

# Foundations For Living

Laying Foundations Today For a Brighter Tomorrow

## FOUNDATIONS NEWS

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### **FAITHFULNESS** by Linda Ensley



**“Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.” Hebrew 11:1**

Definitions of faithfulness are: firmly believing is something for which there is not proof; being full of faith; steadfastly keeping promises or fulfilling duties. The most encompassing definition I found for faithfulness was: having a firm and unswerving loyalty to a person to whom one is united by promise, commitment, trustworthiness and honesty.

The Israelites witnessed God’s faithfulness in Egypt. The accounts in Exodus repeatedly remind us that God is faithful. Centuries before Moses was born, God told His faithful servant, Abraham, that His favored people would be enslaved in a foreign land, but after 400 years, He would bring them out. (Genesis 15:13-14)

When, after 400 years in Egypt, Moses went to Pharaoh asking him to let God’s people go, the Israelites also were forced to live through the plagues that fell on their oppressors. But they experienced God’s protection and faithfulness in the midst of His judgment on the people of Egypt.

**Exodus 8:21-23** *“The houses of the Egyptians will be full of flies and even the ground where they are. But on that day I will deal differently with the land of Goshen, where my people live, no swarms of flies will be there, so that you will know that I, the Lord, am in this land.”*

**Exodus 9:6** *“All the livestock of the Egyptians died, but not one animal belonging to the Israelites died.”*

**Exodus 9:25-26** *“Throughout Egypt hail struck everything in the fields, both men and animals; it beat down everything growing in the fields and stripped every tree. The only place it did not hail was the land of Goshen, where the Israelites were.”*

**Exodus 10:22-23** *So Moses stretched out his hand toward the sky, and total darkness covered all Egypt for three days. No one could see anyone else or leave his place for three days. Yet all the Israelites had light in the places where they lived.”*

**Exodus 12:13** *“The blood will be a sign for you on the house where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.”*

As the Israelites left Egypt, they rejoiced in God’s faithfulness, but soon it would be their turn to show themselves faithful to Him. They came to the Red Sea. Fear overtook them when they found themselves hemmed in between the advancing Egyptian army and the sea. Again, God showed His

faithful, protective hand as He set the pillar of cloud, between them and Pharaoh’s army. (Exodus 14:20-22) Then God called Moses to raise his staff and *“the waters were divided, and the Israelites went through on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.”* Exodus 14:22

At this point the Israelites were put to the test. Would they trust God enough to walk between the walls of water? Would they faithfully follow Moses through the Red Sea? They did; they were saved, and we know the rest of the story.

What plagues have you lived through? Have you faced illness, a job loss, an accident or a fire? Has God been faithful? Have you faithfully followed His lead in the midst of your trial?

Have you lost a child, a parent, a spouse? Have you found yourself homeless, incarcerated or struggling with an addiction? Does it feel like you’re standing between the enemy and the Red Sea?

God is still there, He is still faithful. Do you have the faith to follow His direction? In His faithfulness He can restore your life, your family, and your peace.

