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❖SERMON NOTES❖

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Sunday, March 22, 2020

**“VICTORY OVER DESPAIR”**

(Exodus 14:10-18)

We’re living in difficult times...difficult days for us, but not for God. Yet, day to day, with a barrage of adjustments to our lives, we encounter disappointments. So many anticipated things are being cancelled, adjusted, and lost. Disappointments can lead to discouragement, and that can lead to despair. God has a word for you today – Victory!

*“Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt? Isn’t this what we told you in Egypt: Leave us alone so that we may serve the Egyptians? It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness”* (Exodus 14:11–12, CSB).

*“My eyes are worn out from crying. Lord, I cry out to you all day long...Lord, why do you reject me? Why do you hide your face from me?”* (Psalm 88:9, 14, CSB).

*“Don’t be afraid, for those who are with us outnumber those who are with them.’ Then Elisha prayed, ‘Lord, please open his eyes and let him see.’ So the Lord opened the servant’s eyes, and he saw that the mountain was covered with horses and chariots of fire all around. When the Arameans came against him, Elisha prayed to the Lord, “Please strike this nation with blindness.’ So he struck them with blindness, according to Elisha’s word”* (2 Kings 6:16-18, CSB).

*“If the God we serve exists, then he can rescue us from the furnace of blazing fire, and he can rescue us from the power of you, the king. But even if he does not rescue us, we want you as king to know that we will not serve your gods or worship the gold statue you set up”* (Daniel 3:17-18, CSB).

*“We are afflicted in every way but not crushed; we are perplexed but not in despair; we are persecuted but not abandoned; we are struck down but not destroyed. We always carry the death of Jesus in our body, so that the life of Jesus may also be displayed in our body”* (2 Corinthians 4:8–10, CSB).