

II. THE EGYPTIANS OVERTHROWN. 23. The Egyptians pursued—Doubtless hearing the movement of the advancing multitude, but seeing imperfectly in the darkness and the gloom of the cloud, the Egyptians pursued in reckless fury, thinking, if they thought at all, that a road that was safe for the Israelites must be safe for them too. **Horsemen**—these rode in the chariots. Pharaoh is not said to have gone in. 24. The Lord looked—“We suppose the fact to have been that the side of the cloud towards the Egyptians was suddenly for a few moments illuminated with a blaze of light, which, coming as it were in a refulgent flash upon the darkness which had preceded, so frightened the horses of the pursuers that they rushed confusedly together, dashing the wheels of one chariot furiously against those of another, upsetting, breaking, and tearing them from their axles, while the horses themselves, floundering in pools, or sinking in quicksands, were thrown into inextricable confusion, and thus became an easy prey to the returning waters.” (Bush.) 25. The attempt to turn in the narrow path only completed the confusion. 29-27. The sea returned—The cessation of the wind, combined with the spring tide, for it was full moon, would cause such a sudden rush as is seen in the Solway Firth, or in our own Bay of Fundy. The fleetest horseman, not to speak of an army of disabled chariots in confusion, could not escape the “bore.” 28. It is not stated that Pharaoh was drowned. Had he been, it is altogether unlikely that the fact would have been unmentioned in the song of triumph.

SUMMARY AND REVIEW.

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PASSAGE OF THE RED SEA.

I. Israel's Safety.

- (a) Protected by the Cloud.
- (b) Provided for by God.
- (c) Prompt Obedience.

II. Egypt's Destruction.

- (a) Presumption.
- (b) Panic.
- (c) Paralysis.

The passage of the Red Sea meant life to Israel and death to Egypt. Teachers should make the scene vivid to their scholars by so picturing it as to cause the events of the night pass as in a panorama before their eyes. The Bible becomes a new book and its narratives grow to be very real to the young when their imaginations, trained by correct information and stimulated by careful suggestions, are brought to bear upon it. The imagination is a sadly neglected help in Sunday School work. The best preface to this lesson would be a picture of the march down the borders of the Red Sea which led Israel into a seeming trap, hemmed in on one side by impassable rocks and on the other by the sea, with the hosts of Egypt drawing near behind.