

A Red Sea Moment

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There are many lessons associated with ancient Israel's exodus from the land of Egypt, but two primary ones occurred at the point this nation crossed the Red Sea en route to Canaan (Gen. 17:7-8). One involves the actions of the Angel of the Lord against the forces of evil in the spirit realm, while the other pictures this Angel's efforts to serve and protect a nation he inherited from Almighty God. As we will see, this work did not end at the Red Sea. Instead, it will continue until every aspect of God's plan to reconcile sinners is finished. Therefore, what took place at the Red Sea has prophetic significance because it points forward to an ultimate fulfillment of these events in the future.

First, it is important to establish that this Angel of the Lord Almighty, or Angel of Almighty God, faithfully obeys every word of his Creator who grants His authority, and many of His titles/offices, to this Angel.

*Behold I (Almighty God) send an Angel before you (ancient nation of Israel) to keep you in the way and to bring you into the place which I have prepared. ²¹**Beware of Him and obey His voice; do not provoke Him, for He will not pardon your transgressions** (sins); **for My name is in Him** (Ex. 23:20-21; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added; NKJV used throughout unless otherwise noted).*

Before continuing, it is important to make the connection between the phrase "obey his voice" in Exodus 23:21, and a similar command given in the New Testament.

*Then a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son. **Hear him!**" (Lk. 9:35; cf. Mt. 17:5; Mk. 9:7; emphasis added).*

Returning to Exodus 23:20-21, we are strongly advised to pay close attention to what this Angel says, then follow whatever instructions he gives. By ignoring or rejecting these, we are in contempt and guilty of provoking him. In a rebellious state of mind like this, and in the absence of genuine repentance, this Angel will not forgive our sins and punishment of some kind will follow. Therefore, it is advisable to listen carefully, obey his instructions, and show respect to him as Almighty God's representative. Sadly, the ancient nation of Israel failed miserably in all of these areas, with few exceptions. Despite this, the Angel of God Almighty did not abandon his responsibilities. Instead, he faithfully endured all the sorrows associated with serving an ungrateful and hostile people (cf. Isa. 53:3). It is important at this point to confirm that a camp of loyal angels serves this Angel of God Almighty, and from time to time they are seen by God's faithful and obedience human servants.

The Angel of the Lord encamps all around those who fear him, and delivers them (Ps. 34:7; emphasis added).

*So Jacob went on his way, and **the angels of God met him**. ²When Jacob saw them, he said, "**This is God's camp.**" And he called the name of that place Mahanaim (**Double Camp**) (Gen. 32:1-2; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

This camp of loyal angels has the Angel of God Almighty as its leader, and collectively they can wage war against any enemy, especially if that enemy threatens God's faithful and obedient human servants.

He (King of Syria) sent horses and chariots and a great army there (city of Dothan), and they came by night and surrounded the city. ¹⁵And when the servant of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army,

surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his (Elisha's) servant said to him, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?" ¹⁶So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." ¹⁷And Elisha prayed, and said, "Lord, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." Then **the Lord opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha** (2Kgs. 6:14-18; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

On another occasion, one of the leaders in Satan's realm attempted to block the angel Gabriel from communicating directly with Daniel. As no human leader could prevent an angel from fulfilling a task, the prince of Persia mentioned in the following scripture is not a physical person. Instead, the title "Prince of Persia" refers to the authority of a rebellious angel over a physical nation that existed at that time in history.

Then he (Gabriel; cf. Dan. 9:21) said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words. ¹³But **the prince** (rebellious angel) **of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days**; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes (loyal angelic leader), came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia (Dan. 10:12-13; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

There are many examples of loyal angels appearing to look like men when they come into contact with people.

And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold **a Man** stood opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, "Are You for us or for our adversaries?" ¹⁴So He said, "No, but as

Commander of the army of the Lord I have now come." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and said to Him, "**What does my Lord say to His servant?**" ¹⁵Then the Commander of the Lord's army said to Joshua, "**Take your sandal off your foot, for the place where you stand is holy.**" And Joshua did so (Jos. 5:13-15; cf. **Gen. 18:2-33; 32:24-30**; emphasis added).

Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing **some have unwittingly entertained angels** (Heb. 13:2; emphasis added).

It is important to note, that when the word "Lord" or "God" is used in scripture, it is not limited to one spirit-being. Jesus Christ pointed this out when speaking to the scribes and Pharisees.

For David himself said by the Holy Spirit: '**The Lord** (Almighty) **said to my Lord** (Jesus Christ), "Sit at My right hand, till I make your enemies your footstool"' (Mk. 12:36; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

And **the Lord** (Jesus Christ) said to Satan, "**The Lord** (Almighty) rebuke you Satan! The Lord (Almighty) who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! ... (Zech. 3:2a; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

I (Jesus Christ) overthrew some of you (in the nation of Israel), as **God** (Almighty) overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah... (Amos 4:11a; Ed. notes in parentheses).

Amos 4:11 refers back to the time when the spirit-being, now known as Jesus Christ, requested that Almighty God render judgment on the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Then **the Lord** (Jesus Christ) rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah, from **the Lord** (Almighty) out of the heavens

(Gen. 19:24; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

Consequently, there are numerous authorities in the spirit realm that are referred to by the name "lord" or "god". Some of these "lords" and "gods" are obedient to the law and commandments of Almighty God, while others are not.

*For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth, as **there are many gods and many lords**, ⁶yet for us there is only one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things (Jn. 17:3; Col. 1:16), and through whom we live (forever) (1Cor. 8:5-6; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).*

*Thus you (Jeremiah) shall say to them (nation of Israel): **"The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth shall perish from the earth and from under these heavens"** (Jer. 10:11; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).*

*But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, ⁴whose minds **the god of this age** (Satan) has blinded... (2Cor. 4:4a; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

For "God" or "the Lord" to be seen by a human being, it cannot be Almighty God because Jesus Christ stated emphatically that no human being has seen Almighty God or heard His voice directly.

*And the Father Himself, who sent me (Christ), has testified of me. **You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form** (Jn. 5:37; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

Therefore, when Almighty God "seems to appear" to human beings, it is actually His representative

who carries His titles and offices as we will see momentarily.

*Then **God appeared to Jacob again**, when he came from Padan Aram, and blessed him (Gen. 35: 9; cf. Gen. 32:29; emphasis added).*

*Also God said to him: **"I am God Almighty. Be fruitful and multiply..."** (Gen. 35:11a; emphasis added).*

*And God spoke to Moses and said to him: "I am the Lord (YHWH). ³I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, **as** (on behalf of) **God Almighty, but by my name Lord (YHWH) I was not known to them** (Ex. 6:2-3; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

The word "Lord" in Exodus 6:2-3 is from the Hebrew *YHWH*, which is the same word used to describe the 'lords' who met with Abraham just before the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. Unfortunately, translators (the Sopherim) changed the original word *YHWH* in Genesis 18 and 19 to *adonai/adonay* supposedly out of reverence to Almighty God. This manipulation of scripture is unwarranted and should not have occurred because the use of *YHWH* in Genesis 18 and 19 differentiates the loyal angels, who represent Almighty God, from other impostors. This transfer of Almighty God's authority to loyal angels, including His titles/offices, is clearly confirmed and approved by Almighty God in the following scriptures describing the birth of Jesus Christ.

*For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And **His name will be called Wonderful** (cf. Jgs. 13:18; NKJV), **Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father** (Eph. 3:15), **Prince of Peace** (Eph. 2:14). ⁷*Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of**

David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this (Isa. 9:6-7; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

I (Christ) have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive me; if another comes in his own name, him you will receive (Jn. 5:43; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

As mentioned previously, the Commander of the Almighty Lord's army appeared as a man to Joshua, and now we will see this same commander being referred to as "the Lord" when he spoke to Moses.

*But Pharaoh will not heed you, so that I (the Lord) may lay my hand on Egypt and **bring my armies and my people (Israel), out of the land of Egypt by great judgments.** ⁵And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I stretch out my hand on Egypt and bring out the children of Israel from among them (Ex. 7:4-5; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

So "the Lord" (Jesus Christ), and his army encamped around the ancient nation of Israel in Egypt. Finally, the command was given for both camps to move out. As we will see, this Lord was responsible for these camps, but he delegated specific responsibilities to Moses and Aaron.

*So the Lord said to Moses: "See, **I have made you as God to Pharaoh, and Aaron your brother shall be your prophet.** ²You shall speak all that I command you.... (Ex. 7:1-2a; emphasis added).*

"The Lord" delegating certain responsibilities to Moses and Aaron is an example of how Almighty God delegates. In fact, "the Lord" was not doing anything that could be construed as unique.

Instead, he was following his heavenly Father's example. Also, it is important to make the connection that Jesus Christ could have summoned the army of Almighty God to intervene just before his crucifixion, but he refused to make this request.

*Or do you think that I cannot now pray to my Father, and **He will provide me with more than twelve legions of angels?** (Mt. 26:53; emphasis added).*

However, at this point in Matthew 26:53, Jesus Christ was about to forfeit his life as a ransom for the sins of mankind and the rebellious angels (1Jn. 2:2). Therefore, he could not be rescued from death with assistance from the army of God Almighty. So instead of acting as the captain and commander of this army, as he did throughout the Old Testament period, Christ was now acting as the commander of every sinner's salvation.

*For it became him (Christ), for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make **the captain of their salvation** perfect through sufferings (Heb. 2:10; KJV; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

This role as "captain of salvation" was foreshadowed throughout the exodus account, culminating at the Red Sea. The apostle Paul summarized this period as follows:

*Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the (Red) sea, ²all were baptized (symbolically) into (by) Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and **that Rock was** (the spirit-being now known as) **Christ** (1Cor. 10:1-4; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).*

The following scriptures confirm that the spirit-being now known as Jesus Christ has always been faithfully executing the will of his heavenly Father.

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Heb. 13:8).

*I (Christ) can of myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and my judgment is righteous, because **I do not seek my own will but the will of the Father who sent me** (Jn. 5:30; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

When Almighty God first explained His plan of reconciling sinners to Himself, the spirit-being we identify as Jesus Christ willingly agreed to become the ultimate sacrifice for the sins of mankind and the fallen angels.

*.... whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of **the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world** (Rev. 13:8b; cf. Jn. 1:29, 36; emphasis added).*

*Therefore my Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it again (as it was previously). ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but **I lay it down of myself**. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from my Father (Jn. 10:17-18; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

So in the exodus account, this shedding of Christ's blood as a covering, or atonement for everyone's sins, was foreshadowed by the blood of lambs that were slain in the first national Passover.

Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel and said to them, "Pick out and take lambs for yourselves according to your families, and kill the Passover lamb" (Ex. 12:21).

*For the Lord will pass through to strike the Egyptians; and when he sees the blood on the lintel and on the two door posts, **the Lord will pass over** the door and not allow the destroyer to come into your houses to strike you (Ex. 12:23; emphasis added).*

This Passover was preceded by numerous plagues/battles that were occurring simultaneously in the physical and spiritual realms as Satan and his forces influenced Pharaoh and his servants to disobey the Lord's command.

*Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the Lord: "Israel is My son, My firstborn. ²³So **I say to you, let My son go that he may serve Me**. But if you refuse to let him go, indeed I will kill your son, your firstborn"' (Ex. 4:22-23; emphasis added).*

Despite the plagues/battles that were going on, Moses had complete trust that the Angel of the Lord Almighty would have ultimate victory over Satan and his forces.

*.....They (the Egyptians) have heard that you, Lord, are among these people; that **you Lord, are seen face to face and that your cloud stands above them; and that you go before them in a pillar of cloud by day and in a pillar of fire by night** (Nu. 14:14b; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

The Lord that Moses conversed with is synonymous with the Angel of God Almighty as the following scriptures confirm:

*And **the Angel of God** (Almighty), 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** (Ex. 14:19; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

.... **The glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard** (Isa. 58:8b; emphasis added).

And **the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire** to give them light... (Ex. 13:21a; emphasis added).

The apostle Paul knew that Jesus Christ was formerly the Angel of God, which is why he compared Christ to an angel.

*And my trial which was in my flesh you (Galatians) did not despise or reject, but **you received me as an angel of God, even as Christ Jesus** (Gal. 4:14; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

As mentioned in the opening paragraph of this study, the Lord, who is also known as the Angel of God Almighty, was given the nation of Israel as an inheritance and therefore responsible for protecting and serving it, even to the point of losing his life, if necessary, to save it from everlasting death.

*Remember the days of old....when the Most High (God) divided their inheritance to the nations, when He separated the sons of Adam (man), He set the boundaries of the peoples according to the number of the angels of God (LXX, DSS). ⁹For **the Lord's portion is his people; Jacob is the place of his inheritance** (Dt. 32:7a, 8-9; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).*

Moses understood that Israel was "the Lord's inheritance", which explains why he went to great lengths pleading for mercy and forgiveness on behalf of this rebellious people.

Thus I prostrated myself before the Lord; forty days and forty nights I kept prostrating myself, because the Lord had said he would destroy you (cf. Ex. 23:21). ²⁶Therefore I prayed to

*the Lord, and said: 'O Lord God, do not destroy your people and **your inheritance** whom you have redeemed through your greatness, whom you have brought out of Egypt with a mighty hand' (Dt. 9:25-26; cf. Dt. 32:10-12).*

*Therefore **the wrath of the Lord was kindled against his people, so that he abhorred his own inheritance** (Ps. 106:40; cf. Isa. 47:6; emphasis added).*

*The Portion of Jacob is not like them (other gods; cf. vs 11), for he is Maker of all things (Col. 1:16), and **Israel is the tribe of his inheritance**; the Lord of hosts is his name (Jer. 10:16; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).*

Note: other articles on this website explain that Almighty God delegated the responsibility of "making/creating all things" to the Angel who later became known as Jesus Christ. Therefore, figuratively speaking, Almighty God is the owner of the building, while Jesus Christ is the contractor. Once Christ has finished building his Father's house, in accordance with the instructions that were given to him, Almighty God will take possession of it as described in the following section of scripture:

*Then comes the end (Gr. *telos*; fulfillment), when he (Christ) delivers the kingdom to God the Father; when he puts an end to all rule and all authority and power (that is contrary to the will of Almighty God). ²⁵For he (Christ) must reign till He (Almighty God; cf. vs 27) has put all enemies under his (Christ's) feet. ²⁶The last enemy that will be destroyed is death. ²⁷For "He (Almighty God) has put all things under his (Christ's) feet." But when He (Almighty God) says "all things are put under him (Christ)," it is evident that He (Almighty God) who put all things under him (Christ) is excepted. ²⁸Now when all things are made subject to Him (Almighty God), **then the son***

himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under him, that God (Almighty) may be all in all (completely reconciled family under God, the Father) (1Cor. 15:24-28; cf. Jn. 14:2; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).

Going back now to the liberation of Christ's inheritance. In order to free this nation, the forces of evil had to be dealt with and defeated, and these consisted primarily of wicked spirit beings, or gods, that influenced Pharaoh and his servants.

*For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age (Gal. 1:4), against **spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places** (Eph. 6:12; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).*

A brief account of Almighty God's army defeating Satan's forces at the Red Sea is associated with the time frame of God's law being proclaimed at Mt. Sinai.

....The Lord came from Sinai, and dawned on them from Seir; he shone forth from Mount Paran, and he came with ten thousands of saints (SHD 6944; holy ones; loyal angels); from his right hand came a fiery law for them (Dt. 33:2; Ed. note in parenthesis).

The chariots of God are twenty thousand, even thousands of thousands; The Lord is among them as in Sinai, in the Holy Place (Ps. 68:17).

Following Israel's deliverance at the Red Sea, Moses' father-in-law acknowledged that Christ's intervention prevented the death, or recapture of the nation. This victory affirmed Christ's power over his enemy.

*Now I (Jethro) know that **the Lord** (Christ) **is greater than all the gods**; for in the very thing in which they behaved proudly, he was above them (Ex. 18:11; Ed. notes in parentheses).*

The Lord is a man of war; the Lord is his name. ⁴*Pharaoh's chariots and his army he cast into the sea; his chosen captains also are drowned in the Red Sea (Ex. 15:3-4; cf. Isa. 42:13; emphasis added).*

*You blew with your wind (cf. Mk. 4:41), the sea covered them; they sank like lead in the mighty waters. ¹¹**Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods?** (Ex. 15:10-11a; emphasis added).*

*For the Egyptians were burying all their firstborn, whom the Lord killed among them. **Also on their gods the Lord had executed judgments** (Nu. 33:4; emphasis added).*

*For I know that the Lord is great, and **our Lord is above all gods** (Ps. 135:5; emphasis added).*

Despite the fact these other gods were warned to release the nation of Israel, they were not about to obey this command. Therefore, judgment was rendered against them.

*For I will pass through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; **and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the Lord** (Ex. 12:12; emphasis added).*

In reality, this was a devastating wound inflicted upon Satan and one he would not quickly recover from,

...O arm of the Lord! Awake as in the ancient days, in the generations of old. Are you not the arm that

cut Rahab (Egypt) apart, and **wounded the serpent**. Are you not the one who dried up the sea, the waters of the great deep; that made the depths of the (Red) sea a road for the redeemed to cross over? (Isa. 51:9b; cf. Ps. 89:10; Rev. 12:9; Ed. note in parenthesis; emphasis added).

At some point Satan appears to have recovered from this monumental defeat at the hand of the Lord, but sadly the following prophecies confirm that he did not learn from it. Instead, he is going to mount another campaign in the future that will result in his final defeat and removal.

*Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and **he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon**.¹² And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, **whose deadly wound was healed** (Rev. 13:11-12; cf. 13:3; emphasis added).*

They (Satan and his forces) went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them (Rev. 20:9; Ed. note in parenthesis).

So the Red Sea moment for the ancient nation of Israel represented the action of their Lord to release them from slavery by the complete defeat of Satan and his forces. The same principle applies today for those who are redeemed from spiritual slavery in Satan's "spiritual Egypt" (cf. Rev. 11:8; 18:4). In other words, those who are led out of the ways of this present evil world, and repent of their sins, can be assured that Christ's action to lay down his life provides the way to everlasting freedom from sin. Next, these repentant individuals can look forward to inheriting a spiritual Promised Land, also known as the kingdom of God; and the same "Lord" who led ancient Israel out of Egypt will be

in charge of a latter day exodus from Satan's kingdom that will commence upon Christ's return (Rev.20:1-6).

***For you shall not go out with haste, nor go by flight;** for the (Angel of the) Lord will go before you (Ex. 14:19), and the God of Israel (Jesus Christ) will be your rear guard (Isa. 52:12; cf. Ex. 13:21; Nu. 14:14; Jgs. 2:1; Isa. 58:8b; 1Cor. 10:1-4; Ed. notes in parentheses; emphasis added).*

Then they shall bring all your brethren for an offering to the Lord out of all nations, on horses and in chariots and in litters, on mules and on camels, to My holy mountain Jerusalem.... (Isa. 66:20a; cf. Isa. 2:2-4).

In contrast, the Red Sea moment for Satan and his forces did not humble them long enough to affect a positive change in their attitude. Consequently, in their case, history will repeat itself unless they repent of their sins. Failure to do so will guarantee their final defeat at the hand of the Lord, which will occur after Christ has ruled this planet for a thousand years (Rev. 20:7-10).

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