***Exodus 14:13-15 And Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. 14The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.” 15And the Lord said to Moses, “Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward.***

Last week, we studied Jahaziel, as he had the Spirit of the Lord fall on him in the midst of the assembly. He said, “*You will not need to fight in this battle. Position yourselves, stand still and see the salvation of the Lord, who is with you, O Judah and Jerusalem!’ Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the Lord is with you.”* The people went out, with Praise leading the way, and there, all over the valley, lay what the people were so worried about yesterday. They saw the Salvation of the Lord… because they were looking for it. What are we looking for this morning?

This morning, we find ourselves with Moses and the Children of Israel at the edge of the Red Sea. We’ve come through a narrow pass. Mountains and wilderness surround us, and we’re on a wide beach with the Red Sea at our backs. Then, the Egyptian army, 600 choice chariots, horsemen, and foot soldiers come through the same pass and camp. The Children of Israel cry out to God and begin to criticize, “Look how this has not gone our way Moses… we told you this would happen. Our way would’ve been better than God’s.” Make no mistake – they’re criticizing God and His plan. They cry out, not in Faith, but in judgement. Do we?

Verse 13, Moses speaks. *And Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever.*Does this sound familiar? Stand still, see. Moses wastes no time sniping at his brothers and sisters, no time complaining before the Lord. Pride would have him defending himself, pointing fingers. Instead, he answers humbly. Do not be afraid. The Hebrew has the idea of – do not be stirred up in fright. Stand still – The words mean – quiet your mind and don’t doubt. See the salvation of the Lord. How will we see if we’re too busy hiding our eyes in fear? See the salvation, while the first chariot hasn’t moved, not the first drop of water has parted in the sea. See the salvation in Faith and know it’s about to happen. God will accomplish this salvation. The way of God’s salvation is not outward, not inward, but upward. The people are casting their eyes backward, not upward. As believers, our eyes must always be upward. *For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever.* And we know this is so. The Egyptians, the chariots, the horses will be seen driving into the Red Sea… not one is coming out alive.

Verse 14 *The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.* Trust in God no matter what. The word for fight means to utterly devour, completely destroy. God is getting ready to destroy that which is coming against His people. And they shall be utterly silent. The Children of Israel will not lift a hand, nor say a word. God alone will fight. Notice that even through the complaining, the blaming, the criticism, the judgement… all the I told you so’s and my way would have been so much better’s… Moses comforts the people and encourages them. He exhorts them to be resolute in belief looking upward, not inward, nor outward, but upward for Salvation. Don’t look for it in this world, it can’t be found. Look for it in God. Likewise, in our walk, we must look upward, looking beyond our fears, and trusting in resolute silence.

Verse 15 *And the Lord said to Moses, Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward.*Don’t let it be lost on us - Moses has not prayed one word out loud. God heard his heart. Why do you cry out to Me? God is saying, “Your unspoken prayer has been heard, all is in order, Now, speak to the Children. God gives instruction that must be obeyed. Trust and Obey. The army is still behind. The Sea is still in front. God says go forward – the Hebrew means to pull up tent pins and start the journey. Go forward in Faith, as far as you can go. Trust that God will take care of the rest. He says the same to us today. We must obey and go as far as we can go, trusting that God will handle the rest. Go forward in Faith and behold the miracles of God.

Of course, we know the rest of the story. Moses lifted his rod, stretched out his hand, God parted the sea. I want to end with verses 19-20 *And the Angel of God, who went before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud went from before them and stood behind them. 20 So it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. Thus it was a cloud and darkness to the one, and it gave light by night to the other, so that the one did not come near the other all that night.* This cloud that the Children of Israel have been following day and night moves. It goes behind them. Let’s not miss that it lights the path of the Faithful, but to unbelievers it was like darkness. We look upward to God and we follow His Light Jesus. Ours is not to argue, fuss, fight, complain, criticize, or judge. Ours is to Stand Still and See the Salvation of the Lord. We Trust while looking up, Obey by moving forward, and Praise for the Salvation we see all around us. May our witness bring many to see the Light and find the Salvation of the Lord.