

## Message Notes | The Anatomy of Sin

### Part 4: Stop Your Complaining

Exodus 14:1-14

→ not all complaining is the same

#### #1 Some complaints about earthly life are unknowingly \_\_\_\_\_.

→ the depth of God's planning - vs. 1-3

#### #2 How much of the \_\_\_\_\_ can you actually \_\_\_\_\_?

→ no complaints from the Egyptians - vs. 4-9

#### #3 Are you seeking your \_\_\_\_\_ or God's \_\_\_\_\_?

→ short-sighted complaints - vs. 10-12

#### #4 What do your complaints suggest that you're \_\_\_\_\_?

→ undeserved deliverance - vs. 13-14, Is 53:7; 1 Pt 2:23-24

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### Part 4: Stop Your Complaining

Exodus 14:1-14

1. Do you think you're a complainer? Explain why or why not.
2. What's your reaction when you hear the phrase, "Some complaints about earthly life are unknowingly aimed at heaven"? Are there any immediate examples of this that come to mind?
3. **Read Exodus 14:1-3.** God intentionally led the Israelites to a place that looked like a mistake. Why did he do that, and how does this apply to your life today?
4. The Israelites couldn't see everything that God was doing. How does limited perspective tend to fuel our tendency to complain—whether against God or others?
5. **Read Exodus 14:12.** The Israelites said, "It would have been better for us..." Why did they express that thought?  
  
What is the spiritual danger when that same thought enters your mind?
6. What we complain about usually reveals what we lack: wisdom, direction, or trust. Which of those three resonate most with you right now?
7. How does Jesus' silence in suffering challenge the way we respond to discomfort or fear?
8. What is one thing you want to complain about less this week, and what would it look like to replace that complaint with trust?

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#### #1 Some complaints about earthly life are unknowingly aimed at heaven.

→ the depth of God's planning - **vs. 1-3**

#### #2 How much of the picture can you actually see?

→ no complaints from the Egyptians - **vs. 4-9**

#### #3 Are you seeking your good or God's glory?

→ short-sighted complaints - **vs. 10-12**

#### #4 What do your complaints suggest that you're missing?

→ undeserved deliverance - **vs. 13-14, Is 53:7; 1 Pt 2:23-24**

## Bible Reading for Today

### Exodus 14:1-14

Then the LORD said to Moses,<sup>2</sup> "Tell the Israelites to turn back and encamp near Pi Hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea. They are to encamp by the sea, directly opposite Baal Zephon.<sup>3</sup> Pharaoh will think, 'The Israelites are wandering around the land in confusion, hemmed in by the desert.'<sup>4</sup> And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and he will pursue them. But I will gain glory for myself through Pharaoh and all his army, and the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD." So the Israelites did this.

<sup>5</sup> When the king of Egypt was told that the people had fled, Pharaoh and his officials changed their minds about them and said, "What have we done? We have let the Israelites go and have lost their services!"<sup>6</sup> So he had his chariot made ready and took his army with him.<sup>7</sup> He took six hundred of the best chariots, along with all the other chariots of Egypt, with officers over all of them.<sup>8</sup> The LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, so that he pursued the Israelites, who were marching out boldly.<sup>9</sup> The Egyptians—all Pharaoh's horses and chariots, horsemen and troops—pursued the Israelites and overtook them as they camped by the sea near Pi Hahiroth, opposite Baal Zephon.

<sup>10</sup> As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the LORD.<sup>11</sup> They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you brought us to the desert to die? What have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt?"<sup>12</sup> Didn't we say to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone; let us serve the Egyptians'? It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!"

<sup>13</sup> Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again.<sup>14</sup> The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still."