

PRESENT HELP - 1



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Exodus 14: 1-30

No doubts, these are troubled times for nations around the world - Global Pandemic & Lockdown; Riots in Nigeria.

There are times when we find ourselves in trouble as individuals also.

Trouble itself is real and true to life. It will always come uninvited.

However, we need the presence of the Lord to be able to overcome our troubles. In that sense, no trouble will trouble us if we are sure the Lord is present with us - **Ps.23: 4** e.g. Disciples in the storm (**Mk.4**).

Our real trouble then is when we are not sure the Lord is with us in our troubles or we find he is sleeping or has forgotten us - **Ps.131: 4; Isa.49: 15-16**.

The children of Israel couldn't believe that God was with them at that time.

Remember, God foretold everything before it happened - 400 years of slavery in Egypt and His divine visitation and deliverance (Gen.15: 13-16).

So, God knew what He was doing. God knows what He is doing with your life also.

However, theory and practical are two different things - those who feel it know it e.g. Those who lost loved ones to COVID19 and victims of the recent endSARS riots.

It took God 10 solid plagues in an increasing tempo to break Pharaoh.

Pharaoh kept increasing the hardship of the Israelites each time. It was like the more the plagues, the worse Pharaoh made the lot of the Israelites to become.

The Israelites couldn't believe Moses was hearing God right. Moses must have his moments of doubts too.

How have you doubted God recently especially with all the deaths, injuries, looting and arrests? So many questions begging for answers but God is present in the midst of this chaos and trouble!

God was present then and He is still present now. It was even God who 'hardened' Pharaoh (**Exod.4: 23; 7: 3; 14: 4; 14: 17**). That's incredible isn't it?

God is present when we don't see Him.

God is present when we don't feel Him.

God is present when the symptoms and situations seem to be getting worse.

God is present when we don't understand what is happening or what is going on!

God knows what He is doing with your life and mine. He is All-seeing, All-knowing, All-wise, All-sufficient, All-powerful and Almighty!

It may seem as if the situation is contrary but God is present and He is control.

God is punctual and on time too. He is never late! - Remember Lazarus.

Whatever you may be passing through right now, please, heed Job's counsel in **Job 13: 15**.

Never lose your trust and confidence in God - **Prov.3: 5-6; Heb.10: 35**.

Let us make our times of trouble times of prayer times also - especially times to talk less and listen more to God - Moses stood out here - **Exod.14: 1-4; 13-14**.

We must be ready to obey and follow God's instructions also - **Exod.14: 15-16**.

Conclusion:

Our help in times of trouble will not come from doubts and fear, and it will not come from grumbling and murmuring.

Our help is in God and that help is present with us now. God is our Present Help in times need and times of trouble - **Ps.46: 1-3 & 5**.