



The Nathan Principle



How To Convict the Sincerely Deceived of Religious Error

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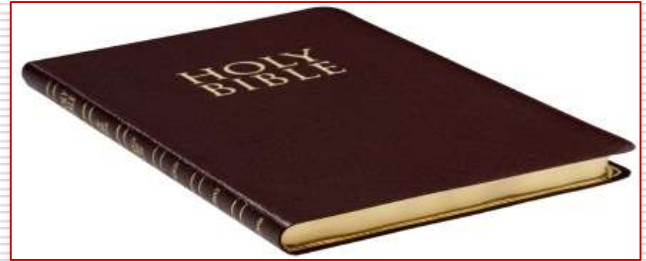
- ❑ II Samuel 12

- ❑ THE KEY:



- ❑ Help the one being taught to make an *objective decision* before he/she becomes *emotionally* involved!!

Three things have nothing to do with Truth (Jn 8:32)



- ❑ The Amount of *Time* . . .
- ❑ The Number of *People* . . .
- ❑ The *Degree of Sincerity* of the believers.

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Noah was saved by . . .



- ❑ **Grace** --Gen 6:8
- ❑ **Faith** -- Heb 11:7
- ❑ **Obedience** – Gen 6:22 “All that Jehovah asked him to do, so did he.”
- ❑ Faith, Grace, Obedience ... are not *mutually exclusive*

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Jacob and Joseph



- Gen 37:31-35 And they took Joseph's coat, and killed a kid of the goats, and dipped the coat in the blood; 32 And they sent the coat of many colors, and they brought it to their father; and said, This have we found: *know now whether it be thy son's coat or not?*
- 33 And he knew it, and said, **"It is my son's coat; an evil beast hath devoured him; Joseph is without doubt rent in pieces."**

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Jacob and Joseph



- ❑ 34 And Jacob **rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his loins, and mourned for his son many days.**
- ❑ 35 And all his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him; but he refused to be comforted; and he said, For I will go down into the grave unto my son mourning. Thus his father wept for him.

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Jacob and Joseph

- ❑ Notice: Jacob hears a lie (*deceived*) and believes it!
- ❑ Results in an extreme emotional response!
- ❑ 22 years pass . . .



Joseph is alive and a ruler in Egypt!



- Gen 45:25-28 Then they went up from Egypt, and came to the land of Canaan to their father Jacob. 26 They told him, saying, "**Joseph is still alive, and indeed he is ruler over all the land of Egypt.**" But he was stunned, (his heart fainted KJV) for **he did not believe them.**"

Jacob and Joseph

- ❑ Now there is good news –the truth – and yet *no emotional response!*



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Conclusion:

- ❑ Our *emotional response* to a message has nothing to do with whether or not the message we heard was **true or false**!
- ❑ However, once Jacob saw the *evidence* he lined up his feelings with the facts!



**On to
Egypt!**

Notice:

- ❑ 27 When they told him all the words of Joseph that he had spoken to them, and when he saw the wagons that Joseph had sent to carry him, the **spirit of their father Jacob revived.**
- ❑ 28 Then Israel said, "It **is** enough; my **son Joseph is still alive!** I will go and see him before I die."



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Future application:

- “I **know** I’m saved because ...
 - Prayed through . . .
 - “Burning in my bosom”
 - Feeling better felt than told!
- Jacob thought he knew for sure Joseph was dead too!

Future application:

☐ I don't doubt.. *emotional experience*, but does that experience prove you were right?

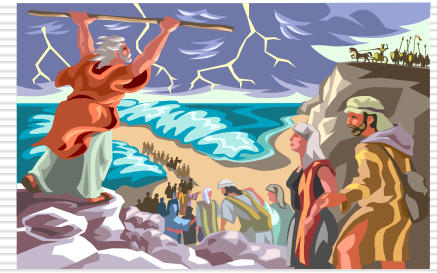
Moses and the Red Sea



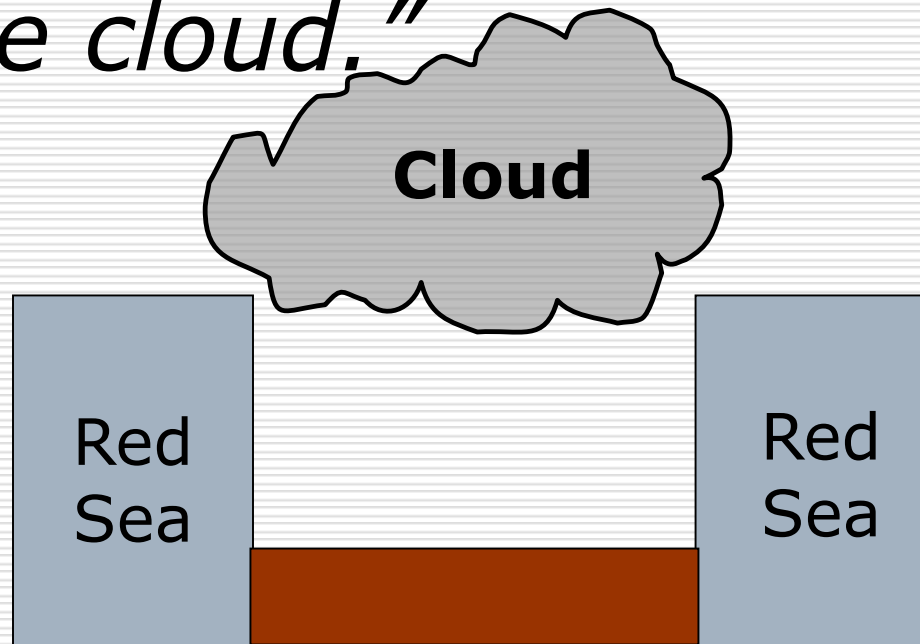
- ❑ Exodus 14: 13 “ And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and **see the salvation of the Lord, which he will show to you today ..**
- ❑ Exodus 14:29 “The children of Israel walked upon dry land in the midst of the sea; and **the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.”**

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I Corinthians 10:1-4



- ❑ Elements of Baptism: “*The sea and the cloud.*”

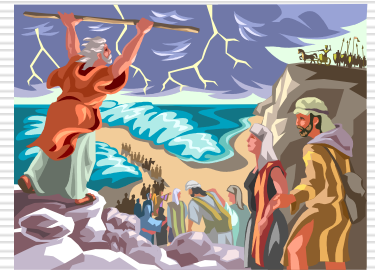


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The Baptism of the Sea and the Cloud

- Ex. 14:30 “Thus the **Lord saved Israel** that day out of the hand of the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea shore.
- vs 31 “And Israel saw that **great work which the Lord did** upon the Egyptians; and the people feared the Lord.”

\$64,000 Question . . .



- ☐ Were they saved *before* they went into the "*baptism of the sea and the cloud*" (crossed the Red Sea) or afterwards?
- ☐ Are we saved before we are baptized or *afterwards*?

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This is the key!



- ❑ Keep your discussions as objective as possible.
- ❑ Use the *Nathan principle* and overcome one of the greatest barriers to personal teaching!

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