



## **#16 Beshalach Exodus 13:17-17:16**

### **Torah Teaching by Moshe Schwab**

#### **Names**

Kefa – Peter  
Messiah – English for Mashiach; anointed one;  
Christ in the Greek means to be smudged  
Moshe – Moses  
Shaul – Paul  
Yeshua – Jesus' real name  
Yĕhōvâh – God's real name forever (Ex. 3:15)  
Yochanan – John

#### **Terms**

Haftarah – reading from the prophets  
Tanakh – Old Testament portion of Bible  
Torah – 1st 5 books of the Bible  
Torah portion – there are 54 portions of the  
Torah  
Beshalach – the 16<sup>th</sup> Torah portion

(We also use transliterations from Hebrew)

The portion for today is Beshalach and means, "when he let go." This portion begins with Pharaoh letting Israel go and God leading Israel to the Suf Sea which we now know is the Gulf of Aqaba. Since the rediscovery of where Israel crossed the sea, there have been many videos made about it, and they even include chariot artifacts strewn on the bottom of the sea at the crossing point.

I want to begin by talking about examining our lives on a regular basis to make sure we are living right. People can have many different ideas and opinions on what is right. So, we need to qualify what we mean. The Bible says that God's commandments are "right." Let's look at this often-quoted scripture again.

Deuteronomy 6:17-18 says,

You shall diligently keep the commandments of the LORD your God, His testimonies, and His statutes which He has commanded you. And you shall do what is right and good in the sight of the LORD, that it may be well with you.

So, it is God's commandments that are what is right to do, and they are good.

When we see the word diligent, some of us may think of the scriptures in Psalms where it appears to refer to Deuteronomy 6:17-18.

Psalms 119:1-4 NKJV says,

You have commanded us to keep Your precepts diligently. Oh, that my ways were directed to keep Your statutes! Then I would not be ashamed, when I look into all Your commandments.

Of course, we then must probably think that is what Shaul is referring to in his letter to Timothy.

2 Timothy 2:15 NKJV says,

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Shaul is referring to the scriptures in Deuteronomy and Psalms and is telling Timothy that he is to remind the believers to teach the Torah, the Old Testament commandments. In order to be approved to God and not be ashamed, they must understand and keep the Torah. The term for rightly dividing could refer to reading the Greek correctly as in the old Greek manuscripts, the

words were run together. In the Hebrew, the words are separate. For example, even the Dead Sea Scrolls show the Hebrews words separately and not run together. So, it has been speculated that to rightly divide the word of God is to understand the scriptures properly. That is probably the intention of Shaul.

That fits with what Yeshua taught about the Torah, the Old Testament law.

Matthew 5:17-20 NKJV says,

Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled. Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

Yeshua says that the law will not be done away with until earth passes away. The earth still exists. And that those who do not teach people to keep God's Old Testament commandments will be worthless compared to those who teach the law. Some of the leadership in Israel was making up man-made commandments (most notably, the Sanhedrin which is the governing body in Israel). They were making exceptions to God's commandments at that time and Matthew 15 is a record of that. At the conclusion of his argument in Matthew 15:9 NKJV Yeshua said, "And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."

Yeshua could even be cryptically saying in Matthew 5 that The Hebrew decorations (the jot or tittle He refers to) on the letters are therefore worth more than those who do not teach people to keep the law. Also, therefore, those who do not teach the law will not exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees and will not enter the kingdom of heaven. The Sanhedrin was responsible to hear cases at both the local levels and at Jerusalem so they formed man-made laws to define things such as what could be done on the Sabbath and other issues. They made God's commandments difficult to follow and overreached their responsibility in doing so. Deuteronomy 4:2 NKJV says, "You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you." In Matthew 23:1, the Hebrew Matthew says to follow Moshe (namely, God's laws) and not all the extra religious laws of those that impose them.

We are not to contrive what we think is right but keep God's good commandments. Proverbs 12:15 NKJV says, "The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but he who heeds counsel is wise." The Bible tells us what is wise. This is a foundational scripture. Deuteronomy 4:6 NKJV says, "Therefore be careful to observe them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who will hear all these statutes, and say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.' So, Proverbs is not talking about the wisdom of those seemingly worldly wise, but the wisdom of God's commandments. It is not talking about following your own wise thoughts or your heart. Jeremiah 17:9 NKJV says, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked." Sometimes our heart is right, but at other times it can be desperately wicked. We are to follow God's commandments and not what someone thinks is right unless it is what God says we are to do.

People can have all kinds of ideas on life. They may think they are above accepting God and God's good commandments. They may think they cannot change or simply refuse to change. Some people just do whatever they want to do as long as they do not get thrown in jail. Some think there are no truths for life. People can come up with all kinds of excuses to not accept truth or change their life for the better.

I have been with people who thought they could get away with driving fast. They were taking our lives at risk. One time I got passed up by someone who was driving recklessly fast on the freeway and everyone on the freeway had to drive around him after he capsized. The Bible tells us that we are created in God's likeness (see Genesis 1:26), namely with the ability to be creative, to care about others, to do good work, and so much more. Therefore, we are supposed to value life and being reckless is wrong. His truck had turned over and he was hanging upside down in his truck. You might think you will get away with what your heart tells you to do, but that is not always true. But living how God says we should live is always the best way to live.

We need to view God for who He is. Since God is the creator, we need to follow how He says is the best way to live. People tend to come up with all kinds of ideas on life. We could think of this as a filter. Perhaps someone is the kind of person who enjoys being reckless so they will think that following the norms in life and following God's commandments are not for them because they apply their reckless identity to life. They do not realize that they could be the person who got hurt and was hanging upside down in his truck. People can tend to make vows to themselves and apply them to their life.

One person I know of was dominated by his mother and vowed that no woman was ever going to run his life. That ended up being a big problem after he got married. People will learn cultural norms and apply them to life, to their marriage, and other things in life instead of how God tells us to live. What kinds of vows, ideas, or values do you hold onto that keep you from treating others right and the way God wants us to treat others? We have to learn how to form godly behaviors and discipline ourselves in order to treat others right. The Holy Spirit will help us, but we can be overriding the help of the Holy Spirit if we do not discipline ourselves or let wrong ideas control us. Galatians 5:22-23 NKJV says, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control."

What keeps you from accepting the Creator's commandments? Of course, wrong teaching is a big part of not accepting God's commandments. For example, no sooner do some read that Yeshua said God's Old Testament commandments are not done away with that they contradict what He just said. The context of the scripture even says the lettering will not be done away even to the smallest detail; it will not be done away with while the earth exists, and will not be done away with until all is fulfilled. Not everything has been fulfilled yet and by the way, the earth still exists.

I sometimes will say, why would God's good commandments be done away with as some think? Is God a liar or has He changed His mind? Numbers 23:19 NKJV says, "God is not a man, that He should lie." God is a good and God has our best intentions at heart, so His commandments are not done away with. Deuteronomy 10:12-13 NKJV says, "Fear the LORD your God, to walk

in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments of the LORD and His statutes which I command you today for your good." God's commandments are for our own good!

It says there in Deuteronomy that we are to walk in His ways and keep His commandments. Ephesians 4:1 NKJV says, "Walk worthy of the calling with which you were called." How are we supposed to walk? What did it say in Deuteronomy? We are to walk in God's ways, His commandments. Shaul knew the Torah and when he taught people about God, he was teaching them concepts from the Torah. God does not change, and He is still good, and His commandments are still good. Malachi 3:6 NKJV says, "For I am the LORD, I do not change." God did not have to teach us observable science because he gave us eyes, ears, and brains. We need His commandments for life. They are like the operating manual for life.

Light clarifies our thinking, corrects our thinking. And can give us direction in life.

Shaul says in Ephesians 5:8 NKJV, "For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light." We are supposed to walk as God's people. We are to keep His good commandments which are truths for life. We have God's light to help lead us in life. Psalms 43:3 NKJV says, "Oh, send out Your light and Your truth! Let them lead me." Psalms 119:151 NKJV says, "You are near, O LORD, and all Your commandments are truth." God's commandments are good and demonstrate His lovingkindness towards mankind. Psalms 26:3 NKJV says, "For Your lovingkindness is before my eyes, and I have walked in Your truth." Remember, we said that our walk refers to keeping God's commandments. It says that he walked in God's truth.

Because God's commandments are truths for life, they give us good direction on how to live. Proverbs 6:23 NKJV says, "For the commandment is a lamp, and the law a light." So, they keep us on a better path in life. Psalms 119:105 NKJV says, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Proverbs 3 has a lot of good things to teach us.

Proverbs 3:1-8 NKJV says,

My son, do not forget my law, but let your heart keep my commands; for length of days and long life and peace they will add to you. Let not mercy and truth forsake you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart, and so find favor and high esteem in the sight of God and man. Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and depart from evil. It will be health to your flesh, and strength to your bones.

Proverbs 3 tells us to not to forget God's laws.

Instead of following our own heart, follow God's commands.

God's commands can lead to a longer life and a more peace filled life.

Others will appreciate our godly lifestyle when we follow God's instructions.

Trust in God and not in our own ideas or understanding.

Acknowledge who God is accept what He teaches us.

Do not think we know better than God.

Understand that God the creator knows what is best.  
 Trust in God's wisdom and turn away from evil.  
 Trust that God will give you healing and refreshment in life through His law.

We aim at good fruit in life, so we emulate (imitate) the behaviors and actions that our good God wants for us. Fruit in the Bible is often used for the results that our life produces. Just like the product of a tree is its fruit, our life produces fruit of some kind. We want our life to copy the goodness of God and produce good fruit. We can see the goodness of God through what He has done for us. God showed His love for us through His good commandments and wants us to return His love by keeping His commandments. He is like a good father who wants us to succeed in life. Deuteronomy 11:1 NKJV says, "Therefore you shall love the LORD your God, and keep His charge, His statutes, His judgments, and His commandments always."

God wants us to be His people and wants what is best for us. Perhaps this next scripture also refers to us being his blessed people forever. Deuteronomy 5:29 NKJV says, "Oh, that they had such a heart in them that they would fear Me and always keep all My commandments, that it might be well with them and with their children forever!" We see the goodness of God in this scripture of hope. Since God wants what is best for us, we should also want what is best for others and want what is good for others.

God is faithful, keeps His word, is forgiving, and rewards those who do good and keep God's commandments. Deuteronomy 7:9 NKJV says, "Therefore know that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments." Daniel 9:4 NKJV says, "And I prayed to the LORD my God, and made confession, and said, 'O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and mercy with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments.'" God is caring and we should also be a caring person who keeps our word. We should seek reconciliation when possible, just as God wants us to reconcile with Him. God wants what is good for us and we should want what is good and best for others and if possible, help others who can use our help in life both with the things of life or spiritually.

God gives us blessings in life through His commandments, the Holy Spirit through the Messiah Yeshua, and as the world's provider. We are a blessed people. Psalm 112:1 NKJV says, "Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, who delights greatly in His commandments." We have good judgment and knowledge through God. Psalms 119:66 NKJV says, "Teach me good judgment and knowledge, for I believe Your commandments." What God has given us is wonderful and God gives us understanding for life. Psalms 119:129-130 says, "Your testimonies are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them. The entrance of Your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple." The creator God is our provider. Psalms 104:10-13 NKJV says, "He sends the springs into the valleys; they flow among the hills. They give drink to every beast of the field; the wild donkeys quench their thirst. By them the birds of the heavens have their home; they sing among the branches. He waters the hills from His upper chambers; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of Your works." God brings blessings to the world, and we should want to be a people who are a blessing to others and bring blessings by how we live.

God's commandments teach us how to be good. Leviticus 19:18-19 NKJV says, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD. You shall keep My statutes." As we learn and keep

God's commandments we learn to love others as ourselves. Psalms 107:9 NKJV "For He satisfies the longing soul, and fills the hungry soul with goodness." Most people long for goodness to triumph. That is why people are attracted to movies that have a hero in them. In a way, God is our hero who helps us to do what is right and good. So, as believers, we want other people to also have personal and spiritual success. God wants us to succeed. Isaiah 48:18 NKJV says, "Oh, that you had heeded My commandments! Then your peace would have been like a river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea." There are thousands of scriptures that demonstrate the goodness of God. We should be willing to learn how to be a people who follow God and emulate the goodness of God.

The 13 Attributes of God.

The Rabbis have given us a good way to understand the goodness of God through what they term as, The 13 Attributes of God. These are not the only attributes of God, but they can show us the goodness of God. The Rabbis recognize the 13 attributes of God from:

Exodus 34:6-7 NKJV which says,

The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation.

There are different interpretations of these scriptures. The ancient Jewish Rabbi Rashi also gave us an interpretation of these scriptures.

The scripture begins with the name of God which is Yě-hō-váh. Some say we cannot use God's real name that is used over 6,000 times in the Bible. God's name is pointed in over 2,000 different manuscripts as Yě-hō-váh. So, it is used a lot in the Bible, and we see people greeting each other in the name of Yě-hō-váh in the Bible. The ancient rabbis also say that is the way to pronounce God's name. Also, we are to put God's name on His people according to Numbers 6:27. If we are not using God's name then we are not putting God's name on His people. I have put numbers next to each word that pertains to The 13 Attributes of God. My thoughts on the attributes of God are not the same as Rashi's understanding. Like I said, there are a number of ways these scriptures have been understood.

(1) Yě-hō-váh, (2) Yě-hō-váh are the first two words of these scriptures. Yě-hō-váh is an acronym from the Hebrew verb to exist and means, He existed, He exists, and He will exist. This demonstrates the all-powerful and creator God who has provided all we need for life through His creation, His commandments, and the Holy Spirit that is given to believers in Yeshua. By knowing God's name, we can know the goodness of God through what His name means. Perhaps it shows us that He is a benevolent and good King of the universe and perhaps God's name is repeated to demonstrate unequivocally who God is, the creator and king of the universe. Because of who God is, this could refer to any of God's characteristics. Since the context has to do with God's mercy, we would assume that these scriptures in Exodus have mostly to do with God's mercy.

(3) God (4) Merciful (5) Gracious

The one God and creator, "who was, is, and will be", gives mercy and grace to mankind. God has always wanted mankind to be blessed and benefit from His goodness. So, God gives mankind mercy to grow spiritually and get back on track when we fail. Isaiah 1:18-19 says, "'Come now, and let us reason together,' says the LORD, 'Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If you are willing and obedient.'"

God has given mankind His grace, His favor since the inception of time. We see the ancient believers passing down God's commandments and following God's commandments. Noah who walked with God (see Genesis 6:9) and Abraham kept the Torah according to Genesis 26:5. To walk with God is to keep His commandments. Deuteronomy 5:33 NKJV says, "You shall walk in all the ways which the LORD your God has commanded you." Those who accept God, His commandments, and the Holy Spirit through the Messiah in this present era follow the ancient believers and the ancient believers of Israel and accept His help and favor.

#### (6) Longsuffering

God is slow to anger unlike many people who react rashly or harshly. Rabbi Kefa describes God's longsuffering. 2 Peter 3:8-9 NKJV says, "But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance."

#### (7) Abounding in Goodness

The Hebrew uses the words great kindness for "abounding in goodness." This could be thought of as, great lovingkindness. God has graciously given us His commandments to help us in life. We should feel encouraged to make every effort to do things God's way and keep His commandments which can bring blessing to our lives. God has shown His great goodness towards mankind and will also forgive us if we repent and do things God's good ways.

Also, we should want to accept the Messiah Yeshua and His good gift of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is another way that God has shown great kindness towards mankind. Yeshua tells us we can trust God to give us a good gift. Luke 11:11-13 NKJV says, "If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!" God abounds in goodness, and we should be a people who abound in goodness. Doing what is "good" is to keep God's commandments (see Deuteronomy 6:17-18). In this Messianic era, we are to also listen to the Holy Spirit. Remember, the Holy Spirit will not tell you to disobey God's commandments.

#### (8) And Truth

Because God is the creator, He knows what is best for us and has given us good truths for life. God has our best interests at heart because is a good. Again, Psalms 26:3 NKJV says, "For Your lovingkindness is before my eyes, and I have walked in Your truth." To walk in truth is to keep God's commandments (see Deuteronomy 5:33). God's commandments have been applied by believers for thousands of years and will always be what is best for us and always be truth.

Psalms 119:160 NKJV says, "The entirety of Your word is truth, and every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever. We can trust in God and His commandments. Isaiah 26:3-4 NKJV says, "You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. Trust in the LORD forever." Through trust in God's commandments, we can have greater satisfaction in life and peace. We can trust in God's truths for life.

(9) keeping mercy for thousands,

The word for keeping here is the Hebrew word to preserve. God has lovingkindness for all who guard His commandments. But this scripture refers to the ability of God. God is not limited in ability like mankind is. So, we can count on God's blessings. Nehemiah 1:5 NKJV says, "And I said: 'I pray, LORD God of heaven, O great and awesome God, You who keep Your covenant and mercy with those who love You and observe Your commandments.'" Covenant is another way of saying agreement. People misunderstand that word. We make agreements all the time, but the most important decision we will make is to make an agreement with God. God can do what He says He will do and is able and willing to do what he says He will do, unlike mankind that has limited patience and ability.

(10) forgiving iniquity (11) transgression (12) and sin.

God will remove the eternal punishment due for sin. We may still have to deal with the consequences for our sin, but if we turn our life around, God will forgive us.

Psalms 103:11-13 NKJV says,

For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. As a father pities his children, so the LORD pities those who fear Him."

We are to have a deep respect for God. Those who fall into sin often have a high opinion of themselves instead of having a deep respect for God and who He is. God is the only creator and God, and we are not.

When we do not keep God's commandments we commit transgressions against the goodness of God. Sin is evil because it is the rejection of God's all-knowing goodness through His commandments. God's commandments are truths to live by. God wants what is best for us. This is another foundational scripture. Deuteronomy 10:13 NKJV says, "Keep the commandments of the LORD and His statutes which I command you today for your good."

(13) By no means clearing the guilty.

Some do not like that God holds those who live in sin accountable. God would not be a just God if He did not hold people accountable for their evil. Job 34:17 NKJV says, "Should one who hates justice govern?" The answer should be of course not. We do not want to be treated badly whether that is verbal, physical, or mental abuse. In order to stop the abuse of others, those who govern will impose rules to protect life and stop violence. A country that does not have a godly system of justice is an unjust nation. So, God must hold accountable those who do evil. There is a right way and a wrong way to live. It is inherent in our nature to understand this, but some define evil as good, and they will not go unpunished when God judges them at the end of time.

Daniel 12:2-3 NKJV says,



And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament, and those who turn many to righteousness like the stars forever and ever.

We have a choice. Do we want to be despised forever and end up in the lake of fire (see Revelation 21:8) or shine like the glory of the stars forever? God wants to help us, forgive us, and wants us to be in His future kingdom forever with streets made of gold (see Revelation 21:21). This present world is not all there is. So be faithful and true to God.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 NKJV says,

Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

Again, these are some of the attributes of God. We all have the choice in life to either follow the true God or make up our ideals for life. It makes sense that we follow our good and all-knowing God who wants what is best for us and mankind.

### **Torah Teaching**

Beshalach means, "when he let go." This portion begins with God leading Israel to the Suf Sea (which we now know is the Gulf of Aqaba) instead of through the land of the P'lishtim in order to avoid conflict. Also, Israel picks up Joseph's bones from Succoth on the way. God hardens Pharaoh's heart while they are on their way and Pharaoh then chases after Israel with more than 600 chariots and men, but Moshe says that God will fight for them. God tells Moshe to lift up his rod and hand over the sea, the sea parts, and the pillar of cloud that led them is now behind them, protecting them from the Egyptian army. The Jewish writings say that a man from the tribe of Judah took the first step into the sea that God parted. The tribe of Judah also led the way in the wilderness. Yeshua was from the tribe of Judah and a descendant of King David. The Messiah Yeshua now helps lead our way through life with the messianic gift of the Holy Spirit.

Israel went through the Sea of Aqabah on dry ground between walls of water. The Egyptians tried to follow them through the sea the next day, but Moshe held his hand over the sea, and it covered the Egyptians. Why did God part the Sea with a wind? He could have just stopped the flow of water. The Egyptian army must have thought it was something natural, but who would not suspect it was something else seeing that there were walls of water on each side.

The Egyptians eventually figured out what was happening, but it was too late. Exodus 14:25 NKJV says, "The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the face of Israel, for the LORD fights for them." Those who do not believe in the true God are oblivious to the spiritual battle that is going on in the world. They will die in their unbelief and will have to stand before God who will judge them. It will be too late for them also.

Then the people of Israel sang a song of victory to the Lord. In the song they exalted God and praised God for saving them. Also, Miriam the prophet and sister of Aharon sang a song, and the women joined her with tambourines and dancing.

There are a number of videos now that show the route that Israel took to the Sea of Aqaba to the real Mount Sinai in Midian of Arabia. You can do a search on [YouTube for Red Sea Crossing and Ron Wyatt for a good video](#). In the videos, you can see the route that Israel took through the Wadi with mountains on either side. That is why the Egyptians couldn't proceed to attack Israel because they were trapped in the wadi by the dark cloud until Israel made it to the other side. There were actually pillars put at the crossing point by King Solomon. Saudi Arabia took their pillar down probably because there was Hebrew writing on it.

*God provided miraculously for Israel.*

Now on the other side of the sea, the people grumbled, and the Lord provided water for them at the bitter waters of Marah. God told Moshe to put a piece of wood in the water and so miraculously made the water okay to drink. Think about it. If the water was bad, how could a piece of wood make the water okay? It was a miracle.

God tells Israel in Exodus 15:26 NKJV, "If you diligently heed the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I am the LORD who heals you." Perhaps the Egyptians had diseases that are associated with sin. HIV/AIDS is a deadly disease that has been known to be passed on mostly by homosexuals. About 10 years ago, I read that about 31 million people had died from AIDS. Perhaps the diseases of the Egyptians also included other things.

#### The Fallacy of Doing Nothing and Expecting God to Heal.

There are some people who say that there must be something wrong with the person that suffers, but that is not biblical. Shaul says that tribulations produce character. Romans 5:3-4 NKJV says, "We also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope." Whatever troubles we face, we are to endure. James 1:2-3 NKJV says, "Count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience."

Some people believe in making a positive confession and doing nothing about their situation. I am all for faith in God and God will answer some prayers, but we should try to do something about our situation. This one person I know was experiencing pain in their shoulder, so they went to the doctor and the doctor sent them to a therapist. After doing some exercises, the pain went away. If they had continued to do nothing, they would probably have languished in their pain. Also, I heard of someone who refused to say she was experiencing any pain and did not do anything about it. She ended up in a wheelchair instead of getting the help she needed.

Do not be afraid to do something about your situation. If God takes care of the situation supernaturally, you are then delivered or healed. The doctor can confirm you are healed. Do not stop taking medicine that you need unless you are healed. I had a friend tell me that he was

having trouble thinking. He had stopped taking his medicine. When he started up his medicine again, he felt better.

Here are some more things that can help us. When we have difficult times there can be a temptation to sin. Do not let anger control you or do not let intense pain cause you to react in a sinful way. Find ways to do something about what you are going through. Make the effort to resolve the problem. For example, if someone has hurt you, do not be an angry and spiteful person, but be just the opposite. Leviticus 19:18-19 NKJV says, "You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD. You shall keep My statutes."

Of course, believe in God's help and pray. I have been healed a number of times through prayer and know of many others who have been healed by God through prayer or who have been delivered from the situations they were in.

Then they came to Eilim which had 12 springs and 70 palm trees. The number 12 causes us to think of the 12 tribes of Israel and 70, the nations of the world. The route that Israel has been authenticated. The place of the wells and where Moshe struck the rock have been found.

Then as they proceeded in the desert, the people grumbled again, and God provided *man* (manna) and quail for them to eat. When the Israelites saw the manna, they said, "*mahn hu*" which means "what is it." The manna (*mahn* in Hebrew), "was like coriander seed and it tasted like honey cakes," it says in Deuteronomy 16:31 CJB. They gathered only enough manna for every day, except the sixth day they gathered two days of manna. The people rested on Shabbat. They put away some manna to be kept through the ages and they ate manna for forty years.

While camped at Rephidim, the people grumbled about having no water, so Moshe struck a rock and water came out from it. Amalek's army came up against Israel and Israel prevailed while Moshe's arms were raised. Aaron and Hur held up Moshe's arms and Israel defeated Amalek. The Lord said he will blot out the memory of Amalek.

Israel left Egypt by the power of God and God protected them and provided for them. Now that they were on the other side of the sea there was no turning back. It was an impassible barrier. In a sense, they died to their old lives when they passed through the sea. In the same way, we are immersed with the Holy Spirit after we believe in Yeshua the Messiah and experience the powers of the age to come to some extent.

*We receive the power of God through the Holy Spirit  
Yeshua said. Acts 1:8 NKJV says, "But you shall receive  
power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you."*

Receiving the Holy Spirit is a defining moment in the lives of believers in Yeshua the Messiah because there is no turning back from the truth that God is present in our lives. We experience the power of God. Rabbi Shaul tells us in the New Testament that we are to die to our old selves in Romans 6:6 and so leave our old lives behind much like Israel had to die to their old way of life after they crossed to the other side of the Sea of Aqaba.

The place where Israel crossed the Sea of Aqaba is very imposing to see. At the end of the wadi that Israel took on their way to the sea, there is an enormous beach that could hold a couple of a million people. Solomon had marked the crossing point with two pillars, one on each side of the sea. Interestingly, in one of the videos online, there are shells plastered onto the side of the seashore that Israel had fled to as though a great wind had pushed them there. There are also videos of chariot parts on the bottom of the Sea of Aqaba where Israel crossed.

The Haftarah for Beshalach is Judges 4:4 to 5:31. In this portion, D'vorah (Deborah) the prophet tells Barak to take 10,000 men to fight against Sisra and his army. Because he asks D'vorah to go with him, D'vorah says a woman will get the credit for Sisra's death. Israel defeats Sisra's army, and a woman kills Sisra. They then sang a song extolling those who volunteered, praising God, and praising the woman who killed Sisra.

Just as God defeated the Egyptians at the Gulf of Aqaba, God continues to help Israel to defeat its enemies after they enter Canaan. Also, we should consider that although we seem to be at risk in the present, God is at work on our behalf. In the end, God will be victorious even though the people of this world can be so against the things of God. Judges 4:23 CJB says: "Thus God on that day defeated Yavin" (Jabin) "the king of Kena'an" (Canaanites) "in the presence of the people of Isra'el."

God is for His people and helps His people both in the Old Testament portion and our present era. God is the same today as He was years ago, a caring and good God. Some 2 million people left Egypt in faith and God provided for them. What an amazing act of faith for so many people. Those who trust in God will be blessed; "Blessed is the man who trusts in You!" Psalms 84:12 NKJV.

**Commandments, Implied Commandments, Permissions, and other Concepts.  
(We can also understand commandments are being implied from other scriptures in the Bible. There are other possible concepts than what is shared here.)**

It is good to sing to Yĕhōvāh and praise Him. Exodus 15:1-18.

It is permissible to dance and play music before Yĕhōvāh. Exodus 15:20-21.

We are to keep God's commandments for protection; He is Yĕhōvāh who heals us. Exodus 15:26.

Israel is commanded to collect food for consumption before the Sabbath. This implies we should not do harvesting on the Sabbath but be prepared to do it on another day. Exodus 16:25-26.

Yĕhōvāh has given us the Sabbath as a day of rest. Exodus 16:29-30.

Some of the people tempted God by their attitude. We should watch our thoughts, attitudes, and words. Be thankful and gracious towards God and ask our all-knowing God for help. He is a good God and cares about us. Exodus 17:3-7.

We are commanded to blot out the name of Amalek as a memorial for them attacking Israel. Perhaps this is reminder to us that God is for us in every generation. Also, this can be construed as a warning to those who oppose us and mistreat us. Yeshua suggests that those who do wrong will be removed from the Book of Life and not be in God's future kingdom. Revelation 3:5 NKJV says, "He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life." Exodus 17:14-16.

**In closing, let us say the Aaronic Blessing from Numbers 6:24-26:**

We need to explain why we use God's real name in the Aaronic blessing. Some believe we are not supposed to use God's name, but they are mistaken. ADONAI or LORD in all caps in our Bibles is the name for God which is pronounced Yě-hō-váh. Yě-hō-váh is used over 6,000 times in the Old Testament portion. Since God's name is used that many times, it is evident that we should be using His real name.

According to Exodus 3:15, Yě-hō-váh is God's true name forever. Of course, we should use His name with respect. Yě-hō-váh is an acronym formed from the Hebrew verb hayah. Yě-hō-váh means, He existed, He exists, and He will exist. I want to honor God's name. Won't you also honor God's name and use His true name with respect at times. The ancient rabbis say that Yě-hō-váh (יהוה) is God's name. Over 2,000 different manuscripts of the Bible point God's name as Yě-hō-váh, once as Yě-hō-věh, never as Yahweh. The church Fathers said God's name is Yě-hō-váh.

Yeshua said in Matthew 23:39 NKJV, "You shall see Me no more till you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!'" Yeshua is quoting Psalm 118:26; the word "LORD" in that verse in Psalms is Yě-hō-váh (יהוה).

Numbers 6:27 says we are to put God's name on His people. It is a commandment to put God's name on His people and by not using God's name, some are not keeping this commandment. What an honor it is to be a people of the creator and true God.

Let's say the Aaronic Blessing from Numbers 6:24-26:

יְבָרֶכֶךָ יְהוָה, וַיְשַׁמְרֶךָ  
 יְאֵר יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ, וַיַּחַנֶּךָ  
 יִשָּׂא יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ, וַיִּשֶׂם לְךָ שְׁלוֹם

Yě-hō-váh bless you and keep you.

Yě-hō-váh make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

Yě-hō-váh lift up His face upon you, and give to you peace. Amen.

Thank you for being with us today.