## Tuesday, March 5, 2024 - Read Psalm 114

Questions from the Scripture text: To what, event does v1a refer? What does v1b call the Egyptians? What did God do with Judah (v2a)? With Israel (v2b)? What are anthropomorphized in v3–4? How did they respond to God and to His people? What is the implied answer to the rhetorical questions in v5–6? Who should learn to do what from this event (v7a)? What is this Lord called in v7b? What miracle of the Exodus epitomizes His greatness (v8, cf. Ex 17:6, 1Cor 10:4)?

How does the Lord most display His greatness? Psalm 114 prepares us for the opening portion of public worship on the Lord's Day. In these eight verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that the Lord most displays His greatness in saving His people.

Egypt were a fearsome people of strange language, but there is One infinitely more fearsome. God has chosen to make His holiness dwell in the midst of Judah (v2a) and to take Israel as His kingdom. God's appointed way of glorifying Himself by saving a people as kings and priests to Himself (cf. Rev 5:10).

Egypt might strike fear into the hearts of men, but the Creator strikes terror in the hearts of the entire creation. The Red Sea and Jordan River fled and turned back before Israel because of Him Who is Israel's God!

But the crowning evidence of His glory is declared in v8. The Lord is the God of Jacob (v7); He is willing to show His mercy even to believers who are still acting like heel-grabbers. He even strikes Himself in order to bring them life (cf. Ex 17:6, 1Cor 10:4). He is God Who has redeemed the weak and wicked by lesus Christ. Let all creation tremble before Him!

## Where does this point you despite your weakness and wickedness? Who/what are dwarfed by His greatness?

Sample prayer: Lord, You have taken us as Your sanctuary and dominion by saving us despite our weakness and wickedness. And You have done this by striking Christ, the Rock, that He might be our fountain of life. Truly, You are glorious, and all creation trembles before You! Be praised now, in the presence of Your people, we ask through Christ, AMEN!

Suggested songs: ARP114 "When Is'rel Went Forth" or TPH114 "When Jacob's House from Egypt Came"

(<u>The following is a machine-generated transcription</u>. **PLEASE BE AWARE** of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via hopewellarp.org)

Psalm 114. These are God's words. When Ezra went out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language Judah. Became his sanctuary in Israel is Dominion. The Sea sought and fled Jordan turned back. The mountain skipped, like rabs the little Hills like lambs, What else you OC that you fled?

Oh Jordan that you turned back? Oh mountains. That you skipped like Rams. Oh little oils like lambs. Tremble. O Earth. That the presence of the Lord at the presence of the god of Jacob. Who turned the Rock into a pool of water? The Flint into a fountain. Of waters.

Man, I sends this reading of gods inspired and inerrant toward Egypt was fearsome to Israel. They were like nothing the Israelites had ever seen in Canaan. A great Empire. With art and culture and great big buildings and a language. That is very very different than the Semitic languages that were spoken in Canaan and that they could sort of get along with even if it wasn't strictly Hebrew, like what they spoke?

They came to Egypt. it was A civilization, that was truly. Alien. Not like people, theorize, that aliens came and founded, ancient Egypt and built pyramids and stuff like that. But it would have seemed almost that different and almost that advanced over them. And yet. From such a powerful nation and impressive people.

God all mightily. delivered them delivered, Israel, bringing Egypt to his to its knees. Declaring that the way in which he was going to do it with the plagues was to show that he is Yahweh to make all the Egyptians and all the Israelites and everyone on Earth know that the Lord is the one true God and And truly, he did that.

And he brought them out as he told Pharaoh, let my people go or let my firstborn son. Let Israel go that he may serve me. And so Judah here representing Israel as a whole but Judah being the seat of the throne by the prophecy. Of Jacob. The sector shall not.

Depart from Judah. Until Shiloh comes. so Judah representative of Israel as a nation Israel as a kingdom. Judah became the Lord's sanctuary in Israel, his dominion. And so now there is the dwelling of the Lord in the midst of his people. And his people as a kingdom.

And if you thought Egypt was impressive in Egypt, how much more impressive is the kingdom of Yahweh as it goes on the March? And, Truly, we read of the hearts of the people of Canaan melting as Israel approaches, because they hear about what the king of this people. The God of this people have done, but it's not just the Canaanites whose Hearts melt God shows.

In anthropomorphizations. The way that the creation itself. trembles and fleas. And the language. Here, includes mountains and Hills, although We don't read of actual mountains, or Hills being laid low during The Exodus, but we do read of The Parting of the Red Sea, as they leave Egypt and the drying up of the Jordan, the turning back of the Jordan, as they enter Canaan.

And, The whole of creation then is represented here as fleeing and skipping becoming losing its stability. All together. And you have almost a taunting in verse five and six, although it doesn't have to be read as taunting, it may actually be Spoken in sincerity. What could be so great.

That the creation. Itself. Would be undone before it. Well, that's a what question? With a Who answer. who could be that great and it is the Lord. And the amazing thing then is that this Creator God, Before whom the creature and all the creation even taken together. Is as nothing by comparison.

That this Creator, God would be willing to identify himself with people. With men made out of dark and not just people. But Sinners. Notice he does not say Israel. in this Psalm. He talks about the house of Jacob in verse 1. And then he talked and he calls himself, the god of Jacob in verse 7.

It is that weak people. Who are so easily enslaved by the Egyptians in verse 1 and that sinful people that their very name is heal. Heel grubber after the sinfulness on the deceit. And even though God gave him that New Covenantal name Israel, He continues to recognize that sinfulness which remains in his people in this world.

And he continues to call himself their God. Not dissociating with them because of their remaining sinfulness. But committing himself. To being our God, in a way that will take away. All of the remaining heel grabbing eventually. And this ends up being the greatest display. Not just the Red Sea and the Jordan but the part of The Exodus that he highlights elects for the greatest display of his glory is in verse 8 who turned the rock into a pool of water, the Flint into a fountain of waters and certainly it had to be if the rock was struck and gave water to all 2 million of Israel, it's not like a little water came out.

There is an ever flowing stream. This of course, is a picture to us of the life that is in the Lord Jesus, the life that is in the Holy spirit for us as he is God. And he also applies to us the Lord Jesus and indeed the rock is Christ.

As First Corinthians. 10 verse 4. Teaches us. And as we must have concluded when The Rock was struck. Stricken for the sake of the life of God's people. That was an announcement to us of the Lord Jesus a display of him. And in Striking himself. For our life. God has made the greatest ever display.

Of his glory in creation and Providence. Even as. we will praise him forever and as Revelation 5, Announces with the shedding of the blood. Of Christ, the Striking of The Rock. For our. You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals for you or slain and have redeemed us to God by your blood.

Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation. And have made us Kings and Priests. To our God and we shall reign on the earth. He makes his people his sanctuary and his Dominion. He makes us priests and Kings unto him. And the great display of his glory.

Is that he strikes himself for those who are of the nature of Jacob. In order to be their God. Such as the glory of our God and for this we will praise him forever. Let us ask the Holy Spirit to apply it to our hearts. Would you ask Holy, Spirit blessed, comforter That you would come now to each one of us.

And keep us mindful of what we have read and heard. In Psalm, 114 keep us mindful. Of the greatness of your glory. Our God. And especially the greatest display when you struck yourself in the person. Of our Lord Jesus Christ. In order that a fountain of Would be opened for us.

And so, we pray that we would live. With hope and joy and awe. Towards you. For, we ask it in Jesus name. Amen.