

GOING FORWARD

EX. 14:15.

"The Lord said unto Moses, 'Speak to the children of Israel, that they go forward.'"

I have never read where God advised people to go backward in the work of the Kingdom, but He seems always to say 'Go forward! If we want to have heavenly company then we must go forward but if the backward course is what we want then we must choose the devil as our companion.

*Language from the
of the Kingdom*
The Lord said unto Moses. It does not say that some philosopher said unto Moses, or that some denomination spoke unto Moses, or that some corporation said unto Moses "Go forward! If that had been the case the passage would hardly seize our attention as we read it. But it says, "The Lord said unto Moses 'Go forward!'" So for us to see that the language is from out the skys our attention is gripped at once.

He said to him first to speak. There come times when we need to speak. If we are dumb on a subject then our lives count against it. Speak to the Children of Israel. Speak, in other words, to the Chosen People--speak to the church. Why was it necessary to speak to the church? We get the idea some times that we do not need for any one to teach us in S.S. or preach to us at church for we know every thing already. No one can teach me any thing. But Jesus said, "Feed my sheep." That is, preach to my church, ~~speak~~ speak to the church. Why if the church is not spoken to it does not move very long. I have seen this tried. If water does not move it stagnates. If the church does not move it dies. A man took morphine and the doctor had the people to walk him, pinch him, talk to him and just any thing to keep him awake. The devil is all the time trying to give the church poison by dosing out criticisms up on its management and thereby trying to get the people soured against it so that they will let up in their energies. If

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He can do that why then they are soon asleep. But God never intended that His people sit down and let things go easy but rang into the ears of Moses to "Speak" to the church.

Speak to the church that they go. Now He did not say that they go fishing. Now fishing is all right but Christ had the fishermen to lay down their nets that they might really go.

He did not say go off after every fad in religion. Yet there are always church people ready to jump at any thing new that comes along.

He did say "Go forward." What did He mean by that? Why there had been a covenant made to these people that in them should all the families of the earth be blessed. It was God's purpose and motive that these people go on to that high goal of being a blessing to all the world. Moses, speak to the church that it go forward to bless the world. Teach them that it is the onward march, the upward look that is going to characterize my people and make them a blessing.

But for these people to go forward meant something. There was the Red sea waving the bloody picture of death in their faces. To cross that sea or to try to cross it meant sure death to all of them. But to go back is no better but simply means that they are agin to be in slavery. To get away from slavery they must trust to God that they may get across the sea. In this situation the word came, "Speak to the Children of Israel that they go forward." (He had not opened 134.)

After they got across some fellow likely said, I can not go farther because I had a short crop. I have nothing to eat. Another said, "I am not going out in to that wilderness for I will make no crop. But their leader knew that God had spoken and that was enough. They went forward and God fed them. I have never seen any body starve to death because of what ~~they~~ gave to the Lord. But I imagine that I have seen them die from over eating those things bought with money which was the Lord's

The Lord did not tell them to go forward to idol worship but some of them did it any how. People do the same thing to day. They take their gold and put it into idols. Things that will entertain them and come between them and God.

There is a good deal of money worship in these days. People like to make the appearance of being rich. Now if you want to knock that disposition out of folk you just begin to build a church. That will come as near making every one poor as any thing I know. I hope the committees will make note of all the people who appear rich as they approach them this afternoon.

Now we as a church stand out in the full blast of this message. It may look impossible for us to advance but since we are called into the wonderful privilege helping bless the world let us hear no other voice than that of God as He speaks to us to go forward. We have gone about as far as we can in our church work unless we build.

It called for faith for the Israelites to cross. It will call for faith for you to give cash and notes enough to build. Now is the time to show what kind of faith we have in the God we serve.

When Israel was across the sea, the sea was between them and slavery and they could walk on with God. Let us who have passed through the blood of Jesus remember that His blood separates us from slavery to sin and let us go on toward the promised land.

Now friends, let us not hesitate in this matter. But let us pray that wonderful prayer which has been written in song.

LEAD ON OH KING ETERNAL THE DAY OF MARCH
HAS COME.

HENCEFORTH IN FIELDS OF CONQUESTS THY TEN
TS SHALL BE OUR HOME.

THROUGH DAYS OF PREPARATION THY GRACE HAS
MADE US STRONG

AND NOW OH KING ETERNAL WE LIFT OUR BAT-
TLE SONG.

LEAD ON OH KING ETERNAL WE FOLLOW NOT
WITH FEAR

FOR GLADNESS BREAKS LIKE MORNING WHERE'ER
THY FACE APPEARS.

THY CROSS IS LIFTED O'ER US WE JOURNEY
IN ITS LIGHT.

THE CROWN AWAITS THE CONQUEST LEAD ON
OH KING OF MIGHT.