

From Praise to Protest

Exodus Chapter 15

I will sing unto the Lord, For He has triumphed gloriously, the horse and rider thrown into the sea. (2x)
The Lord my God, my strength my song has now become my victory. (2x)
The Lord is God and I will praise Him, My Father's God and I will exalt Him.

Exd 15:1 **1) Moses' Song** vs 1 - 19

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.

- *This is the first mention of a song in Scripture. It is a song of Moses.*
- *1st song / 1st principal - Our song/worship is unto the Lord. He is our audience. Not the people around us.*
- *By the way there is another time the song of Moses is sung. Rev 15:3-4 "And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvelous [are] thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true [are] thy ways, thou King of saints. Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? For [thou] only [art] holy: for all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest."*

Exd 15:2 "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.

Exd 15:3 "The LORD is a warrior; The LORD is His name.

- *THE LORD IS A WARRIOR - Isn't wonderful for this "exodused" slaves that there is a warrior among them. What do they know about battles and conquering the enemy? What better warrior among them than the Lord God.*
- *1 Chronicles 32:8 Hezekiah sees the King of Assyria, Sennacherib, come to do battle, he said to Israel to build assurance of victory "With him [is] an arm of flesh; but with us [is] the LORD our God to help us, and to fight our battles."*

Exd 15:4 "Pharaoh's chariots and his army He has cast into the sea; And the choicest of his officers are drowned in the Red Sea.

- *(Note chapter 14 the discussion on the Red Sea not the Reed Sea or swamp)*

Exd 15:5 "The deeps cover them; They went down into the depths like a stone.

Exd 15:6 "Your right hand, O LORD, is majestic in power, Your right hand, O LORD, shatters the enemy.

Exd 15:7 "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.

Exd 15:8 "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.

Exd 15:9 "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.'

- *Notice the difference in the speech from the enemy to the Children of Israel in this song.*
 - *The Enemy - I WILL I WILL I WILL I WILL*
 - *Israel - YOUR RIGHT HAND, YOUR RIGHT HAND, YOUR EXCELLENCE, YOU OVERTHROW, YOU SEND FORTH,*
- *This is the distinct mark of the Christian. Jesus receives the attention. Our speech and our glorying is in the Lord, not in ourselves.*
- *Psalms 29:2 "Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness."*
- *Galatians 6:14 speaking of obtaining salvation through performance of Law or circumcision but only through Jesus, Paul wrote, "But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world."*
- *1 Corinthians 1:26-31 "For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, [are called]: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, [yea], and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence. But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord."*
- *2 Corinthians 10:17 Paul again writes the Church "But he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord."*

- Exd 15:10 "You blew with Your wind, the sea covered them; They sank like lead in the mighty waters.
- Exd 15:11 "Who is like You among the gods, O LORD? Who is like You, majestic in holiness, Awesome in praises, working wonders?
- Exd 15:12 "You stretched out Your right hand, The earth swallowed them.
- Exd 15:13 "In Your lovingkindness You have led the people whom You have redeemed; In Your strength You have guided {them} to Your holy habitation.
- *You can see that the focus of these verses is the majestic, strong, awesome, loving, holy God*
 - *Psalm 106:6-12 "We have sinned with our fathers, we have committed iniquity, we have done wickedly. Our fathers understood not thy wonders in Egypt; they remembered not the multitude of thy mercies; but provoked [him] at the sea, [even] at the Red sea. Nevertheless he saved them for his name's sake, that he might make his mighty power to be known. He rebuked the Red sea also, and it was dried up: so he led them through the depths, as through the wilderness. And he saved them from the hand of him that hated [them], and redeemed them from the hand of the enemy. And the waters covered their enemies: there was not one of them left. Then believed they his words; they sang his praise"*
 - *This was a great salvation from the oppression of slavery from Egypt that was done only by God's hand. It was not done by any goodness found in Israel.*
- Exd 15:14 "The peoples have heard, they tremble; Anguish has gripped the inhabitants of Philistia.
- Exd 15:15 "Then the chiefs of Edom were dismayed; The leaders of Moab, trembling grips them; All the inhabitants of Canaan have melted away.
- *This song moves into a prophetic voice telling that Philistia, Edom, Moab and Canaan will fear as Israel moves toward them in the Land God has given them.*
 - *Tell el-Amarna Letters discovered in Egypt in 1887 confirm this fear gripping the Canannite kings. "The tablets were urgent letters sent from Canaanite kings to the Egyptian king, requesting immediate military assistance in dealing with fierce invaders. These letters also reflect an anxious disunity among the various Canaanite kings, and an eager tendency for them to forsake their Egyptian alliance and become politically affiliated with the invading Habiru" (Apologetics Press 1994)*
 - *Joshua 2:9+10 Rahab in Jericho speaking to the 2 spies 40 years after this song. "And she said unto the men, I know that the LORD hath given you the land, and that your terror is fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you. For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red sea for you, when ye came out of Egypt; and what ye did unto the two kings of the Amorites, that [were] on the other side Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom ye utterly destroyed. "*
- Exd 15:16 "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.
- *The Israelites believed the concept that they had been "purchased" by the Lord.*
 - *1 Corinthians 6:20 likewise tells us that we have been bought "purchased" by the blood of the Lamb. "For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."*
- Exd 15:17 "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.
- Exd 15:18 "The LORD shall reign forever and ever."
- *The song ends with the glorious hope. To be in the Land of the Lord's. A place established (richly inhabitable) A place to dwell, A place of peace / a sanctuary.*
 - *And the Lord (this mighty warrior God will reign FOREVER.*
- Exd 15:19 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.

Exd 15:20 **2) Miriam's Dance** vs 20 - 21

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.

Exd 15:21 Miriam answered them, "Sing to the LORD, for He is highly exalted; The horse and his rider He has hurled into the sea."

- *Miriam - Aaron + Moses' sister. Scripture is called a prophetess. 1st mention of a prophetess.*
- *All the women - This could mean quite a great number Remember Exodus 12:37 stated that there were 600,000 men of Israel. So all the women would easily number in the hundreds of thousands.*

Exd 15:22 **3) Marah's Waters** vs 22 - 27

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.

Exd 15:23 When they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah, for they were bitter; therefore it was named Marah.

Exd 15:24 So the people grumbled at Moses, saying, "What shall we drink?"

- *Three days after a Great Event, a Great Celebration. The sound from the mouth of Israel is different. It becomes bitter.*
- *Happens fairly quickly.*
 - *Galatians 1:6 "I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: ". Paul is astonished at how fast the Galatian Christians had left sound teaching.*
- *Day one - CONTINUING on Emotionally Charged from what just happened.*
- *Day two - CHANGE of momentum from the past is fading but still moving forward with hope/fervor.*
- *Day three - CRAVING is wearing, destroys hope and drive.*
- *Day four - COMPLAINING paralyzes forward faith filled movement.*

Exd 15:25 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.

- *God showed Moses a solution that was there all along but Moses could not see until God showed him.*
- *Some have explained that the bitter waters were refreshed by the chemical composition of the branch.*
- *The numbers of people needing water would require a substantial Lake or pond. 2 million people. To purify the water the tree must have been extremely large or very strong chemically.*
- *The picture is that of life, and things we desire can be bitter and leave us thirsting without the tree. A tree of life.*
- *God was illustrating for us how we continually need Him in all we do to be truly satisfied. And with bitter thing of life can be made sweet as we throw the cross to it.*

Exd 15:26 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."

- *God proves them with a conditional promise.*
 - *IF YOU listen, heed & do His Commandments/Statutes - HE WILL provide care*
- *God seals the promise with His Name Jehovah Rapha - the Lord Who Heals us*

Exd 15:27 Then they came to Elim where there {were} twelve springs of water and seventy date palms, and they camped there beside the waters.

- *God fulfills His promise with 12 springs at Elim*

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