

# Where's Your Chair?

Exodus 14 1-9



My God, my rock in whom I take refuge,  
my shield, the horn of my salvation and my stronghold.  
Psalm 18:2

## **Praising:**

See how hosts of evil round us  
scorn your Christ, attack his  
ways!  
From the fears that long have  
bound us  
free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us  
courage  
for the living of these days.

## **Reading:**

Exodus 14:1-9  
The Egyptians decide to pursue

The Israelites are trapped. Lying  
before them, are a number of  
Egyptian frontier fortresses which  
they are unable to break through.  
To one side is water, known in  
Hebrew as the Sea of Reeds.  
This was not the Red Sea itself  
but a body of water further north.  
With the Egyptian forces

advancing from behind, there is  
nowhere for the Israelites to go.  
Two explanations are offered for  
what prompts the Egyptians to  
pursue Israel. Seen from one  
angle, having first liberated the  
Israelites, God now plans to  
overthrow Pharaoh and his army  
using Israel as the bait to draw  
them to a place where they are  
exposed. Seen from another  
angle, once the King of Egypt  
hears that all his slave labour has  
been lost, Pharaoh attempts to  
save face by setting off to try and  
recapture them.

## **Listening:**

## **Praying:**

Lord we pray for those who live in  
fear of threat or attack

- when they feel frightened or in  
physical danger, calm them in  
your Father's love
- when they feel maltreated or  
personally abused, comfort  
them in your Son's gentleness
- when they feel bereft or  
without friend or ally, collect  
them in your Spirit's warmth

Father: show me when to take a  
stand and refuse to budge, and  
show me when to give ground  
and find a compromise – and  
help me through the fallout of  
making the wrong call. Amen

## **Doing:**

Wednesday, 10 August 2016