



Mustard Seed Children's Summary for June 28, 2009
Released on Wednesday, June 24, 2009

"Protected and Delivered!"

Lesson Text: Exodus 14:15–25, 30

Background Scripture: Exodus 13:17–14:30

Memory Verse: "Thus the Lord saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians" (Exodus 14:30).

Exodus 14:15–25, 30

15 And the Lord said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward:

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.

17 And I, behold, I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them: and I will get me honor upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen.

18 And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gotten me honor upon Pharaoh, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen.

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:

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.

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.

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.

23 And the Egyptians pursued, and went in after them to the midst of the sea, even all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen.

24 And it came to pass, that in the morning watch the Lord looked unto the host of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and of the cloud, and troubled the host of the Egyptians,

25 And took off their chariot wheels, that they drave them heavily: so that the Egyptians said, Let us flee from the face of Israel; for the Lord fighteth for them against the Egyptians.

.....

30 Thus the Lord saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea shore.

THE OBJECT IN VIEW:

When they are afraid or facing a hard time in their lives, encourage the children to put their trust in God, knowing that He can protect them.

TRUTHS TO STRESS:

1. Sometimes God allows hard things to happen to us as a part of His great plan for good.
2. Part of God's plan for good is that everyone will learn that He is the true God.
3. We can keep on trusting God because there is no limit to His ability to protect us.

PLANNING LESSON AIDS:

For Telling the Lesson, bring two bed sheets. Use pencils as chariot axles. Push cardboard disks onto the ends to make wheels. Make a model of the pillar of cloud and fire by cutting a cloudlike pillar from a large piece of cardboard and coloring one side bright yellow and the other side black.

For Helping to Remember, bring cardboard for each student and pencils, safety scissors (blunt tip), and crayons or markers so that they can make smaller versions of the pillar of cloud and fire.

For the Lesson Activity, make a copy of the word search for each student.

TEACHER'S NOTES:

Time: about 1445 B.C.

Place: Egypt

When the people of Israel were escaping from Egypt, they certainly could have doubted that God would really protect them all the way. Even though Pharaoh let them go, he soon changed his mind and began to chase them. They were in the middle of God's great plan for the good of all humanity, but they probably saw only the obstacles that were immediately before them. There was the sea, and even after God opened it, there were the huge walls of water on each side and the sound of the roaring wind.

They did not realize that God was going to use them to show Egypt that He was the one and only true God. They did not realize that God was going to protect them so that their children could receive His law and give the Bible to the whole world. They did not realize that God was going to protect them so that one day one of their descendants would bring forth a Saviour for the whole world.

They were in the midst of a very important battle, but it was important not just for them but for everyone. God loves to protect His people, and He can always do so. However, He was allowing them the privilege of going through trials for much greater purposes.

Can you imagine what it must have been like in their camp the next day? I wonder whether anyone stopped to count all the ways God had worked to protect them - from holding back the enemy with a pillar of cloud to opening the sea to removing the wheels from Pharaoh's chariots!

We must never accuse God of not caring when we face trials. He may be letting us be part of some important plan for blessing the world. We must never limit God's ability to help us. The situation may look impossible from a human standpoint, and it may be difficult for us to discern God's hand in it, but His power to help has no limit. We just need to trust Him and obey what He tells us.

BEGINNING THE LESSON:

Have you ever had something hard happen to you, and you just did not see how God could help you? Of course, God is God. So He always has many ways He can help us. When we are facing hard times, we do not always remember that.

The people of Israel were facing hard times. We have already seen how they were made slaves in Egypt. That was bad enough. Then, when Moses and Aaron told Pharaoh

God's words, "Let My people go," he made their work even harder. He made their lives even more miserable.

The people felt that God was not helping them, and their troubles were not over yet.

TELLING THE LESSON:

Finally Pharaoh agreed to let the people of Israel go free. They left right away, but they did not get far before Pharaoh changed his mind and began chasing after them. The people cried to Moses, and Moses cried to God.

God answered Moses. God asked why he was crying to Him. God said Moses should tell the people to go forward.

Go forward - but how? They had come as far as they could. Stretched out in front of them was the Red Sea. There was no way they could swim across, and there were no boats. If they went forward, it looked like they all would drown.

God told Moses to stretch out his arm and hold his walking stick over the water. God said that when he did, the waters would part.

It still would not be easy. God said Pharaoh's army would follow the Israelites. What was happening was all a part of God's wonderful plan. His plan was good for so many! Part of His plan was to show the Egyptians that He was the true and living God. God wanted them to have the opportunity to be saved too. God told Moses a little bit of what He was doing. This would help Moses keep trusting Him and obeying His word. God told Moses that all of Egypt was going to know that He was the Lord.

God sent a special angel to protect His people from Pharaoh's army. God had been showing them the way by sending a pillar of cloud by day. At night it looked like a pillar of fire. It could always be seen. God moved that pillar of cloud behind the Israelites. It was very dark; so the Egyptian soldiers could no longer see the people of Israel ahead of them. (Display pillar of cloud and fire.)

Actually, only one side of the pillar was dark. God lit up the other side so that it showed the way for His people. Look at how He was taking care of them! All night long the Egyptians were stopped because of the dark cloud.

Then Moses stretched out his arm with his walking stick, just as God had told him to do. When he stretched his staff over the water, God sent a very strong wind. It blew on the water. It blew and blew.

(Teacher, have the sheets laid out on the floor, side by side. Let some of the bigger children stand by the outer edges to pull the sheets up at the right time. Have the other children stand in front of the sheets.) Let us pretend these sheets are the sea. When God caused the wind to blow, it made a path right through the water. (The children should pull the sheets up to form a path and walls of water.)

God's people began to walk through the sea on dry ground! (Let the children walk through the water.) Let us clap for the way God protected them.

In the morning, God removed the pillar of cloud. The Egyptian army saw the path into the sea and began to follow the Israelites. God was not out of ways to protect His people. Once the Egyptians got onto the path through the sea, He made the wheels come off their chariots. (Let the children take the wheels off the axles you have made.) That slowed them down! They never got through to the other side.

Moses brought his arm down, and God let the waters go back. God's people were saved. Pharaoh's army would never bother them again. God had protected them in so many ways!

God allowed the people of Israel to have a very hard time, but He brought them out and protected them. His plan was good for everyone. It was good for God's people because they were freed - delivered from slavery. It was good for Egypt because it gave everyone in Egypt an opportunity to know for sure that the Lord is the true and living God. It was good for the whole world because the people of Israel later received God's Word and gave it to the world. So the suffering of God's people in Egypt was ended - and so much more!

TELLING HOW TO LIVE:

When we are in a hard place, remember that God has many ways to help His people. How many ways can you remember that God helped His people in today's lesson? (He sent the cloud to hide them from the Egyptians. He made the waters part. He made the wheels fall off the Egyptian chariots. He brought the waters back down at just the right time.)

In hard times, God wants us to keep trusting Him and keep doing what He says. God loves us. His plan is so big that we cannot understand it. His plan is always good - not just for us but for everyone.

Sometimes it is just when things are looking their worst that God steps in and provides His help. We must never panic but instead keep trusting Him. He will be there for us.

HELPING TO REMEMBER:

Let the children draw cloudlike pillars, cut them out, and color them dark on one side and bright on the other. Use scrap cardboard to make supports so that the pillars can stand up.

EXPLAINING THE MEMORY VERSE:

"Thus the Lord saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians" (Exodus 14:30).

God saved the people of Israel when Pharaoh's army was chasing them. Pharaoh wanted to return them to slavery or to kill them. God saved His people by sending the pillar of cloud, by opening the sea, by taking the wheels off Pharaoh's chariots, and by bringing the waters back at the right time. He saved the Israelites from being killed.

He saved them because He loved them, but He also saved them for a greater purpose. He saved them to become a blessing to Egypt and to the entire world. God protected His people. It was part of His big plan to bless us all.

CONCLUSION:

God was there with the Israelites. He is the same God today. He is with His children today. He has plans for us, just as He had plans for Israel. God can carry out His plans by His power, and there is no enemy that can stop God's plans.

We see from Israel's example that God protects and cares for His own. We can keep on trusting God because there is no limit to His ability to protect us.

PRAYER:

Dear God, thank You for protecting us. We know that You are with us when we are afraid or when we face hard times. Help us to trust You always, in Jesus' name. Amen.

ANTICIPATING NEXT WEEK'S LESSON:

Next week's lesson is "Rules to Live By" and focuses on the Ten Commandments. Study Deuteronomy 5:1-27.

Lesson Summarized By:

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LESSON ACTIVITY:

**"Protected and Delivered!" Crossword Puzzle
(Exodus 14:15-25, 30)**

Find the following keywords from the lesson:

ANGEL OF GOD	PILLAR	CHARIOTS	RED SEA
CLOUD	DROWN	DELIVERED	FORWARD
PROTECTED	WHEELS	MOSES	EGYPTIANS
DARKNESS	EAST WIND	LIGHT	ISRAEL

W T R T G A E D E R E V I L E D F P I E E D A
L T R L E A R S I S R D L R R W R D R F M D O
W N R I E N O R M N D I T T R T A W K O R N E
H A E S R W S D C E D A R K N E S S S A T W T
E E D E C O N E K O O R T R L E E E W E M D I
E S E T O R O T E C H A R I O T S R G O O D W
L D I P I D L C Y E I T S A U P O Y E G W H E
S E P S N D D E G A S R C D A F P A F E P O I
S R A I C H O T A T H G I L T T A O C D I O G
G R I V L D N O D D U G T H I H L I A E O P D
G D E P U L I R L A R S R A A E T R G E V E E
E U S O R L A P H R E R N E G F I O D Y D O O
F E L W V D E R L S T S C N E A S T W I N D S
O C E H L O R A I G S P A E O L A O R A O G E
D W S E L E L N L L G O K R S R O N D W A E T
G V G W S L E S L H T F S E E S E I A T E T A

**“Protected and Delivered” Crossword Solution
(Exodus 14:15-25, 30)**

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          D E R E V I L E D
      L E A R S I                      M D
W          N                      O R
H A          W D          D A R K N E S S S A
E E          O E                      E W E D
E S          R T          C H A R I O T S R G O
L D          D C                      O Y G
S E P          E                      F P F
      R I          T          T H G I L T O
          L D O                      I L
          U L R                      A E
          O          A P          N G
      L          R          S          N E A S T W I N D
C                      A

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The KJV Parallel Bible Commentary, by Nelson Books