the Israelites hemmed in by the sea and the pursuing army. Rear Guard

Isaiah 52:12 (NIV84) ¹² But you will not leave in haste or go in flight; for the LORD will go before you, the God of Israel will be your rear guard.

Ill. David Abbott ... shop in ChristChurch NZ. Earthquake Feb, 2011. Cabinet fell. Left shop. Doors open. Nothing stolen. Display cases filled with Rolex watches and lalique crystal.

Come on, who do you think was watching over him? Daughters flat destroyed ... she wasn't in it.

Read Exodus 14:21-28 GOD FINISHES HIS SUPERNATURAL LIBERATION. God supernaturally saves. The wheels come off ... it wasn't the sand or the mud that caused the chariots. It was God. ***"The Lord swept them into the sea."***

The enemy was completely destroyed. Utterly defeated. Not one survived.

The people of God were completely saved ... crossed over from death to life.

WHAT GOD HAS ALREADY DONE ... When Israel left Egypt their slavery came to an end ... but when they crossed the Red Sea they were liberated forever. No more Pharaoh to pursue them, to abuse them.

John 5:24 (NIV84) ²⁴ "I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life."

Crossed over from death to life ... no longer slaves, new creatures, new purpose, free to live life as it was meant to be lived.

Conclusion:

Read Exodus 14:29-31

Active Trust (obedience), supernatural miracle (unexplainable) leading to Response ... Song of praise ...

1st substantial song of praise heard from Israel, CH. 15 About God, who He is, what he has done.

Praise God for supernatural POWER, PLAN, PROTECTION, LIBERATION. Crossed over from death to life.