

[Tell a story](#)  
**Acharon Shel Pesach**  
**Last days of Pesach**  
**by Julie Zhuk on 2022-04-23**

[Comments](#)

The Jews are no longer under the power of the Egyptians or the cruel leader, Pharaoh. The Jews couldn't wait to get out of Egypt, they had their last meal before leaving. Now that we have fast forwarded life more than several thousand years, we cannot imagine what it was like for them to enjoy that last meal of unleavened bread.

As soon as they had finished, they started heading towards Israel. It had been seven days since they left Egypt and that gave Pharaoh sometime to think things through, everything that has happened between the nine different plagues.

One would think that someone smart like Pharaoh would have stopped after the first or second plague, but no he just continued. Perhaps Moses had thought that this last plague would do the trick and the Jews could finally cut their ties with the Egyptians including Pharaoh. It seemed at first that it was going to work.

Pharaoh does not take long to think about any of this, after three days he has already regretted letting the Jewish people go. G-d knew there could have been a very quick way to get to Israel, but He had something else in mind. He didn't want them to go there directly. As much as He didn't want to see them in turmoil as before, He wanted them to be under Egyptians influence one last time.

G-d had a plan, but He was pretty silent about it. As Moses had done in the past, he would just have to trust G-d. G-d sent Pharaoh's armies and chariots to come chasing after the Jewish people. By this time the Jews had reached a very large body of water, in Hebrew it's called a yam. G-d wanted to see the reactions and how their faith in Him would play out. This was all happening extremely fast and from a short distance away, the Jews could see the Egyptians approaching.

The Jewish people split into four different groups. We can only imagine how everyone was anxious and nervous at the same time. The first group stated how they wanted to throw themselves into the sea actually believing they would drown. There were plenty of men who stated out loud that they didn't want to be the first to jump in the sea and drown.

The first Jewish man to do this was Nachson. He was known to be the prince of the tribe of Judah. After he jumped into the sea, the others followed. Another group was so scared that they didn't want to be in this predicament anymore, they stated how it would be for the best to just return to Egypt. This group definitely didn't believe there was any hope left for them.

The third group were a pretty rowdy bunch and made blatant statements of wanting to wage war against the Egyptians. The last group of Jews were a bit more on the calm side and decided it would be in their best interest to reach out and pray to G-d.

Moses never truly lacked faith in G-d, but during tense times such as this his nerves and anxiety would come out. He started crying out to me? Go talk to your people and let them travel to their final destination, Israel. G-d reminded him to raise his staff and reach out his hand over the sea. Doing this he would see what would happen. G-d had a plan for the sea to split and the Jewish people could cross over on dry land.

G-d wanted the Egyptians to see as well that it was Him doing this, He is G-d and would be glorified through Pharaoh, his chariots, and the horsemen. Moses followed G-d's careful instructions and sure enough He kept his word. Moses stretched out his hand to the sea and G-d sent a strong wind to the east that lasted all night.

By the morning the Jews stood on the sidelines of this body of water, they stood where it was dry. They viewed their enemies as the Egyptians standing in the middle. The Egyptians kept pursuing the Jewish people, G-d sent a cloud and fire at the same time confusing the Egyptians and emanated a painful amount of heat. The Egyptians tried to flee into the sea, but G-d kept them in the same area they were for a long time. Many Egyptians ended up drowning and a Midrash tells us that their bodies were left on the seashore so no Jew back then would think that an Egyptian had survived.

Watching all of this before their eyes, the Jews turned to G-d and stated that they believed in Him and His servant Moses. It is important to know that as G-d had split the sea and Jews had dry land to step on, the Jewish women rejoiced in song and dance. They used instruments such as tambourines.

Throughout history, the Jewish women have never lost their faith in G-d. Miriam was one of those who inspired many of these women. As they crossed the sea and stood on dry land, G-d made sure to make the Jewish people feel comfortable. The seabed was dry and there was a wall with dry fruit for the Jewish people to eat. While in this experience, they could also feel G-d and his Presence around.