

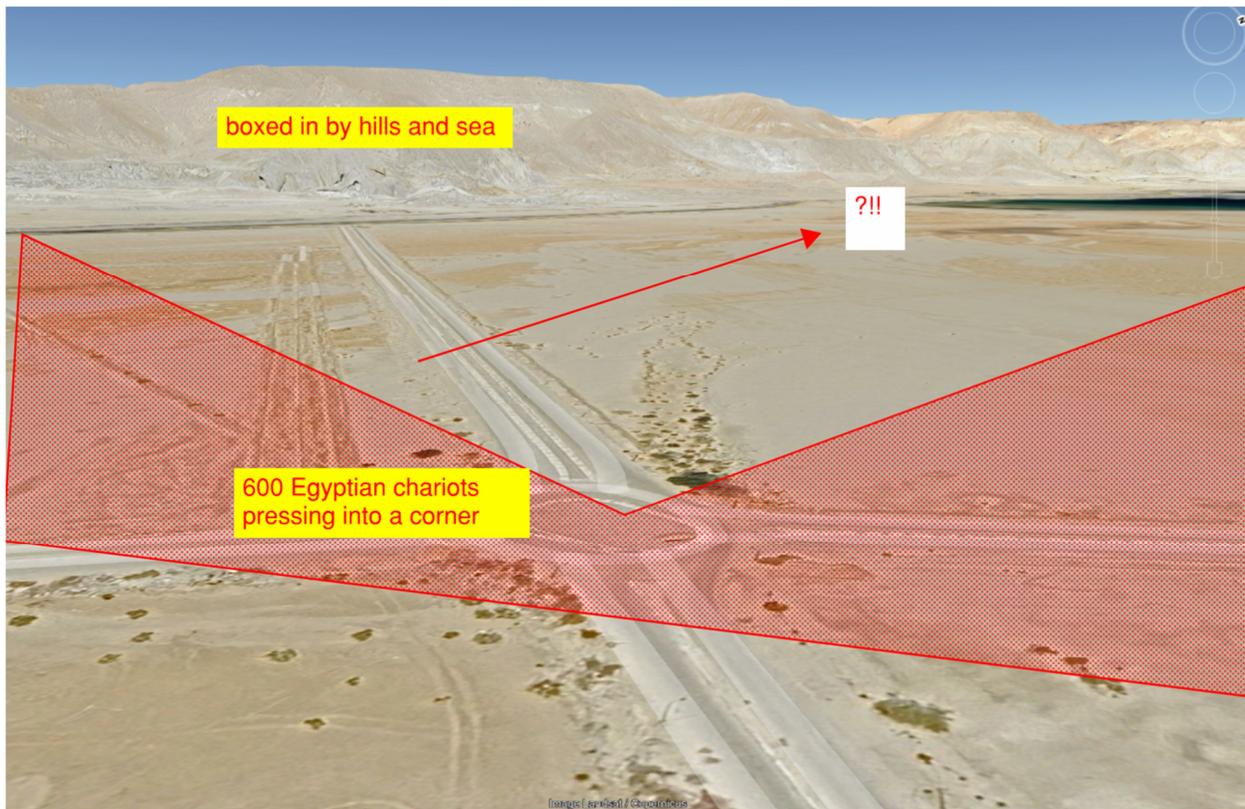
## Exodus 14

**Read Exodus 14:1-12:** It's time for Moses to lead the people back towards the homeland. Moses was a humble guy, but leading a group this big could give you an enhanced of self-importance. As Moses led the people, they ended up in a boxed off area as the Egyptians caught up to them. Surely Moses felt like a failure at that point. Everything about Moses and the Law that he gave the people is about being unable to complete the task at hand. The wrote down great information, but the people could care less. God kept them alive through supernatural involvement.

We have records of where the children of Israel crossed the Red Sea. In fact, modern imaging technology shows chariot wheels and horse bones at the crossing location. Moses brought them to the brink of destruction, and God opened a way that did not exist.







There were 600 Egyptian chariots as well as marching soldiers. The army caught up to Israel at the edge of the Red Sea. The children of Israel became very afraid that they had met their doom. Have you tried to step into anyone's life and fix it; to end up just creating all kinds of problems? This is why prayer is important. If a prayerful plan fails its not on you.

**Read Exodus 14: 13-31:** I tend to be bolder when I am huge trouble. Moses and the children of Israel were about ready to be massacred.

God told Moses to stretch out his staff to make the waters part. Moses told the people that they would never see these Egyptians again. Sometimes we get pinned in by life's impasses and pressures. All that we can do is pray and stand. God needs a venue that we cannot interrupt or mistakenly take credit for our deliverances. Without a tragedy nobody prays. Without prayer, nobody goes to heaven. It's pretty simple.

People greatly misunderstand that all we have to respect is God. The enemies of our soul are more about effects that's causes. We only need to focus on God. That's the way it works. The Devil is unknowingly God's German Shepherd. He keeps him on a leash. Likewise, Pharaoh and evil men have no intention of turning men's hearts towards God, but they do. Today, the fastest growing churches are in Iran and China, where they are the most persecuted.

God hardened pharaoh's heart. God does not actually tempt people, or force people to sin. He takes their desires and intentions and conforms them to his timing and ultimate purposes. Everybody and everything serves God, rather they know it or not. Rather it is their intention or understanding or not. God is going to be glorified.

One of God's purposes was to show the Egyptians that he is God Almighty. God used mighty wind to accompany the opening of the Red Sea. It was God or his angels who separated the water. The wind force required to open the Red Sea would have to be over 2,000 mph. The people could not stand anywhere near that or not be deafened. It is just a miracle accompanied by a wind. Generally, in the bible, wind implies unseen forces and spiritual warfare taking place. God walked all over Egypt's idols, and now he is knocking down the wall of their prison.

This is not the only time that God parted water for people to cross on dry land. He did the same thing crossing the Jordan River on their way back home. They were not trying to drive their carts through muck and mud. It was dry land. Even a wind tunnel could not dry that ocean bottom like that. It is symbolic to see God's people surrounded by death on every side walking in deliverances.

Hatred creates mental illness and insanity. What would possess Pharaoh to drive his chariots into the Red Sea and chase the children of Israel? Obviously, the God of Israel could do whatever he wanted. Egypt was in ruins over the 10 Plagues. Very smart people become like unreasoning animals when they fight against God or his people. God told Moses to stretch his staff over the Red Sea to open it; and to subsequently to close it. It closed up on Pharaoh's army and killed them all. You could compare this to the Great Tribulation that is coming. Evil men with hatred will be chasing people into a relationship with God. The Israelites believed in God and trusted him at that moment. This moment of time was the peak of the national faith in that generation. The honeymoon was over very soon thereafter.

*<sup>14</sup> "Therefore, behold, I am going to persuade her, Bring her into the wilderness, And speak kindly to her. <sup>15</sup> Then I will give her vineyards from there, And the Valley of Achor as a door of hope. And she will respond there as in the days of her youth, As in the day when she went up from the land of Egypt. <sup>16</sup> And it will come about on that day," declares the Lord, "That you will call Me my husband And no longer call Me my Baal. <sup>17</sup> For I will remove the names of the Baals from her mouth, So that they will no longer be mentioned by their names. <sup>18</sup> On that day I will also make a covenant for them With the animals of the field, The birds of the sky, And the crawling things of the ground. And I will eliminate the bow, the sword, and war from the land, And will let them lie down in safety. <sup>19</sup> I will betroth you to Me forever; Yes, I will betroth you to Me in righteousness and in justice, In favor and in compassion, <sup>20</sup> And I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness. Then you will know the Lord. (Hosea 2)*