

FINAL STUDY NOTES - *EXODUS CHAPTERS 13-15*

10/28-29/24

CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

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PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM DAYLIGHT SAVING Time (US and Canada)
THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

MEETING ID# - 878 5864 4763 Passcode: 087484

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM DAYLIGHT SAVING Time (US and Canada).

- Beginning Tuesday, June 4, 2024, TUES MORNING MTG PLACE:
- 1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions from your starting point, suggest using *WAZE* (waze.com/live-map) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com),
- AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!

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OPENING PRAYER

EXODUS – Chapter 13 – The Firstborn Consecrated – (vs. 1-2); The Feast of Unleavened Bread – (vs. 3-10); The Law of the Firstborn – (vs. 11-16); The Wilderness Way – (vs. 17-22);

Chapter 14 – The Red Sea Crossing – (vs. 1-31);

Chapter 15 – The Song of Moses – (vs. 1-19); The Song of Miriam – (vs. 20-21); Bitter Waters Made Sweet – (vs. 22-27).

REVIEW:

- (Exo 12:51) *And it came to pass, on that very same day, that the LORD brought the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt according to their armies.*

Exodus 13-15

Consecration of the Firstborn

Exo 13:1 *Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,*

Exo 13:2 *"Consecrate (set apart) to Me all the firstborn, whatever opens the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and beast; it is Mine."*

- Now they were able to redeem their children by the death of the lamb, but God said, "*The firstborn male that opens the womb, it is Mine. Set them apart for Me.*" Because God had spared the firstborn, God now claims the firstborn as His own.

The Feast of Unleavened Bread

Exo 13:3 *And Moses said to the people: "Remember this day in which you went out of Egypt, out of the house of bondage; for by strength of hand the LORD brought you out of this place. No leavened bread shall be eaten.*

- Now, leaven through the Scripture has become a very apt type of sin. Leaven was used for causing the dough of their bread to rise, by a rotting process. It had a way of permeating the whole batch of dough. A little leaven would leaven the whole lump.
- **What a picture of sin!** How a little tolerated sin will spread through your life, spreading by rottenness. So, it became a type of sin.
- **The bread, a type of Jesus:** "*I am the bread come down from God out of heaven.*" He said, "*if any eats of this bread, he will live forever.*" Thus, being a type of Jesus, the bread of the Passover, it had to be unleavened bread, for in Him there was no sin. So, Jesus took the unleavened bread, broke it, gave it to His disciples as a type. Interestingly enough, the bread broken: "*My body,*" He said, "*broken for you.*" So, no unleavened bread is to be eaten during this feast period.

Exo 13:4 *On this day you are going out, in the month Abib (Nissan).*

- Which is equivalent roughly to our month of April. It is the first month of the religious Jewish calendar. Now, they have two new years. One is in October, or the end of September, equivalent to our calendar, it varies from year to year. But that is their new year. But their spiritual calendar begins with the month of Abib, the beginning of spring.

Exo 13:5 *And it shall be, when the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, which He swore to your fathers to give you, a land flowing with milk and honey, that you shall keep this service in this month (Abib).*

Exo 13:6 *Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, and on the seventh day there shall be a feast to the LORD.*

Exo 13:7 *Unleavened bread shall be eaten seven days. And no leavened bread shall be seen among you, nor shall leaven be seen among you in all your quarters.*

- That is why, even to the present day, in the typical Jewish Passover celebration in their homes, they have this little ceremony where the children go all through the house, searching for any leaven that might be in the house, which is hidden somewhere so that the children can find it and bring it out. The child that finds the leaven becomes sort of the hero for the day.

Exo 13:8 *And you shall tell your son in that day, saying, 'This is done because of what the LORD did for me when I came up from Egypt.'*

- The whole purpose was to perpetuate in the minds of their children the marvelous work of God on their behalf in delivering them from the bondage of Egypt; so, they can pass on this heritage to their children.

Exo 13:9 *It shall be as a sign to you on your hand and as a memorial between your eyes, that the LORD's law may be in your mouth; for with a strong hand the LORD has brought you out of Egypt.*

Exo 13:10 *You shall therefore keep this ordinance in its season from year to year.*

Exo 13:11 *"And it shall be, when the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as He swore to you and your fathers, and gives it to you,*

Exo 13:12 that you shall set apart to the LORD all that open the womb, that is, every firstborn that comes from an animal which you have; the males shall be the LORD's.

Exo 13:13 But every firstborn of a donkey (type of natural man – Ishmael) you shall redeem with a lamb; and if you will not redeem it, then you shall break its neck. And all the firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem.

- So, from the animals to their own children, if a male would open the womb, if it would be the firstborn, it was to be dedicated, sanctified to the LORD. Now with unclean animals such as donkeys, you were required to redeem the donkey with a lamb if you want to keep that donkey. If you do not want to sacrifice the lamb for the donkey, then you are to break the donkey's neck, you are to kill it. No way of escape remained but redemption! The creature must be saved by the substitution of a lamb in its place, or if not redeemed, it must die! It is God's. (*Rev 5:9*) *And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation!"*
- So, God is making a claim upon the firstborn, even as God makes a claim upon the first fruits. The first belongs to God. Oh, that we would keep that priority. We have come to the place where God so often gets the leftovers, providing there are any. But God requires the first; the firstborn and the first fruits.

Exo 13:14 So it shall be, when your son asks you in time to come, saying, 'What is this?' that you shall say to him, 'By strength of hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

- Again, the idea of the developing the questioning of the mind of the child so that there would be the opportunity to share.

Exo 13:15 And it came to pass, when Pharaoh was stubborn about letting us go, that the LORD killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of beast. Therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all males that open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.'

- So, he redeems the son by sacrificing a lamb for the son.

Exo 13:16 It shall be as a sign on your hand and as frontlets between your eyes, for by strength of hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt."

- This is to again give opportunity to share with their children that marvelous work that God has done. In reality, God may have done a great work in our lives, but we have to somehow communicate that work to our children in such a way that they too will know the power of God. It is important that we perpetuate it from generation to generation.

Exo 13:17 Then it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said, "Lest perhaps the people change their minds when they see war, and return to Egypt."

- Now the Egyptians had garrison troops positioned along the coast. Also, coming along the coast, they would come into the area first of the Philistines, who were the most powerful of those nations that inhabited the land of Israel that God had promised to Abraham's descendants. God knew that if they were facing heavy battles early, they would get discouraged. So, rather than leading them in a direct route, straight into the promised land, God took them by way of the wilderness.
- What a great reminder that God will never put us in something that He has not properly prepared us for! The Israelites at this time were really just released slaves, with sticks as their weapons. Meeting the military, which travelled the direct coastal route, would have resulted in total defeat, and a return to Egypt.
- **May we be reminded of the need of difficult and unwanted preparation for us, to do His will. There is nobody who wants you in His will more than Him! If I am willing, He is always going to get me there!**
- Now as we get into the study a little further, we are going to realize that there was a legitimate wilderness experience for the children of Israel. Coming out of the bondage of Egypt, before they could come into the full, rich land of promise, there was the wilderness to pass through, legitimately, where they were to learn so many aspects of the nature and character of God.
- But there was also a forty-year illegitimate wilderness experience. The Israelites should have passed through the wilderness in just a few weeks, but because of their unbelief, their failure to enter

into to the land of promise when they came to its borders at Kadesh-Barnea, God said, "All right, you will roam in this wilderness until this whole generation passes away."

- **Now, their whole experience is likened to the Christian experience.** The bondage of Egypt is likened to the bondage of sin. Pharaoh is likened unto Satan, seeking to hold them in that bondage. Their crossing of the Red Sea is a symbol of water baptism, where I have now been separated fully from that old life. It is behind me, it's gone, and I enter now into a whole new dimension of relationship with God; trusting in Him, walking by faith, learning the faithfulness of God; who turns my bitter waters sweet, who gives me a place to rest, who brings me water out of the rock, who preserves me in my goings! But all the while, God is wanting to bring me into a glorious, full, rich life of the Spirit! Unfortunately, there are many Christians who spend their entire Christian experience roaming in the wilderness, and they never come into the full life of the Spirit, crossing Jordan, which is symbolic of the death of the old man and the old nature in order that we might now live the life in the Spirit!
- **There are too many Christians who are in illegitimate wilderness experiences.** They never get out of it. Their whole Christian life is spent as a yo-yo; up and down.

Exo 13:18 So God led the people around by way of the wilderness of the Red Sea. And the children of Israel went up in orderly ranks (ready, armed for battle) out of the land of Egypt.

Exo 13:19 And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him, for he had placed the children of Israel under solemn oath, saying, "God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here with you."

- **So, they took the mummy of Joseph.** In the fiftieth chapter of Genesis, as Joseph was dying, he made his sons swear to him that when God finally delivers you out of this place, take my bones with you and bury them with my fathers. I do not want my permanent burial to be here. This is now almost four hundred years later. Their total sojourn in Egypt was 430 years. A little less than four hundred years later, they are fulfilling that covenant that Joseph caused them to swear to. Moses is carrying the bones of Joseph, that they might take them and bury them ultimately in the land of his fathers.

Exo 13:20 So they took their journey from Succoth and camped in Etham at the edge of the wilderness.

Exo 13:21 And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud (type of the Holy Spirit?) to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire (type of Shekinah glory?) to give them light, so as to go by day and night.

- **Now, the cloud was not only to lead them; and when the cloud moved, they moved**, when the cloud rested they rested; but the cloud was a shelter. It was a shade to them. It was to keep them from that burning sun so they could travel during the day and not be dehydrated so quickly. It is hard to travel in the desert during the day in that hot sun; you dehydrate so quickly. So, they could travel during the day; God gave a cloud by day to shield them from the hot rays of the sun.
- **At night, it was pillar of fire, so that they could also travel at night.** What a wonderfully clear and perfect way of God leading and communicating to His people that He is present in their lives!
- **How much, as a believer, do I appreciate and respond to being led by the Holy Spirit, individually and continually, which is a much better way than leading the whole group of two million with the pillar of cloud and fire?**

Exo 13:22 He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day or the pillar of fire by night from before the people.

- **It was with them through the whole forty years that they wandered in the wilderness.** The cloud did not leave them until they crossed Jordan and came into the Promised Land. So, God's sign of His presence and of His guiding.

Crossing the Red Sea (boundary of Satan's authority).

Exo 14:1 Now the LORD spoke to Moses, saying:

Exo 14:2 "Speak to the children of Israel, that they turn and camp before Pi Hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, opposite Baal Zephon; you shall camp before it by the sea.

Exo 14:3 For Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel, 'They are bewildered by the land; the wilderness has closed them in.'

- **God is leading the children of Israel into a trap.** He is leading them down this valley between the two mountain ranges of Pi Hahiroth and Migdol. This valley leads right down to the Red Sea so that by the time you get to the Red Sea, having the mountains of Migdol and Pi Hahiroth on either side of you, so there is no way out. It looks like a tactical blunder! That is exactly how Pharaoh saw it! He said, *'They are bewildered by the land; the wilderness has closed them in.'* They have gone right into a trap. All the Pharaoh has to do is move his troops up to the pass that lead into the valley, cut off the pass, and he has captured the whole group. God led them deliberately into a trap.

Exo 14:4 Then I will harden Pharaoh's heart, so that he will pursue them; and I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, that the Egyptians may know that I am the LORD." And they did so.

- **They went into this valley.** Now, God's purpose is to bring the Egyptians after them, that God might reveal to the Egyptians that He is *the LORD*. When Moses first commanded in the name of *the LORD* that Pharaoh let the people go, he said, *"Who is the LORD that I should obey Him? I do not know the LORD, and neither will I let the people go."* Not only is He going to teach the Egyptians a lesson, but there are several lessons that He is going to teach His own people as He delivers them from the trap.

Exo 14:5 Now it was told the king of Egypt that the people had fled, and the heart of Pharaoh and his servants was turned against the people; and they said, "Why have we done this, that we have let Israel go from serving us?"

Exo 14:6 So he made ready his chariot and took his people with him.

Exo 14:7 Also, he took six hundred choice chariots, and all the chariots of Egypt with captains over every one of them.

- **Now, a chariot was equivalent to an army tank**, as far as a battle weapon. And here were the Israelites; all they had were their walking sticks. Pharaoh comes with his armies, and all of these chariots with their swords and shields, and they cut off the pass behind the children of Israel.

Exo 14:8 And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued the children of Israel; and the children of Israel went out with boldness.

Exo 14:9 So the Egyptians pursued them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, his horsemen and his army, and overtook them camping by the sea beside Pi Hahiroth, before Baal Zephon.

- **The word "Baal" is the word for "lord;"** and **"Zaphon" is the word for "watching over."** It comes from the root of the "watching towers," which can even be seen today in Israel.
- **The LORD is watching over, that is where you are to park**, before the place where it was named "the LORD is watching over." It is God's declaration that He is watching over His people, seeing when they are going through their difficulties. He sees them when they are trapped.

Exo 14:10 And when Pharaoh drew near, the children of Israel lifted their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians marched after them. So they were very afraid, and the children of Israel cried out to the LORD.

Exo 14:11 Then they said to Moses, "Because there were no graves in Egypt, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you so dealt with us, to bring us up out of Egypt?"

- **This is just the beginning of what Moses is going to have to put up with for forty years.** Every time something goes wrong, they are there to just say, "What have you done, man? We were better off as slaves there than dying out here. Why did we ever listen to you?"

Exo 14:12 Is this not the word that we told you in Egypt, saying, 'Let us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness."

Exo 14:13 And Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever.

- **Things are not always as they seem.** It would appear the children of Israel were in a trap, no place to go, this was the end for them; when in reality, the Egyptians were being drawn into a trap, and it was to be the end for them! It is so often in the midst of a situation that we totally misread it, falsely accusing God, because we do not see the end of the story.

- And Moses said, **"Do not be afraid! Stand still** (just stand still!), **see the salvation** (Here, salvation is seen, not just the deliverance out of slavery in Egypt, but a foreshadowing of what you and I can partake of today!) **of the LORD.**" Note these three steps! What we should not do and what we should do! How important this is!

Exo 14:14 The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace."

- **You are not going to have to lift a finger in this battle.** God is going to fight for you. Now having calmed the people, Moses then turns to the LORD, and the LORD said something very interesting:

Exo 14:15 And the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward.

- ***Why do you cry to me?*** Moses started to pray. God said, "Why are you crying to me, Moses?" There is a time for prayer, but there is also a time for action; and Moses, it is time to move. We need to precede our moves with prayer! We need to have the guidance of the Lord through prayer, but there come times when our prayers must take feet! We must begin to go forward!
- ***How discerning am I in knowing when to put feet to my prayers and "to go forward?"*** ***God says My people move forward. In these trials, we must never think of going back to Egypt, back to the old ways, back to the old sins!***

Exo 14:16 But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.

Exo 14:17 And I indeed will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them. So I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, his chariots, and his horsemen.

Exo 14:18 Then the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gained honor for Myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen."

Exo 14:19 And the Angel of God, who went before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud went from before them and stood behind them.

- ***The Angel of God.*** Now this is an interesting title, and we will find it ten times in the Old Testament. It usually is a reference to none other than Jesus Christ. In the Old Testament, He is known as the angel of *the LORD*.
- ***Moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud went from before them and stood behind them.*** Now God did a very interesting tactical move here. This cloud, by which they were sheltered and guided in the daytime, God now took and moved it behind them, and settled it down over the Egyptians, so that the Egyptians were lost in a thick fog! Not far distant from them, they could not see the children of Israel passing through the Red Sea on dry ground.
- ***But the light, the pillar of fire, lit the way on the other side*** so that they could see; and all night long, they made their trek (estimated to be 8-10 miles!) through the sea on dry ground, up on the other side. But God blinded the Egyptians to what was going on, so that they could not pursue them.
- ***So, God became their rear guard.*** It is interesting that the Scripture speaks of God not only going before us, but also bringing up the rear! He goes before you, He comes behind you, He surrounds your life, He leads you in His path!

Exo 14:20 So it (the cloud) came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. Thus it was a cloud and darkness to the one, and it gave light by night to the other, so that the one did not come near the other all that night.

Exo 14:21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided.

Exo 14:22 So the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

- ***As he stretched out his hand, God brought a strong east wind***, which blew all night, opening up a path through the sea. They passed over on dry land
- ***Now, there are those who seek to take away the miraculous from this story***, trying to give natural, plausible explanations. They talk about a sea of reeds, only a few feet deep; surging tides and tides pushed by winds often times pushing back areas where you can actually have shallow-water. That does not quite explain a wall of water on either side of them. Just think of their required faith in seeing and entering between the walls of water!

- **There are those that seem to think that they need to help God out.** Like the little kid who came home from Sunday school., and his mom said, “Well, what did you learn in Sunday school today?” He said, We learned about Moses, escaping out of Egypt with the Israelites. They were in a trap by the Red Sea. The Egyptian armies were pulling up behind them with all their tanks. Moses called for support, and the navy landed a bunch of LST’s and ferried them all across the sea before the Egyptians could get to them.” His said, “Are you sure that that’s the way you heard the story?” He said, “Well, not really, Mom, but if I told you the way my teacher told me, you’d never believe me.”
- **Anytime you have trouble with a story of God’s miraculous powers, it is only reflecting upon your own limited concept of God.** You need to go back to the first verse of the Bible. “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” Now, if that is the kind of God you are serving, and all, then you should not have any problem with any other story in the Bible.

Exo 14:23 And the Egyptians pursued and went after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen.

Exo 14:24 Now it came to pass, in the morning watch, that the LORD looked down upon the army of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and cloud, and He troubled the army of the Egyptians.

Exo 14:25 And He took off their chariot wheels, so that they drove them with difficulty; and the Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the face of Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians."

- The LORD just sent an angel down there to start popping the wheels off of their chariots.

Exo 14:26 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the waters may come back upon the Egyptians, on their chariots, and on their horsemen."

Exo 14:27 And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and when the morning appeared, the sea returned to its full depth, while the Egyptians were fleeing into it. So the LORD overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea.

Exo 14:28 Then the waters returned and covered the chariots, the horsemen, and all the army of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them. Not so much as one of them remained.

Exo 14:29 But the children of Israel had walked on dry land in the midst of the sea, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

Exo 14:30 So the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore.

Exo 14:31 Thus Israel saw the great work which the LORD had done in Egypt; so the people feared the LORD, and believed the LORD and His servant Moses.

- Now, if indeed, there is sea of reeds that is only a foot deep, and the water can be driven back by strong east winds, or whatever, you still have a miracle to deal with, and a problem, because how could God drown the whole Egyptian army in a foot of water? Cover their chariots in just foot of water; that is a good trick.
- **It made believers out of them when they saw the power of God, and they had confidence,** then, in Moses. You say, “Oh, great for Moses; he’s not going to have any problems from now on.” Oh, just wait. The next little issue, here they are again. How fickle people are.

The Song of Moses

Exo 15:1 Then Moses and the children of Israel sang this song to the LORD, and spoke, saying: "I will sing to the LORD, For He has triumphed gloriously! The horse and its rider He has thrown into the sea!

Exo 15:2 The LORD is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation; He is my God, and I will praise Him; My father's God, and I will exalt Him.

Exo 15:3 The LORD is a man of war; The LORD is His name.

Exo 15:4 Pharaoh's chariots and his army He has cast into the sea; His chosen captains also are drowned in the Red Sea (boundary of Satan’s authority).

Exo 15:5 The depths have covered them; They sank to the bottom like a stone.

Exo 15:6 "Your right hand, O LORD, has become glorious in power; Your right hand, O LORD, has dashed the enemy in pieces.

Exo 15:7 And in the greatness of Your excellence You have overthrown those who rose against You; You sent forth Your wrath; It consumed them like stubble.

Exo 15:8 And with the blast of Your nostrils The waters were gathered together; The floods stood upright like a heap; The depths congealed in the heart of the sea.

- A reference to that wind that parted the sea! Now that does not sound like just an ebb tide.

Exo 15:9 The enemy said, 'I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil; My desire shall be satisfied on them. I will draw my sword, My hand shall destroy them.'

Exo 15:10 You blew with Your wind, The sea covered them; They sank like lead in the mighty waters.

- God knows what He did. Here is His description and the description of the eyewitnesses. This for the children of Israel and all His people through the ages, that we know we do not have a swamp God or a Reed Sea God. **We have Red Sea God, who parts it, having over two million of His people walk over on dry land and then He drowns the entire Egyptian Army!**
- I read a story of a man who trained theological students at Princeton to go out into their ministry. After these men graduated, they would be invited to come back to Princeton and deliver a message from the word of God. He would always go and listen one time only, never twice. When asked about it, why he only did the onetime he said, I come to see whether they are a big "Big God-er," or a "small God-er." Then I know what will become of their ministries. That is all he needed to know!
- **Am I totally convinced that my God is a Red Sea God who is able to do whatever He needs to do! Do I really have a big God or a small God!**

Exo 15:11 "Who is like You, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like You, glorious in holiness, Fearful in praises, doing wonders?"

Exo 15:12 You stretched out Your right hand; The earth swallowed them.

Exo 15:13 You in Your mercy have led forth The people whom You have redeemed; You have guided them in Your strength To Your holy habitation (salvation has become!)

- Recognizing the hand of God now leading them into this land that God has chosen for His people. (Isa 43:1-2a) But now, thus says the LORD, who created you, O Jacob, And He who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You are Mine. [2a] When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you.
- This verse thirteen is a foreshadowing of a reality that you and I can partake of! It is a summary of Exodus and Revelation! It is also a summary of what God has done for you, a far broader and more penetrating message than the Creation itself!
- You have guided them in Your strength To Your holy habitation. Modeled in Exodus amplified in Ruth and Joshua, climaxed in Revelation. (Rev 6:10) And they cried with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?"

Exo 15:14 "The people will hear and be afraid; Sorrow will take hold of the inhabitants of Philistia.

Exo 15:15 Then the chiefs of Edom will be dismayed; The mighty men of Moab, Trembling will take hold of them; All the inhabitants of Canaan will melt away.

Exo 15:16 Fear and dread will fall on them; By the greatness of Your arm They will be as still as a stone, Till Your people pass over, O LORD, Till the people pass over Whom You have purchased.

Exo 15:17 You will bring them in and plant them In the mountain of Your inheritance, In the place, O LORD, which You have made For Your own dwelling, The sanctuary, O LORD, which Your hands have established.

- Again, the reference to the land; place of God's dwelling, place for His sanctuary.

Exo 15:18 "The LORD shall reign forever and ever."

- It is a grand and gala celebration as they see the hand of God delivering them from the trap and destroying their enemies. It is a cause for singing, a cause for rejoicing!
- But God does not want us to just rejoice when we see the final outcome and His victory, but He wants us to rejoice in the midst of tribulations. Jesus speaks about rejoicing when you are persecuted. "When men say all manner of evil against you falsely for My name's sake, rejoice." "Count it all joy when you fall into various types of trials and tribulations."
- We remember Paul and Silas; when in Philippi, they were beaten and then tied in the stocks in the dungeon of the Philippian jail. With their backs still bleeding and raw from the beatings that they had received, no one even bothered to wash the wounds! What are they doing? Singing praises to the Lord! That is what God wants. A heart that is constantly filled with songs of praises unto Him; not

just in the good times, not just when we see the triumph of our God over our enemies, but even in the midst of the tribulation.

- **So now they are rejoicing, they are singing praises to God.** They have seen the hand of God work in a mighty way in their behalf, and so they are rejoicing and praising, but soon, tragically, they are going to be murmuring again. We will not even get out of the chapter until they are back at their old game.

Exo 15:19 For the horses of Pharaoh went with his chariots and his horsemen into the sea, and the LORD brought back the waters of the sea upon them. But the children of Israel went on dry land in the midst of the sea.

Exo 15:20 Then Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took the timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances.

- **Now Miriam the prophetess, who is the sister of Aaron,** thus also the sister of Moses, took the timbrel in her hand, sort of a tambourine type of instrument; and all of the women went out after her with the timbrels and with dances.

Exo 15:21 And Miriam answered them: "Sing to the LORD, For He has triumphed gloriously! The horse and its rider He has thrown into the sea!"

- **The first verse of this song that they had all sung, which is called the song of Moses.** Now in the book of Revelation, we find a group in heaven singing the song of Moses and of the Lamb; (***Rev 15:3***) *They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying: "Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints! There will be a combination of this song of Moses, of God's deliverance of His people, with the song of the Lamb, the deliverance of God's people through the power of Jesus Christ. Song of the Redeemed! This event will cause fear throughout the world! Jethro will reference the in (***Exo 18***); Rahab in (***Jos 2:9,10***); Gibeonites in (***Jos 9:9***); Philistines in (***1Sa 4:8***).*

Bitter Water Made Sweet

Exo 15:22 So Moses brought Israel from the Red Sea; then they went out into the Wilderness of Shur. And they went three days in the wilderness and found no water.

Exo 15:23 Now when they came (God brought them there) to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah (Mary), for they were bitter. Therefore the name of it was called Marah.

- **The word "Marah" means "bitter."** When Naomi came back to Bethlehem from Moab, she said, "Don't call me Pleasantness, call me Marah, Bitterness, for God has dealt bitterly with me." So, they came to the waters of Marah, the bitter waters,

Exo 15:24 And the people complained against Moses, saying, "What shall we drink?"

- **So, the testing; what are you going to do when the trials come?** How are you going to react to them? They really failed.

Exo 15:25 So he cried out (our Advocate?) to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a tree. When he cast it into the waters, the waters were made sweet. There He made a statute and an ordinance for them, and there He tested them,

Exo 15:26 and said, "If you diligently heed the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I am the LORD who heals you."

- **So, God here made a statute and an ordinance with them, here at the waters of Marah; and the whole typology** is how that God is able to take the bitter experiences of our lives and bring sweetness out of them. Often we find that some of life's most bitter experiences become sweet, because there is where we really meet with God who establishes His covenant with our hearts. How God can sweeten up the bitter experiences of life!
- **Now, this covenant that God made is an interesting covenant.** It is a provisional covenant if they will keep the statutes, the commandments that God gives them, then God would keep them healthy!
- **For I am the LORD who heals you.** Then God declares, ***for I am JEHOVAH-Rapha, the LORD who heals.*** The Lord who heals you. God is declaring Himself to His people as the God who keeps them healthy. The Living Tree! (***Psa 1:3a***) *He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water.*

(1Pe 2:24) who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.

- **Whenever we come to bitter places, we need to sweeten the water by going to the tree of the cross of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! Am I doing this?**

Exo 15:27 Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve wells of water and seventy palm trees; so they camped there by the waters.

- Here an example of God providing rest for His people! He knows our need for rest and refreshing!

SUMMARY

- (Exo 15:13) *You in Your mercy have led forth The people whom You have redeemed; You have guided them in Your strength To Your holy habitation:* The key to the whole Book of Exodus.
- Remember Moses three admonitions: 1) *Fear not!* 2) *Stand still!* 3) *See the salvation of the LORD!*
- **May we be reminded of the need of difficult and unwanted preparation for us, to do His will. There is nobody who wants you in His will more than Him! If I am willing, He is always going to get me there!** (Exo 13:17)
- **How much, as a believer, do I appreciate and respond to being led by the Holy Spirit, individually and continually, which is a much better way than leading the whole group of two million with the pillars of cloud and fire?** (Exo 13:21)
- **How discerning am I in knowing when to put feet to my prayers and “to go forward?” God says My people move forward. In these trials, we must never think of going back to Egypt, back to the old ways, back to the old sins!** (Exo 14:15)
- **Am I totally convinced that my God is a Red Sea God who is able to do whatever He needs to do! Do I really have a big God or a small God!** (Exo 15:10)
- **Whenever we come to bitter places, sweeten the water by going to the tree of the cross of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! Am I doing this?** (Ex 15:26)
- **You turn graves into gardens** *You turn bones into armies* **You turn seas into highways**
You're the only one who can You're the only one who can.

CLOSING SONG

GRAVES INTO GARDENS" Elevation worship/Brandon Lake (3:53)

*I searched the world But it couldn't fill me Man's empty praise And treasures that fade
Are never enough Then You came along And put me back together And every desire Is now satisfied
Here in Your love (Hey)*

*Oh, there's nothing better than You There's nothing better than You Lord, there's nothing
Nothing is better than You (Oh, yes I know it's true)*

*I'm not afraid To show You my weakness My failures and flaws Lord, You've seen 'em all
And You still call me friend 'Cause the God of the mountain Is the God of the valley There's not a place
Your mercy and grace Won't find me again*

*Oh, there's nothing better than You There's nothing better than You Lord, there's nothing
Nothing is better than You (I know it's true)*

*Oh, there's nothing better than You There's nothing better than You Lord, there's nothing
Nothing is better than You*

*You turn mourning to dancing You give beauty for ashes You turn shame into glory
You're the only one who can (2X)*

*You turn graves into gardens You turn bones into armies **You turn seas into highways**
You're the only one who can You're the only one who can.*

CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT WEEK: Read and study Exodus Chapters 16-18!