INTRODUCTION

14:5-9 At this time Pharoah, the king of Egypt was told that the people of Israel had fled. Then the heart of Pharaoh and his servants turned against the Israelites, to where they wondered, saying "What made them (the Egyptians) let the Israelite slaves go free from their service?" So, Pharaoh made them get his chariot ready and he gathered his army to march after them, with 600 of Pharaoh's best war chariots in all of Egypt, manned with captains over every one of them. Their hearts were hardened by the Lord as Pharaoh, king of Egypt pursued the children of Israel quite confidently. So, as the Egyptians gave chase with all the cavalry and chariots, horsemen and infantry, they overtook them as they encamped beside the sea near Pihahiroth, across from Baalzephon.

LESSON: I. **EXODUS 14:10-19**

14:10 And when Pharaoh drew nigh, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and, behold, the Egyptians marched after them; and they were sore afraid: and the children of Israel cried out unto the Lord. Now, the children of Israel were pinned next to the sea, and a large force of Egyptian cavalry was approaching quickly. Israel fearfully cried out to the Lord.

14:11 And they said unto Moses, Because there were no graves in Egypt, hast thou taken us away to die in the wilderness? wherefore hast thou dealt thus with us, to carry us forth out of Egypt?— Their cry to Moses was that since there were no graves in Egypt, he has taken them to the wilderness to die, and why do this to them? This is the first of grumbling and complaining from the Israelites coming out of Egypt. And their lack of faith has always been to blame Moses. They really spoke their own demise! They are about to learn some tough lessons.

14:12 Is not this the word that we did tell thee in Egypt, saying, Let us alone, that we may serve the Egyptians?— And they are still continuing with the same speech by reminding Moses of what they had told him while they were in Egypt, to leave them alone so they could serve the Egyptians: "For it had been better for us to serve the Egyptians, than that we should die in the wilderness." Their complaint continued! They didn't know how true it would be for them. God wants better for us, while we want to go back to familiarity. It was better to serve the Egyptians and be slaves than to do something they had never done before—TRUST GOD!

14:13 And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever. Moses was unmoved and spoke powerful words to encourage the Israelites, He only spoke what God told him to speak: "Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will work for them today." If only they had believed! He told them: "for the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more forever." Praise God! We can't stay in the slave mentality, fearing the enemy, for the chains are broken! Speak what God says in the Word over your life!

PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

14:14 The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace. Moses continued to try to mencourage the people by telling them The LORD will fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace", meaning quit complaining; wait and see without doubting; shut-up!

14:15 And the Lord said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward:— What the Lord told Moses to say must have been to no avail. They were not quick to hear, not slow of speech, nor slow to wrath! Now the LORD intervenes and tells Moses that this was not the time to cry out to Him. This was the time to tell them to go forward. Sometimes we know what to do, but won't take action! MY MY MY!

14:16 But lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it: and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea. Now, God tells Moses to lift up the rod in his hand, and stretch out his hand over the sea, and the sea will divide, so that the children of Israel will cross through the midst of the sea on dry ground. We know that the power was not in the rod, but in the Lord Himself and in Moses' obedience!

14:17 And I, behold, I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them: and I will get me honour upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host, upon his charlots, and upon his horsemen. God continues to tell Moses the same thing he had told him in 14:4. "The Lord will harden the hearts of the Egyptians again, which will cause him to follow after the Israelites. God says He will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his host (armies) who ride upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen." When God says a thing it will be done; it will come to pass. If He's done it before, He can do it again!

14:18 And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gotten me honour upon Pharaoh, upon his charlots, and upon his horsemen. God continues saying, "And when I has gotten His honor over Pharaoh and over all his host (armies) who ride upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen, Pharaoh and the Egyptians will know that I AM THE LORD!" "I AM" has spoken!

14:19 And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them; and the pillar of the cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them:— In 13:21 "The Lord went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way." Therefore, this surely denotes God's presence as "the Angel of God" who is the light in the pillar of the cloud leading them and going before them, but now. He moves and stands behind them. The angel shifted from Guide to Guardian becoming their Rear-Guard; their Defense and Protector. Also, God is Light and Fire!

II. EXODUS 14:20-22

14:20 And It came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel; and It was a cloud and darkness to them, but it gave light by night to these: so that the one came not near the other all the night. The pillar of the cloud came between the camp of the Israelites and the Egyptians which became a force-field preventing the Egyptians from entering. This was amazing for sure. The Israelites had light so they could see where they were going, but at the same time on the other side of the force field, it was darkness preventing the Egyptians from seeing anything. And all night long neither could come near the other because "the Angel of God" stood between them and their foe. What an amazing God we have!

PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

14:21 And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the Lord caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. Moses' confidence was not in vain. He lifted up his staff/rod, and stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD then blew a strong east wind all night, causing the sea to recede back; pushing it back and making the depth of that land dry, and dividing its waters in half. MY MY MY!

14:22 And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground: and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left. After the LORD divided the waters of the sea, the children of Israel could walk and pass through the midst of the sea on dry ground, while beholding the water as a wall standing upward on both sides. Spectacular!

SUMMARY:

10 Now Israel was pinned next to the sea, and the Egyptian cavalry was approaching quickly. Israel fearfully cried out to the Lord. 11 The Israelites began to grumble and complain against Moses about their dying in the wilderness. 12 They began to say to Moses that this was what they told him while they were in Egypt, to leave them alone so they could serve the Egyptians. They said "it was better to serve them; be slaves than to die in the wilderness." 13 Moses was unmoved and spoke powerful words to the Israelite, "Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will work for them today." He told them: "for the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more forever." 14 Moses continued to try to encourage the people by telling them, "The LORD will fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace", meaning quit complaining. 15 What the Lord told Moses to say must have been to no avail, and the LORD intervenes and tells Moses that this was not the time to cry out to Him. This was the time to tell them to go forward. 16 God told Moses to lift up the rod in his hand and stretch out his hand over the sea, and the sea will divide, so that the children of Israel will cross through the midst of the sea on dry ground. We know that the power was not in the rod, but in the Lord Himself! 17 God continues to tell Moses the same thing he had told him in 14:4. "The Lord will harden the hearts of the Egyptians again, which will cause him to follow after the Israelites, and God will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his host (armies) who ride upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen." 18 "And when God has gotten His honor over Pharaoh and over all his host (armies) who ride upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen, Pharaoh and the Egyptians will know that He is the Lord!" 19 The Angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them; and the pillar of the cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them. The angel shifted from Guide to Guardian becoming their rear-guard; their defense and protector (14:10-19).

20 The pillar of the cloud came between the camp of the Israelites and the Egyptians which made a force-field preventing the Egyptians from entering. It was darkness preventing the Egyptians from seeing anything, but the Israelites had light on their side. 21 Moses lifted up his rod, and stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD then blew a strong east wind all night, causing the sea to recede back; pushing it back and making it dry land, and dividing its waters in half. 22 After the LORD divided the waters of the sea, the children of Israel walked and passed through the midst of the sea on dry ground, with the water as a wall on both sides (14:20-22).

GJW