

## Great Acts Of The Lord

*John Isaac Edwards*

Exhorting Israel to keep the commandments of the Lord, Moses impressed the people with the great acts of the Lord — “...your eyes have seen all the *great acts of the Lord* which he did” (Dt. 11:7). We call attention to *Great Acts Of The Lord* as mentioned in Deuteronomy 11:1-9.

1) *In The Midst Of Egypt.* Moses spoke of “...his miracles, and his acts, which he did in the midst of Egypt unto Pharaoh the king of Egypt, and unto all his land” (Dt. 11:3). The Exodus reveals the Lord’s great acts in Egypt’s midst: All the waters in the river turned to blood (Ex. 7:14-25). Frogs came up and covered the land of Egypt (Ex. 8:1-15). All the dust of the land became lice (Ex. 8:16-19). There came a grievous swarm of flies (Ex. 8:20-32). A very grievous murrain of cattle (Ex. 9:1-7). Boils (Ex. 9:8-12). A very grievous hail (Ex. 9:13-35). Locusts (Ex. 10:1-20). Thick darkness (Ex. 10:21-29). Death of the firstborn (Ex. 11; 12:29-30). One purpose of these great acts was “...to the end thou mayest know that I am the Lord in the midst of the earth” (Ex. 8:22) as Pharaoh said, “...Who is the Lord that I should obey his voice...?” (Ex. 5:2). There is none so great as the Lord God Almighty!

2) *Unto The Army Of Egypt.* Moses made reference to “...what he did unto the army of Egypt, unto their horses, and to their chariots; how he made the water of the Red sea to overflow them as they pursued after you, and how the Lord hath destroyed them unto this day” (Dt. 11:4). This epic event is recorded in Exodus 14. “... the Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued after the children of Israel...But the Egyptians pursued after them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, and his horsemen, and his army...” (vv. 8-9). The children of Israel “...cried out unto the Lord...” (v. 10). Moses said, “...Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord...” (v. 13). The waters were divided (v. 21). The Israelites crossed upon dry ground (v. 22). The Egyptians pursued, and went in after them (v. 23). “And the waters returned, and covered the chariots, and the horsemen, and all the host of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them; there remained not so much as one of them” (v. 28). “Thus the Lord saved Israel that day out of the land of the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea shore. And Israel saw that great work which the Lord did upon the Egyptians...” (vv. 30-31). Imagine seeing it!

3) *In The Wilderness.* Moses continued his obedience exhortation with: “And what he did unto you in the wilderness, until ye came into this place” (Dt. 11:5). The wilderness-wandering period is filled with great acts of the Lord. Consider Taberah, where the people complained. Fire of the Lord burnt among them and consumed them that were in the uttermost parts of the camp (Num. 11:1-3). Think about Kibroth-hattaavah, where the people lusted. Quail were sent. The Lord smote the people with a very great plague (Num. 11:4-34). Remember Hazeroth, where Aaron and Miriam complained. Miriam became leprous as snow (Num. 11:35-12:15). Ponder Kadesh-barnea. Twelve spies were sent out to search the land of Canaan. Ten brought back a negative report. The people were grieved. The Lord decreed a death sentence for all of that generation (Num. 12:16-14:45). Who can forget Meribah, where water was brought forth from the rock (Num. 20:2-13). Reflect on the fiery serpents of Numbers 21:4-9. See Israel defeat Sihon, king of the Amorites and Og, king of Bashan in Numbers 21:21-35. Again and again, great acts of the Lord were demonstrated to astonish His people.

4) *Unto Dathan And Abiram.* Moses reminded the Lord's people, "And what he did unto Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab, the son of Rueben: how the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their households, and their tents, and all the substance that was in their possession, in the midst of all Israel" (Dt. 11:6). This is found written in Numbers 16. "And they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron, and said unto them, Ye take too much upon you..." (v. 3). Moses 'turned the tables' on these rebels, saying, "...ye take too much upon you..." (v. 7).

As a result of their mutiny, these men did not die the common death of all men, but the Lord made a new thing. "...the ground clave asunder that was under them: And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their houses, and all the men that appertained unto Korah, and all their goods. They, and all that appertained to them, went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation" (vv. 32-33). Wow!

Moses rehearsed great acts of the Lord before the children

of Israel to move them to obedience — "Therefore shall ye keep all the commandments which I command you this day, that ye may be strong, and go in and possess the land, whither ye go to possess it; And that ye may prolong your days in the land..." (Dt. 11:8-9).

Such should also motivate us to keep the commandments of the Lord today — "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city" (Rev. 22:14)!

*Mark Your Calendar:*

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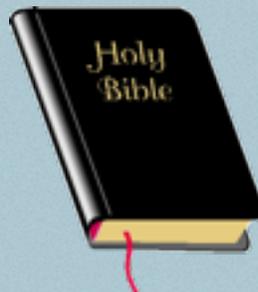
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**The Terre Haute **SPEAKER**** is published weekly by the church of Christ at Terre Haute, Indiana.

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