

### Exodus 14

4 Then I will harden Pharaoh's heart, so that he will pursue them; and I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, that the Egyptians may know that I am the Lord." And they did so.

5 Now it was told the king of Egypt that the people had fled, and the heart of Pharaoh and his servants was turned against the people; and they said, "Why have we done this, that we have let Israel go from serving us?" 6 So he made ready his chariot and took his people with him.

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7 Also, he took six hundred choice chariots, and all the chariots of Egypt with captains over every one of them. 8 And the Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued the children of Israel; and the children of Israel went out with boldness. 9 So the Egyptians pursued them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, his horsemen and his army, and overtook them camping by the sea beside Pi Hahiroth, before Baal Zephon.

#### Exodus 14

10 And when Pharaoh drew near, the children of Israel lifted their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians marched after them. So they were very afraid, and the children of Israel cried out to the Lord. 11 Then they said to Moses, "Because there were no graves in Egypt, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you so dealt with us, to bring us up out of Egypt?

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12 Is this not the word that we told you in Egypt, saying, 'Let us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness." 13, 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. 14]The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace."

#### Exodus 14

15] And the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry to Me? **Tell** the children of Israel to go forward. 16] But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.

### Israel was in a crisis on different levels:

- 1. There was the original crisis of being held in bondage
- 2. There was the crisis of having a bondage mindset, after being delivered
- There was the crisis of being pursued by the Egyptian's from behind and facing the barrier of the Red Sea before them

What I find amazing about this story, is that God knew what the people did not know. They were not only being delivered from the crisis of bondage and slavery, they were being delivered from their own fear of progress. It was the rebellion of the people that led to captivity in Egypt for 400 years. For the people being delivered, Egypt and bondage and slavery was all they knew. They only heard about their heritage and the promised land.

You cannot underestimate a person's lived experience. It's difficult to tell a person even though you've been here for 400 years, you don't belong here. It takes dramatic action and change in circumstances to change a mindset.

The most significant difference between you, your lived experience, and a crisis is what you think about it. The most significant difference between you and lived experience and a crisis is what you think about it. I'm not talking about mine over matter. I'm talking about having the mind of Christ. An example and lesson from American history The most significant difference between you and lived experience and a crisis is what you think about it. I'm not talking about mine over matter. I'm talking about having the mind of Christ.

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The idea for emancipated Black people was to build their lives on a new paradigm beyond slavery. The 13th and 14th Amendments addressed this After the Civil War, a phase began called "reconstruction." It was supposed to be about rebuilding the national Union after the war. The idea for emancipated Black people was to build their lives on a new paradigm beyond slavery. This was something that many in the south, and north, did not believe was possible, because people who had been enslaved were not capable of living independent, productive lives.

The "Cornerstone Address," was an oration given by Alexander H. Stephens, Vice President of the Confederate States of America in Savannah, Georgia, on March 21, 1861, a few weeks before the Civil War. The Cornerstone Speech, also known as the Cornerstone Address, was an oration given by Alexander H. Stephens, Vice President of the Confederate States of America, at the Athenaeum in Savannah, Georgia, on March 21, 1861.[1] The speech, delivered extemporaneously a few weeks before the Civil War began with the Confederate attack on Fort Sumter, defended slavery as a fundamental and just result of the inferiority of the black race, explained the fundamental differences between the constitutions of the Confederate States and that of the United States, enumerated contrasts between Union and Confederate ideologies, and laid out the Confederacy's rationale for seceding from the U.S. In particular, he stated that "our new government['s] foundations are laid, its cornerstone rests, upon the great truth that the negro is not equal to the white man; that slavery subordination to the superior race is his natural and normal condition. This, our new government, is the first, in the history of the world, based upon this great physical, philosophical, and moral truth."[2]

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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cornerstone\_Speech

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The UDC worked to establish some 1,747 monuments in honor of defeated Confederate rebels such as Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee, including tourist attractions like the giant carving into the side of Stone Mountain, Georgia, outside of Atlanta

# Most of the statues were cheap cast replicas of one another





After dedicating a monument to Confederate soldiers in 1899 on the county courthouse grounds in Franklin, Tennessee, UDC leaders celebrated its educational value; that children "might know by daily observation of this monument" the values for which their ancestors fought. This message, obviously, was meant for white children and conveyed quite a different message —the continued assertion of white supremacy—to the African American children and adults in the community.

Jones, Robert P. White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in American

Even the placement of the monuments in prominent public places was done with the next generation in mind. After dedicating a monument to Confederate soldiers in 1899 on the county courthouse grounds in Franklin, Tennessee, UDC leaders celebrated its educational value; that children "might know by daily observation of this monument" the values for which their ancestors fought. This message, obviously, was meant for white children and conveyed quite a different message—the continued assertion of white supremacy—to the African American children and adults in the community.

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**Ephesians 6:12,** For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

Then and now, we are dealing with forces that do not believe you have what it takes to live a productive fruitful life.

Ephesians 6:12, For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places

This is not to suggest that we should not deal with factors in society, especially as citizens of our own nation. We must understand the foundational level of the forces we're dealing with.

The most important thought to have in a crisis is the thought and feeling of being victorious in Christ and being willing to take action. It takes courage to not wait on others.

There are many definitions of courage There are the "high and mighty" definitions of courage:

1. Mental or moral strength to venture, persevere, and withstand danger, fear, or difficulty

2. The quality of mind or spirit that enables a person to face difficulty, danger, pain, etc., without fear; bravery.

Then there are the **real** definitions of courage:
1. The ability to control fear and to be willing to deal with something that is dangerous, difficult, or unpleasant:
2. Acting when others are afraid of the danger,
3. The ability to do something that frightens you

### Gideon had "real" courage:

Judges 6:25 Now it came to pass the same night that the Lord said to him, "Take your father's young bull, the second bull of seven years old, and tear down the altar of Baal that your father has, and cut down the wooden image that is beside it; 26 and build an altar to the Lord your God on top of this rock

# Gideon had "real" courage:

# Judges 6:27

So Gideon took ten men from among his servants and did as the Lord had said to him. But because he feared his father's household and the men of the city too much to do it by day, he did it by night. Again, courage is "The ability to do something that frightens you."

What do you need to do that you are afraid to do?

This is what courageous people look like.

Again, courage is "The ability to do something that frightens you." What do you need to do that you are afraid to do? This is what courageous people look like

**Exodus 14:14,** The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace." 15] And the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry to Me? **Tell the children of Israel to go forward.** 16] But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.

### Forward defined:

To cause to proceed or progress toward a goal. To cause to go or be taken from one place, person, or condition to another.

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To cause to proceed or progress toward a goal. To cause to go or be taken from one place, person, or condition to another. Forward is a place to which God leads people of purpose and destiny. Forward is a place that stretches your faith and exercises your prayer life. Forward is the place and the direction the vision takes you