

"On the Waterfront"

Characters:

- Announcer
- Israelite

Props:

- Microphone
- Tunic for Israelite
- Jewels

Announcer

(Breathless and wide-eyed)

This is a special report live and direct from the west bank of the Red Sea. I was just the eyewitness of an unexplainable, incredible event. Listen carefully, folks, you aren't going to believe this! At nightfall yesterday the water of the Red Sea separated down the middle and formed a HIGH wall of water on either side. Then almost a million people, men, women, children and all their animals walked between these walls of water, came out on this side and they weren't wet, not even their feet!

(A drenched Israelite comes running in)

Well, most of the people.

Israelite

Did you see that??!!

Announcer

Yes, what's going on? Were you one of the people who came across? How did that happen?

Israelite

For 430 years my people, the Israelites, have been slaves in Egypt. The God of our fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, caused terrible plagues, a plague is an unusually large number of insects or animals infesting a place and causing damage to that place. With Egypt caught in these plagues, pharaoh eventually let us go. We were finally on our way to a life of freedom. God was leading us and we were all amazed at what had happened. The Egyptians even gave us a lot of jewels and riches to bring with us.

(Pull jewels out of tunic)

Announcer

Wow! They gave you all that stuff? Why would they do that?

Israelite

We had caused them enough grief. They were willing to do anything to get us out of there. Anyway, an angel of the Lord and a giant cloud appeared in front of us to lead us since we had no idea where we were going. When it got dark some of the people looked behind and noticed chariots in the distance. Of course panic rippled through all the Israelites. The Pharaoh and his army were coming after us. Some folks got downright nasty with Moses. They accused him of bringing them out in the wilderness to die. Can you imagine? After all God had done to get them out of Egypt, they couldn't believe He had a plan. But the situation got worse. As we looked ahead, we saw that the Lord was leading us to the Red Sea. How would we get away? The sea was too deep for us to cross and the Egyptians were behind us. I must admit it did look pretty hopeless. But Moses said to the people, "Do not fear! Stand by and see the salvation of the LORD which He will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you have seen today, you will never see them again forever."

Then the angel of the Lord and the pillar of cloud moved between us and the Egyptians. It was so bizarre. It was light on our side of the cloud and dark on the Egyptian side.

Announcer

So, what I want to know is how the water separated like that?

Israelite

Well, Moses continued to trust God and stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD swept the sea *back* by a strong east wind and turned the sea into dry land. We walked on the dry land, and the water was like a giant wall on both sides of us.

Announcer

How did you know it would stay like that until you all got across? Weren't you afraid?

Israelite Look mister, God told us He would fight for us. Do you think He would perform such a miracle only to let us drown? *(Scratches his head)* ...and yet, I guess that is a good question since so many people were so afraid.

Anyway, the Egyptians followed us in hot pursuit right into the sea. I was the last one. I watched the Egyptians get closer and couldn't believe my eyes. Their chariot wheels started falling off and the chariots were falling into each other. I heard one of them yell, "Let's get away from Israel, the LORD is fighting for them against us." I looked up at Moses as he stretched out his hand and the walls of water went crashing down on all those Egyptians. Every one of them was drowned. I'm soaked because I was standing at the edge of the water.

Announcer Yes, I saw those walls of water from the distance and was running toward the sea. I was sure I was seeing things and then that deafening, earsplitting roar as the waters crashed back. I really wasn't seeing things! Hey, will you tell me more about this God of yours? I think I'd like Him on my side.

Israelite Sure, I'd love to tell you, but you'll have to walk with me. I must catch up with my people.

Announcer and Israelite exit