

DIVINE DELIVERANCE

November 16, 2014

Exodus 14:1-31

“And Israel saw that great work which the Lord did upon the Egyptians: and the people feared the Lord, and believed the Lord, and his servant Moses.” Exodus 14:31

Whereas the past year has been one of great blessing upon this congregation, it has also included many trials. We have had more funerals than usual. Many have suffered serious illness, from which some continue to struggle. The Christian school faces budgetary challenges beyond any we've experienced. Temptations to alarm regarding national and international events add to these conditions. Amid these challenges our attention must be directed to our sovereign God, who is too good to be unkind and too wise to make any mistake, “who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: that we should be to the praise of his glory” (Eph. 1:11, 12). Nothing His people experience is by chance; everything is His wise, mysterious working to perfect them.

1. God will complete the perfecting of His people.

- A. “. . . he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ” (Phil. 1:6).
- B. “When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory” (Col. 3:4).
- C. “. . . Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish” (Eph. 5:25b-27).
- D. “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren” (Rom. 8:28-29).

2. Many biblical precedents reveal God refining and delivering His people.

- A. Job
- B. Joseph (Gen. 37-50)
- C. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the furnace (Dan. 3)
- D. Daniel and the den of lions (Dan. 6)
- E. Saints “of whom the world was not worthy” (Heb. 11:36-40)

3. Israel's experience at the Red Sea demonstrates God's power to deliver (Exodus 14).

- A. God directed Israel to that exact location where human weakness and inability would be exposed (3:17-18; 14:1-2).
- B. God knew the next step the oppressor would take (14:3)
- C. God influenced Pharaoh to move against Israel to get glory to Himself showing them that He was their Lord and keeper (14:4-9).
- D. God brought His people in to a circumstance from which they would need salvation, and know their need for Him (14:10-14).
- E. God delivered His people by means they could never have foreseen (14:15-31).