

Are They Still in the Field?

Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

Exodus 9:19: "Send therefore now, and gather thy cattle, and all that thou hast in the field; for upon every man and beast which shall be found in the field, and shall not be brought home, the hail shall come down upon them, and they shall die."

God had sent word to Pharaoh by Moses that another judgment was coming upon Egypt. This was one that the Egyptians were given an opportunity to avoid. It was up to the people of Egypt to decide whether to obey the Lord, or not. When you think of it, isn't it just like the word of the Lord that we have today? The gospel is preached and it is up to those that hear to obey and prepare for the judgment to come, or to do nothing and to face it alone.

The Lord warned the Egyptians by the word of Moses that anyone, or animal, that would be left in the field would die. The message was plain and easy to understand. Come in from the field, both man and beast, or they would die from the plague. The people then, like the people of today,

had a decision to make. Do I believe what God has said, or do I reject it as false? Once again we see that the people of that day were like the people of our day, some believed and some did not. In verses 20 & 21 it says, "He that feared the word of the Lord among the servants of Pharaoh made his servants and his cattle flee into the houses: And he that regarded not the word of the Lord left his servants and his cattle in the field."

There were some Egyptians that believed that what Moses said would come to pass. They had seen the results from other plagues that God had sent. They called their servants and cattle in from the field and saved them from death. Faith in the God of Moses caused them to move and to make changes in what they did. Faith will do that, for when we have faith in God we will move and change the way we live. This is what caused Noah to build the ark. As **Hebrews 11:7** says, "By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith." This faith in God moved Noah to action and caused him to build the ark.

The Egyptians who didn't believe the words of Moses, and didn't believe in the God of Moses, left his cattle and servants in the field. When

there is no faith there is no action, or change, in the life of a person. He will continue to live and do as the flesh decrees, with no thought of the judgment to come. The unbelieving Egyptians didn't think that there would be any danger to their servants and cattle. I wonder if any of them went to the field, but I doubt it.

I wonder what they said when they found all their animals and servants dead in the field. They had to be surprised and scared to find that God did what he said he would do. Millions of people today, and throughout history, will find out the same way that God does do what he says.

The Lord sends his word by his people and the preachers that he has called. Some believe and obey the word of God, and some do not. Those who believe and obey are changed by the grace of God, while those who do not believe go on in the way of the world. The day of opportunity will end at the time of God's choosing and the time of judgment will come.

Come into the safety of the Lord's salvation while there is still time and find life eternally with the Lord. If you are in the fields of sin, as we all were, you don't have to stay there. Listen to the Lord and trust in him. He has sent his word to help you, but it is up to you to move by faith and come to him for forgiveness.

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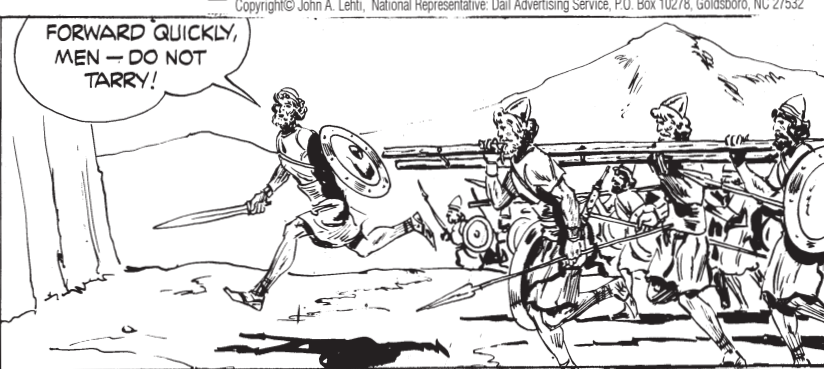
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OTHNIEL'S TRIUMPH

WITH ALL OF HIS MEN PLACED STRATEGICALLY OTHNIEL HAS OPENED HIS ATTACK ON THE GIANTS' CITY...



WHEN OTHNIEL LEADS - WE FOLLOW!

IN SHORT TIME, THE SCALING LADDERS ARE IN PLACE...



UP QUICKLY - FOR THE LORD HAST GIVEN US THE VICTORY!



BUT AS OTHNIEL'S MEN MOUNT THE LADDERS, THE GIANTS ATOP THE HIGH WALLS WAIT WITH HILARITY, KNOWING THAT THEY HAVE ALL THE ADVANTAGE!

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