

God's Exit Door

Above every problem in life there is a brightly lit sign, and it says, **"God's Exit Door."** With God, there is always a way out! God will make a way out even where there is no way. Have you ever felt trapped by your circumstances? When you lay down at night, do your troubles get into bed with you? Do you tell yourself, "If I can get some sleep, things will look better tomorrow" - only to find that the same situations are waiting for you when you wake up?

Max Lucado writes in his book *Six Hours One Friday*, *"Sleep, for many, is not a robber but a refuge - eight hours of relief for our wounded souls."* If that's you, and you're being kept awake at night, it's probably not by counting sheep but by counting your debts, tasks or even your tears. You're so weary. Weary of being slapped by the waves of broken dreams. Weary of being stepped on or overtaken in the endless marathon to achievement. Weary of staring into the future and seeing only barrenness or futility. The strength of failure is its apparent finality. You begin to believe that things will never change. You need someone to reassure you that there is hope. In the timeless story of the Red Sea Crossing in **Exodus 14** we find out that, with God, there's always hope and it's always too early to give up. Listen (once again) to this great story and hear one more time the **promise of God** - that God will make a way out - no matter what!

- GOD WILL PROVIDE A WAY OUT WHEN YOUR BACK IS AGAINST THE WALL.
 1. Satan wants you to believe that there's no way out and the walls are closing in (verses 3-4). When the Israelites had no where else to go, the Lord gave Moses a plan...and reassured him. God said, **"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."** Let me ask you, when you have done everything right and you still end up between a rock and a hard place, what does it mean? It means that God has a better plan! So you need to look for the sign, "God's way out!"
 2. Satan wants you to believe that he will overwhelm you. Verse 9 tells us that, **"The Egyptians—all Pharaoh's horses and chariots, horsemen and troops...pursued the Israelites and overtook them as they camped by the sea."** When things are overwhelming you, be rest-assured that those things have not overwhelmed God.
 3. The enemy wants fear to blind your vision of faith. Verse 10 tells us that, **"As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the Lord."** When the children of Israel saw the Egyptians "they were very afraid." Satan will try to box you in, in an attempt to keep your eyes off the Lord.

So, what do you do when there's no where to go? You continue to trust! Trust in the faithfulness of God. Trust in His unfailing love. Elizabeth Elliot writes, *"True faith goes into operation when there are no answers."* You may not have the answers, but you still have faith!

- GOD WILL PROVIDE A WAY OUT WHEN YOUR PROBLEM IS FAR BIGGER THAN YOU.

1. Satan would have you to believe there's no escaping your problems (verse 11-12). 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!"*** But why would God deliver His children and then allow them to be plagued by the enemy? God has delivered us out of the kingdom of darkness - not to deliver us back again!
2. God wants you to know the battle is His (verses 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."*** Every problem we face is an opportunity to see God at work. The victory is secured by moving on with the Lord (verses. 15-20). ***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. I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them. And I will gain glory through Pharaoh and all his army, through his chariots and his horsemen. The Egyptians will know that I am the Lord when I gain glory through Pharaoh, his chariots and his horsemen." Then the angel of God, who had been traveling in front of Israel's army, withdrew and went behind them. The pillar of cloud also moved from in front and stood behind them, coming between the armies of Egypt and Israel. Throughout the night the cloud brought darkness to the one side and light to the other side; so neither went near the other all night long.***

- GOD WILL PROVIDE A WAY OUT EVEN IF HE HAS TO TAKE YOU THROUGH THE MIDDLE OF YOUR IMPOSSIBILITIES.

1. God always points us in the direction of our impossibilities. Verse 16. ***"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."*** Verse 21. ***"Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the Lord drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided..."***
2. God always makes us walk straight through our problems (verses 22-25). ***And the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued them, and all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and horsemen followed them into the sea. During the last watch of the night the Lord looked down from the pillar of fire and cloud at the Egyptian army and threw it into confusion. He made the wheels of their chariots come off so that they had difficulty driving. And the Egyptians said, "Let's get away from the Israelites! The Lord is fighting for them against Egypt..."***
3. God always uses that which blesses us to destroy the enemy - His power (verse 27-28). ***"Moses***

stretched out his hand over the sea, and at daybreak the sea went back to its place. The Egyptians were fleeing toward it, and the Lord swept them into the sea. The water flowed back and covered the chariots and horsemen — the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not one of them survived.”

4. God is always glorified in the middle of our impossibilities (verse 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.”*** George Muller said, *“Faith does not operate in the realm of the possible. There is no glory for God in that which is humanly possible. Faith begins where man’s power ends.”*

Notice:

- God always wants us to know the battle is His.
- God always points us in the direction of our impossibilities.
- God always makes us walk right through our problems.
- God always uses that which blesses us to destroy the enemy.
- God is always glorified in the middle of our impossibilities.

When you feel like your back’s against the wall and there is no way out, *God will make a way!* When you feel like your problem is far bigger than you, *God will make a way!* When you feel you can’t go another mile, *God will make a way!* When you’ve reached the limits of your resources and things are impossible, *God will make a way!* Yes, over every problem in your life there is a brightly lit (illuminated) sign, and it simply says, **“GOD’S EXIT DOOR.”** So keep an eye out for it!

If you want a wonderful experience this coming week, take your New Testament and use a concordance to look up the two little words, ***“but God.”*** See how many times human resources have totally failed, and then see how often the Spirit of God writes this inspiring phrase, ***“...but God”*** - and then the whole situation changes into victory!