

Wednesday Devotional

04/19/23

Scripture: Exodus 15: 13 – 16

Surrounded by Christ By: Ann Spangler

The story of Exodus is played out in miniature in the life of every believer. Like the Jews of old, we are held in bondage. Pharaoh represents Satan, who enslaves every person who does not belong to God. But God saves us from our enemy and leads us into freedom and into the promised land of His presence.

While we live on earth, we are involved in this exodus journey. Often, our pilgrimage seems agonizingly slow and confusing. We seem to wander in a desert of our own weakness and sin. Our faith is tested by difficulty. We have fears, many of which are real. It is not only “the things that go bump in the night” that terrify us. We sense an evil presence intent on overtaking us.

But like the Jewish people fleeing the wrath of Pharaoh, we can be certain that God will surround us with his protection. He will send angels to battle our enemy and a pillar of fire to brighten our darkness. Though evil may threaten us, it will never overwhelm us. We can take comfort from the prayer attributed to Patrick of Ireland: “Christ be with me, Christ before me, Christ be after me, Christ within me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ at my right hand, Christ at my left.” Surrounded by Christ, we will pass safely through this world to the next.