

# April 23<sup>rd</sup> Prayer

Purpose

Perspective

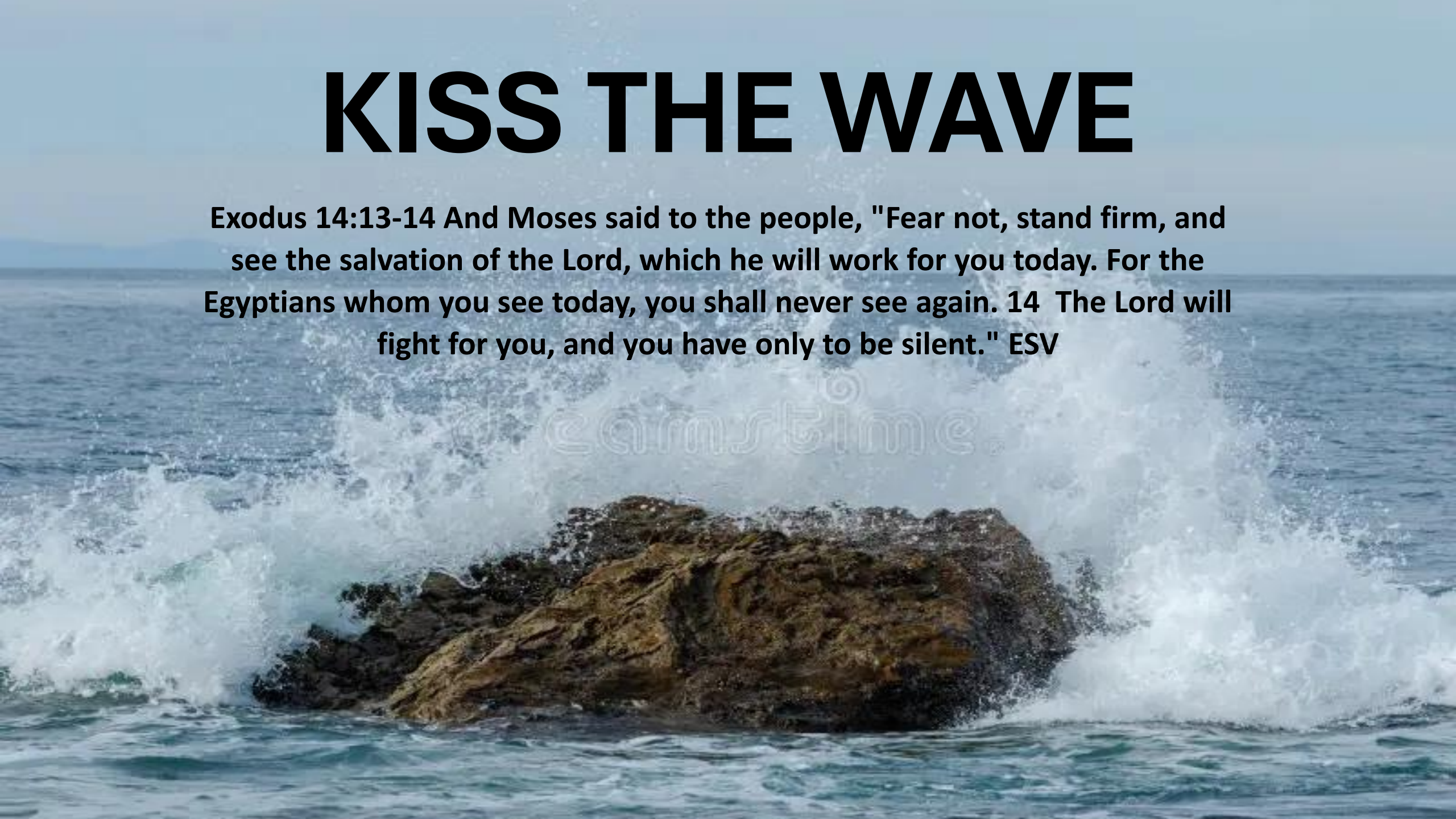
Posture

Performance

Power

# KISS THE WAVE

**Exodus 14:13-14 And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. 14 The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent." ESV**



- Surrey Music Hall, Sunday October 19, 1856

## “How long, O Lord?”

- We may not be responsible for challenges, but we are **response-able**.
- Explanations are more important than our experiences.
- Obstacles are not the enemy.
- The enemy may be us.
- The obstacle is the way.

**Charles Spurgeon said: “I have learned to kiss the wave that throws me against the Rock of Ages.”**

**Exodus 14 “Tell the people of Israel to GO FORWARD.”**

*“If you want to walk on water, you have to get out of the boat.”*

*“If you want God to make a sidewalk through the sea, wade into the water.”*

**If we want God to do the super, we have to do the natural.**

• **Exodus 14:13-14** And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. 14 The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent." ESV

• **Exodus 14:13-14** But Moses told the people, "Don't be afraid. Just stand still and watch the Lord rescue you today. The Egyptians you see today will never be seen again. 14 The Lord himself will fight for you. Just stay calm."  
NLT

# Kiss the Wave

## 1. Face Your Fear

- According to psychologists, we're only born with two fears. One is the fear of falling. The other is the fear of loud noises.
  - Every other fear is learned, which means every other fear can be unlearned.
  - Faith is a process of unlearning fear!
  - How? I John 4:18 says, "Perfect love casts out all fear." If you fear God, which is the beginning of wisdom—and it means to hold God in highest esteem, to revere God above all else—if you fear God, you don't have to fear anything else.
  - The fear of God is the cure of every other fear.
- Identify the fear. Don't avoid it.
- All of us want a miracle. None of us wants to be in a situation that necessitates a miracle. But you can't have one without the other. When you experience a setback, you do not take a step back, because God is already preparing your comeback.

Exodus 14:4 "I have planned this in order to display my glory." God is going to put His glory on display, one way or the other.

## 2. Stand Your Ground

- The NLT says, “Stand still.” As in, be still and know that I am God.
- The NIV says, “Stand firm.” As in, having done all to stand, stand firm.
- The amplified says, “Take your stand.”

In crisis situations where do we go?

- Do we go back to ground zero.
- Part of kissing the wave is embracing our daily spiritual disciplines.
  - The only ceiling on our intimacy with God and impact on the world is daily spiritual disciplines!
  - Stay grounded in God’s word. Press in and pray through. That’s how you stand your ground.
  - The most underestimated kind of power is staying power. It’s long obedience in the same direction.
  - You are where you are!

### 3. Hold Your Peace

- Ancient tradition, practiced in orthodox churches, called pass the peace.
- If you're offering a gift and realize you are at odds with someone, go and be reconciled.
  - You interrupt the pattern. You love your enemies. You pray for those who persecute you. You bless those who curse you.
  - And when we pass the peace, heaven invades earth.
  - It's difficult to pass the peace if you don't learn how to hold your peace.



# Own Your Past

Our ability to remember the past is a gift from God, but it comes with a caveat.

- We don't always remember accurately. This fact reminds us that memory is both selective and subjective.
- As such, it can be a blessing and a curse. When we remember yesterday the wrong way, we live a lie. And living a lie undermines our ability to win the day.

You've got to own the past, or the past will own you.

- You cannot change the past, but you can learn from it.
- Accurately inventory your past, hiding from nothing. Then you have to own all of it- the good, the bad, and the ugly. It is what it **was**.
- **Forgiveness is the key!!** Then you can bury it six-feet deep. You may not be responsible for what happened, but you are response-able. You make a choice!

We quit too soon.

We give up too easily.

Hebrews 12:1b-2 let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. ESV

We can “learn to kiss the wave” because Christ is near to us and supreme over all things. He died and rose again to vanquish evil forever. Christ is to us wisdom from God, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption (1 Corinthians 1:30).

Yesterday is history.

Tomorrow is a mystery.

Kiss the wave!

