

Exodus 15 - Song of Moses

I. Exodus from Egyptian bondage: Israel's redemption, liberation, and preservation (Ex 1:1—18:27)

(2) Liberation (Ex 12:31—15:21)

(D) Red (Reed) Sea crossing (Ex 14:3—15:21)

(d) Song of Deliverance (15:1-21)

(3) Preservation (Ex 15:22—18:27)

(A) Preserved from thirst in the Wilderness of Shur (15:22-27)

(a) Bitter water sweetened at Marah (15:22-26)

(b) Provision of 12 springs and dates from the 70 palms at Elim (15:27)

Exodus 15

(d) Song of Deliverance (15:1-21)

1 Then Moses and the sons of Israel sang this **song** to the LORD, saying: "I will sing to the LORD, for He is highly exalted; The horse and its rider He has hurled into the sea.

1 Then Moses and the sons of Israel sang this song to the LORD, and said, "I will sing to the LORD, for He is highly exalted; The horse and its rider He has hurled into the sea.

1 Then Moses and the Israelis sang this song to the LORD: "I'll sing to the LORD, for he is highly exalted. The horse and its rider he has thrown into the sea.

1 Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.

- "...song" - only the redeemed sing in the Scriptures!

— Angels shout (Job 38:7), praise (Luke 2:13), and can praise God saying (Rev 5:11-12)

- This song is composed of three gradually increasing stanzas (v1-6, 7-11, and 12-16, with an epilogue in v17-18), each commencing with the praise of Jehovah and ending with a description of the overthrow of the Egyptian army

2 "The LORD is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation; This is my God, and I will praise Him; My father's God, and I will exalt Him.

2 "The LORD is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation; This is my God, and I will praise Him; My father's God, and I will extol Him.

2 The LORD is my strength and song, and he has become my salvation. This is my God and I'll praise him, the God of my father and I'll exalt him.

2 The LORD is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation: he is my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him.

3 "The LORD is a warrior; The LORD is His name.

3 "The LORD is a warrior; The Lord is His name.

3 The LORD is a man of war, the LORD is his name!

3 The LORD is a man of war: the LORD is his name.

4 "Pharaoh's chariots and his army He has thrown into the sea; And the choicest of his officers are drowned in the Red Sea.

4 "Pharaoh's chariots and his army He has cast into the sea; And the choicest of his officers are drowned in the Red Sea.

4 "Pharaoh's chariots and his army he has hurled into the sea; his best officers sank in the Reed Sea.

4 Pharaoh's chariots and his host hath he cast into the sea: his chosen captains also are drowned in the Red sea.

5 "The waters cover them; They went down into the depths like a stone.

5 "The deeps cover them; They went down into the depths like a stone.

5 The deep covered them, they went down into the depths like a rock.

5 The depths have covered them: they sank into the bottom as a stone.

6 "Your right hand, LORD, is majestic in power; Your right hand, LORD, destroys the enemy.

6 "Your right hand, O LORD, is majestic in power, Your right hand, O LORD, shatters the enemy.

6 Your right hand, LORD, was majestic in strength, your right hand, LORD, shattered the enemy.

6 Thy right hand, O LORD, is become glorious in power: thy right hand, O LORD, hath dashed in pieces the enemy.

7 "And in the greatness of Your excellence You overthrow those who rise up against You; You send out Your burning anger, *and* it consumes them like chaff.

7 "And in the greatness of Your excellence You overthrow those who rise up against You; You send forth Your burning anger, *and* it consumes them as chaff.

7 In the greatness of your majesty you broke down your enemies. You sent forth your anger, it consumed them like stubble.

7 And in the greatness of thine excellency thou hast overthrown them that rose up against thee: thou sentest forth thy wrath, which consumed them as stubble.

8 "At the blast of Your nostrils the waters were piled up, The flowing waters stood up like a heap; The depths were congealed in the heart of the sea.

8 "At the blast of Your nostrils the waters were piled up, The flowing waters stood up like a heap; The deeps were congealed in the heart of the sea.

8 By the breath of your nostrils the waters were piled up, the flowing waters stood up like a hill, the deep waters congealed in the heart of the sea.

8 And with the blast of thy nostrils the waters were gathered together, the floods stood upright as an heap, and the depths were congealed in the heart of the sea.

9 "The enemy said, 'I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoils; I shall be satisfied against them; I will draw my sword, my hand will destroy them.'

9 "The enemy said, 'I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil; My desire shall be gratified against them; I will draw out my sword, my hand will destroy them.'

9 "The enemy said, 'I'll pursue them, I'll overtake them, I'll divide the spoil. I'll satisfy my anger on them, I'll draw my sword, and my hand will bring them to ruin.'

9 The enemy said, I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil; my lust shall be satisfied upon them; I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.

10 "You blew with Your wind, the sea covered them; They sank like lead in the mighty waters.

10 "You blew with Your wind, the sea covered them; They sank like lead in the mighty waters.

10 "You blew with your breath, and the sea covered them; they sank like lead in the mighty water.

10 Thou didst blow with thy wind, the sea covered them: they sank as lead in the mighty waters.

11 "Who is like You among the gods, LORD? Who is like You, majestic in holiness, Awesome in praises, working wonders?

11 "Who is like You among the gods, O LORD? Who is like You, majestic in holiness, Awesome in praises, working wonders?

11 "Who is like you among the gods, LORD? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in splendor, and working wonders?

11 Who is like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?

12 "You reached out with Your right hand, The earth swallowed them.

12 "You stretched out Your right hand, The earth swallowed them.
12 You stretched out your right hand, and the earth swallowed them.
12 Thou stretchedst out thy right hand, the earth swallowed them.

13 "In Your faithfulness You have led the people whom You have **redeemed**; In Your strength You have guided *them* to Your holy habitation.

13 "In Your lovingkindness You have led the people whom You have redeemed; In Your strength You have guided *them* to Your holy habitation.

13 "You have led with your gracious love this people whom you redeemed. You have guided them with your strength to your holy dwelling.

13 Thou in thy mercy hast led forth the people which thou hast redeemed: thou hast guided them in thy strength unto thy holy habitation.

- "...redeemed" - *ga'al*, protecting family rights; it refers to the responsibility of a close relative to buy back family land that had been sold because of debt (Cf. Lev 25:25)

14 "The peoples have heard, they tremble; Anguish has gripped the inhabitants of Philistia.

14 "The peoples have heard, they tremble; Anguish has gripped the inhabitants of Philistia.

14 "The people heard and they quaked, anguish has seized the inhabitants of Philistia.

14 The people shall hear, and be afraid: sorrow shall take hold on the inhabitants of Palestina.

15 "Then the chiefs of Edom were terrified; The leaders of Moab, trembling grips them; All the inhabitants of Canaan have despaired.

15 "Then the chiefs of Edom were dismayed; The leaders of Moab, trembling grips them; All the inhabitants of Canaan have melted away.

15 Then the chiefs of Edom were terrified, the nobles of Moab trembled uncontrollably, and all the inhabitants of Canaan melted away.

15 Then the dukes of Edom shall be amazed; the mighty men of Moab, trembling shall take hold upon them; all the inhabitants of Canaan shall melt away.

16 "Terror and dread fall upon them; By the greatness of Your arm they are motionless as stone, Until Your people pass over, LORD, Until the people pass over whom You have purchased.

16 "Terror and dread fall upon them; By the greatness of Your arm they are motionless as stone; Until Your people pass over, O LORD, Until the people pass over whom You have purchased.

16 Dread and fear have fallen on them, because of the strength of your arm. They have become silent as a stone, until your people pass by, LORD, until this people you acquired

pass by.

16 Fear and dread shall fall upon them; by the greatness of thine arm they shall be as still as a stone; till thy people pass over, O LORD, till the people pass over, which thou hast purchased.

- God's power causes fear: Jethro (Ex 18:10-11); Rahab (Joshua 2:9-10); Gibeonites (Joshua 9:9); Philistines (1 Sam 4:8)

17 "You will bring them and plant them in the mountain of Your inheritance, The place, LORD, which You have made as Your dwelling, The sanctuary, Lord, which Your hands have established.

17 "You will bring them and plant them in the mountain of Your inheritance, The place, O LORD, which You have made for Your dwelling, The sanctuary, O Lord, which Your hands have established.

17 "You will bring them in and plant them on the mountain of your inheritance. You have made a place where you will reside, LORD. Your own hands have established a sanctuary, LORD.

17 Thou shalt bring them in, and plant them in the mountain of thine inheritance, in the place, O LORD, which thou hast made for thee to dwell in, in the Sanctuary, O Lord, which thy hands have established.

18 "The LORD shall reign forever and ever."

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18 The LORD shall reign for ever and ever.

19 For the horses of Pharaoh with his chariots and his horsemen went into the sea, and the LORD brought back the waters of the sea on them, but the sons of Israel walked on dry land through the midst of the sea.

19 For the horses of Pharaoh with his chariots and his horsemen went into the sea, and the LORD brought back the waters of the sea on them, but the sons of Israel walked on dry land through the midst of the sea.

19 When the horses of Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen went into the sea, the LORD caused the waters of the sea to come back over them, but the Israelis walked through the middle of the sea on dry land.

19 For the horse of Pharaoh went in with his chariots and with his horsemen into the sea, and the LORD brought again the waters of the sea upon them; but the children of Israel went on dry land in the midst of the sea.

20 Miriam the prophetess, Aaron's sister, took the tambourine in her hand, and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing.

20 Miriam the prophetess, Aaron's sister, took the timbrel in her hand, and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dancing.

20 Then Miriam the prophetess, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand and went out with all the women behind her with tambourines and dancing.

20 And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances.

21 And Miriam answered them, "Sing to the LORD, for He is highly exalted; The horse and his rider He has hurled into the sea."

21 Miriam answered them, "Sing to the LORD, for He is highly exalted; The horse and his rider He has hurled into the sea."

21 Miriam sang to them, "Sing to the LORD, for he is highly exalted! The horse and its rider he has thrown into the sea."

21 And Miriam answered them, Sing ye to the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.

(3) Preservation (Ex 15:22—18:27)

(A) Preserved from thirst in the Wilderness of Shur (15:22-27)

(a) Bitter water sweetened at Marah (15:22-26)

22 Then Moses led Israel from the Red Sea, and they went out into the **wilderness of Shur**; and they went three days in the wilderness and found no water.

22 Then Moses led Israel from the Red Sea, and they went out into the wilderness of Shur; and they went three days in the wilderness and found no water.

22 Then Moses led Israel from the Red Sea and they went to the desert of Shur. They traveled into the desert for three days and did not find water.

22 So Moses brought Israel from the Red sea, and they went out into the wilderness of Shur; and they went three days in the wilderness, and found no water.

- "...wilderness of Shur" - east of the Egyptian border; the northwestern part of the Sinai Peninsula

— Moses asked for Pharaoh's permission for the Israelites to take a three-day journey here (3:18; 5:3; 8:27)

23 When they came to **Marah**, they could not drink the waters of Marah, because they were bitter; for that reason it was named Marah.

23 When they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah, for they were bitter; therefore it was named Marah.

23 When they came to Marah, they could not drink the water at Marah because it was bitter. (That is why it's called Marah.)

23 And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter: therefore the name of it was called Marah.

- "...Marah" - they were following the cloud; He brought them there

— "Marah" means "bitter." Why did He bring them there? — the people murmured (Eph 1:11)

24 So the people grumbled at Moses, saying, "What are we to drink?"

24 So the people grumbled at Moses, saying, "What shall we drink?"

24 Then the people complained against Moses: "What are we to drink?"

24 And the people murmured against Moses, saying, What shall we drink?

- The Israelites complained again (Cf. 14:11-12)

— In just three days, the Israelites had forgotten God's miracles at the Red Sea, not to mention the plagues

— This episode demonstrates that great miracles do not result in great faith; great faith comes from a settled conviction that God is trustworthy.

25 Then he cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a tree; and he threw it into the waters, and the waters became sweet. There He made for them a statute and regulation, and there He tested them.

25 Then he cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a tree; and he threw *it* into the waters, and the waters became sweet. There He made for them a statute and regulation, and there He tested them.

25 Moses cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a tree, which he threw into the water, and the water became sweet. There the LORD presented to them a statute and an ordinance, and there he tested them.

25 And he cried unto the LORD; and the LORD shewed him a tree, which when he had cast into the waters, the waters were made sweet: there he made for them a statute and an ordinance, and there he proved them,

26 And He said, "If you will listen carefully to the voice of the LORD your God, and do what is right in His sight, and listen to His commandments, and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have put on the Egyptians; for I, the LORD, am your healer."

26 And He said, "If you will give earnest heed to the voice of the LORD your God, and do what is right in His sight, and give ear to His commandments, and keep all His statutes, I

will put none of the diseases on you which I have put on the Egyptians; for I, the LORD, am your healer."

26 He said, "If you will carefully obey the LORD your God, do what he sees to be right, listen to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, then I won't inflict on you all the diseases that I inflicted on the Egyptians, because I am the LORD your healer."

26 And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee.

- This is one of the verses in Scripture that advocates of the "prosperity gospel" like. They use it to prove their contention that it is never God's will for anyone to be sick (along with 23:25; Ps 103:3; Prov 4:20-22; Is 33:24; Jer 30:17; Matt 4:23; 10:1; Mark 16:16-18; Luke 6:17-19; Acts 5:16; 10:38).

(b) Provision of 12 springs and dates from the 70 palms at Elim (15:27)

27 Then they came to Elim where there were twelve springs of water and seventy date palms, and they camped there beside the waters.

27 Then they came to Elim where there *were* twelve springs of water and seventy date palms, and they camped there beside the waters.

27 Then they came to Elim where there were twelve springs of water and 70 palm trees, and they camped there by the water."

27 And they came to Elim, where were twelve wells of water, and threescore and ten palm trees: and they encamped there by the waters.

- At Elim, Israel learned that God was not only their deliverer (v3), healer (v26), but he is also their provider ("twelve springs of water and seventy date palms")

One method of God's dealing with the Israelites as His people, that He frequently employed, stands out clearly in these incidents. God did not lead the Israelites around every difficulty. Instead He led them into many difficulties, but He also provided deliverance for them in their difficulties. This caused the Israelites to learn to look to Him for the supply of their needs. He still deals with His children the same way.