

**TITLE:** Impossible Situations

**TEXT:** Exodus 14

# RIGHT WHERE WE WANT THEM

**Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller, USMC:** "They are in front of us, behind us, and we are flanked on both sides by an enemy that outnumbers us 29:1. They can't get away from us now!"

**2 Corinthians 4:8-9** – "We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed."

## BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE

Exodus 14:5-12
FEAR PREVENTS US FROM LIVING
Frederick Douglass: "Better to die free than to live as
<u>Exodus 14:13-14</u>
FEAR LIMITS OUR PERCEIVED
<ul> <li>leads to false dichotomies</li> </ul>
<ul><li>black &amp; white, binary thinking</li></ul>
• always a 3rd option
See Daniel 3:16-18

Exodus 14:30-31

FEAR GIVES		TO MUCH POWER AND MAKES
	TOO SMALL	

- Psalm 118:5-7 The Lord is for me; I will not be afraid. What can a mere mortal do to me?
- Romans 8:31, 37 If God is for us, who is against us? ... No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

# NO ONE TO FEAR

**Matthew 10:26, 28** – "...don't be afraid of them... Don't fear those who kill the body but are not able to kill the soul; rather, fear him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

**Acts 5:40-41** – After they called in the apostles and had them flogged, they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus and released them. Then they went out from the presence of the Sanhedrin, \_\_\_\_\_\_ that they were counted worthy to be treated shamefully on behalf of the Name.

# THE FEAR-FREE LIFE

**Apollonius the Apologist:** "I enjoy life, but love of life has not made me afraid to die. There is nothing greater than life – that eternal life which gives immortality to the soul of the righteous."

**Justin Martyr:** "I ask nothing more than to suffer for the cause of my Lord Jesus Christ. If I can do this, then I can stand in confidence and quiet before the judgment seat of my God and Savior, when in accordance with his will, this world passes away."

**Polycarp of Smyrna:** "Eighty and six years have I served Christ, nor has He ever done me any harm. How, then, could I blaspheme my King who saved Me?....I bless Thee for deigning me worthy of this day and this hour that I may be among Thy martyrs and drink the cup of my Lord Jesus Christ."

Dietrich Bonhoeffer (April 9, 1945): "This is the end. For me the beginning of life."

**Galatians 2:20** – "I have been crucified with Christ, and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."

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