



Help for the Hemmed In

Exodus 14:1-4

Then the Lord said to Moses, ² “Tell the Israelites to turn back and encamp near Pi Hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea. They are to encamp by the sea, directly opposite Baal Zephon. ³ Pharaoh will think, ‘The Israelites are wandering around the land in confusion, hemmed in by the desert.’ ⁴ 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.” So the Israelites did this.

When you feel “Hemmed In” remember:

I. God might have caused it.

- God loves seemingly impossible situations!
- Judge God’s goodness by the cross, not by today’s trial.

Exodus 14:10-14

As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the Lord. ¹¹ 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? ¹² 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!” ¹³ 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. ¹⁴ The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.”

2. Stand firm!

Keys to “Standing Firm”:

- A. Don’t play the blame game.
- B. Choose faith over fear. (Hebrews 10:39)
- C. Hold your place until He reveals His plan.

3. God is fighting for you!

Exodus 14:14 (NIV)

The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.”

- God is faithful to fight for us even when we are unfaithful!
- When God fights, He completely destroys. (Exodus 14:30b; Psalm 77:16-20)

4. You will either be humbled or humiliated.

Exodus 14:15-16 (NIV)

Then the Lord said to Moses, “Why are you crying out to me? Tell the Israelites to move on. 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.

Exodus 14:21-22 (NIV)

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, ²² and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.

- When we are hemmed in, we will either be swept away by grace or judgement.