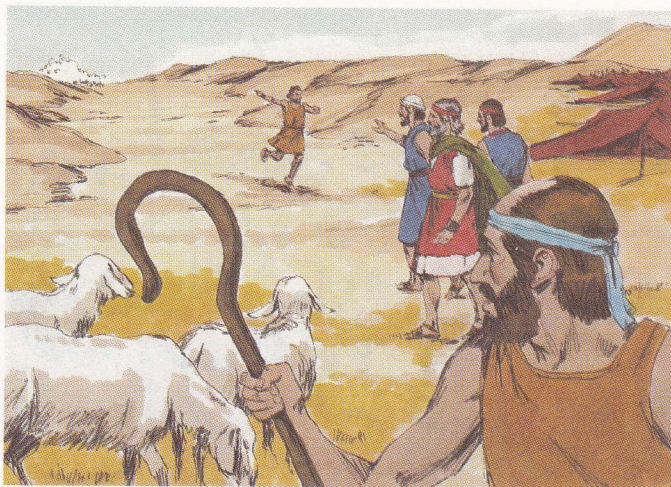


Israel Crosses the Red Sea



1 The Israelites were now camped near the Red Sea. Suddenly they discovered that Pharaoh and his soldiers in their war chariots were about to catch up with them!



2 The frightened Israelites cried out to the Lord for help. They were angry with Moses for leading them out of Egypt only to let them be killed in the desert.



3 But Moses said, "Don't be afraid! Stand your ground, and you will see what the Lord will do to save you today. The Lord will fight for you, and all you have to do is keep still."



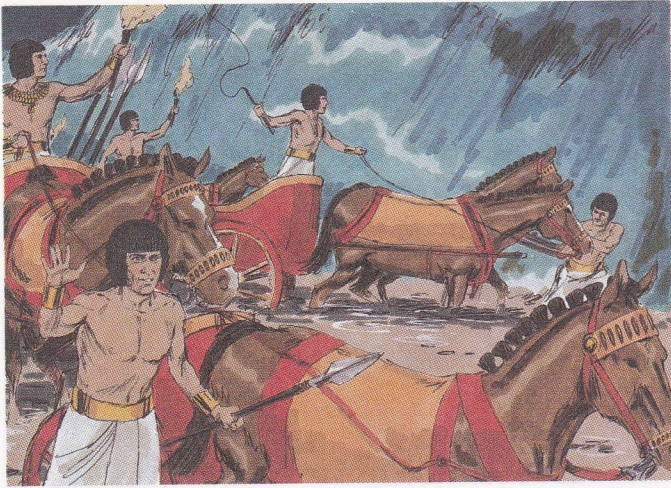
4 Then the Lord moved the pillar of cloud between the Israelites and the Egyptians. The cloud made it so dark that the army of Egypt could not come near the Israelites all night.



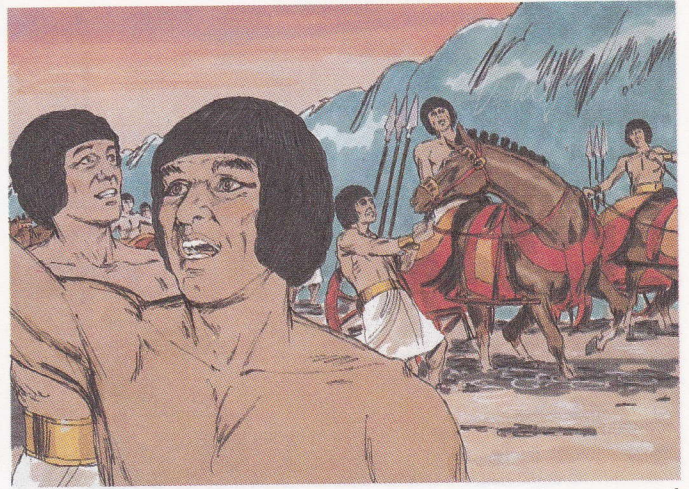
5 Moses, as the Lord had instructed, held out his hand over the sea. Then the Lord sent a strong east wind which blew all night and turned the sea into dry land.



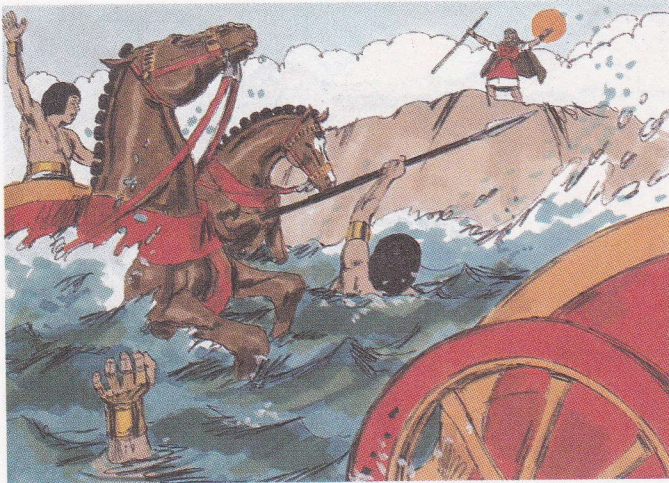
6 The water was divided, and the Israelites walked through the sea on dry ground, with walls of water on both sides!



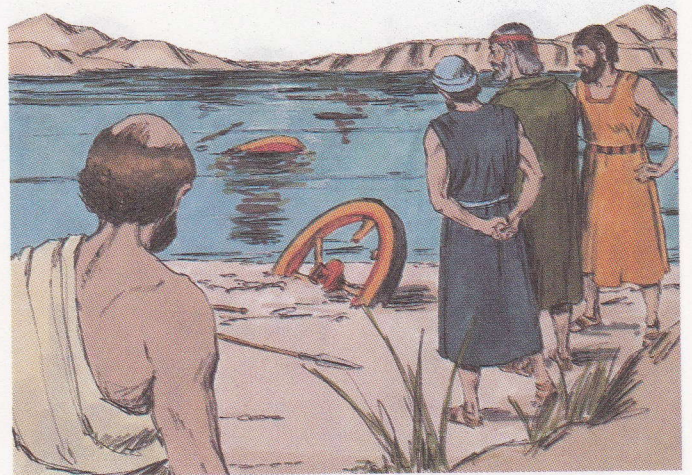
7 The army of Egypt chased them into the sea with all their horses, chariots, and drivers. But the wheels of their chariots got stuck so that they could barely move.



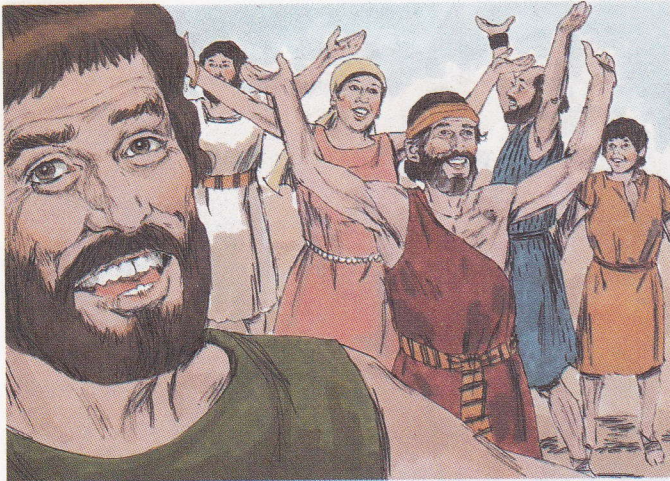
8 Just before dawn, the Lord threw the army of Egypt into panic. They said, "The Lord is fighting for the Israelites against us. Let's get out of here!"



9 Again the Lord told Moses to hold his hand over the sea, and the water returned to its normal level. The Egyptians' chariots were covered with water and the entire army drowned.



10 The Israelites stood in awe of the power of the Lord which had saved them from the Egyptians. They put their trust in the Lord and his servant Moses.



11 Moses and the people sang to the Lord their God: "Lord, who among the gods is like you? Who can work miracles and mighty acts like yours?"



12 The women celebrated as Moses' sister Miriam sang: "Sing to the Lord for his glorious victory; he has thrown the horses and their riders into the sea."