

THESE WALLS

THE RED SEA



By: Lacy N. Duvall

Age 11-14 year olds



Did you know?

SCRIPTURES

Exodus 14:19-22

"And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went from behind them; and the pillar of the cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them: And it came to 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. 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. 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."

LET'S TALK FACTS

Do you remember the Red Sea crossing?

This was right after the 10 plagues of Egypt. Pharaoh had let God's people go, but he was chasing after them. He followed them right up to the Red Sea. He thought he had them trapped, but God had different plans

- It took the children of Israel all night long to cross the Red Sea.
- The waters were peeled back, resembling **walls** of water.
- Over a million people walked across together.
- God dried the bottom for them.
- Pharaoh, his men, and 600 chariots followed them into the sea.

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN FOR ME?

This particular time for the children of Israel was new and scary. Crossing the Red Sea came on the heels of the 10 Egyptian Plagues. God's people had already seen quite a few phenomenal occurrences. So, the first thing we need to do is break down this situation for better understanding. Think of it from their perspective. These descendants of Israel had been born and raised in slavery. The Egyptians ruled over them continually for hundreds of years. While **the city walls** of Egypt trapped their families, they also provided a sense of **stability** and **normalcy** for them. They were **comfortable** inside those walls. Then, almost out of nowhere they were being set free. After living enslaved for that long, how could they even recognize the power of **freedom**? Once free from the Egyptians, they struggled at times, feeling **unsafe**, feeling **lost**, and feeling like things might be **better in slavery**. All in all, since they had not know freedom for themselves, they often reverted back to wanting **the predictability** of their old bondage. As odd as it seems, they felt **secure** in those chains.

However, deep down they did want their **liberty as a people**, so they went with Moses, who was supernaturally led of God. When they got to the edge of the Red Sea, Pharaoh and his army were trailing them. They were **trapped once again**, so it seemed. The sea was the only thing that stood in their way. So, what did God do? An East wind blew back the waters forming **a wall** on each side and a dry path down the center. God made **a path in great waters** for them. Once again, there were **walls** surrounding them except *these walls* were not a trap. **These walls** were holding back **potential destruction** and **clearing a way** for a **new future**.

CHALLENGE

I want you to ask yourself if you feel walled in right now. It wouldn't be surprising if you did given the realities in the present world. However, the neat thing is that you do not have to feel like you are trapped behind walls. You simply need to embrace a **God-like perspective**. You can do that right now!

WHERE DO I START?

Do some soul searching!

Do you feel like walls are surrounding you?

The thing is that walls carry **two main purposes**. They will either **keep stuff in**, or they will **keep things out**. Now, here is the interesting twist that you actually already know. The **devil** creates walls that trap you, **keeping you in** his grip. **God** creates walls that **keep destruction and enemies OUT** of your life. In other words, not all walls are bad. So ask yourself, "These walls I feel are they from God or are they from the devil? Here is the **BEST** news. Jesus already defeated the devil which means enemy walls can only stand as long as you allow them to. The moment you call on Jesus, the devil **has to leave you alone**."

In fact, God will establish **new walls** in your **defense**. Think back to the Red Sea. The walls of water were keeping the destruction from getting to God's people. However, when the enemy entered the Red Sea, those same **walls came crashing down**, unleashing the **destruction** on the enemy. You aren't trapped right now. You are being protected by an almighty father! This path that you are currently on is leading you to a bright new future free of fear. **Stick with God**, and the **walls in your life** will serve as **barriers**, keeping the enemy out!