

Evening Sermon Outline – August 15, 2021
“The Glory and Power of the Exodus!” Psalm 114

I. Coming out of Egypt was a big deal for Israel –

- 1 When Israel went out of Egypt, The house of Jacob from a people of strange language, ²Judah became His sanctuary, And Israel His dominion. Psalm 114:1–2 (NKJV)

1. In Egypt the people of Israel were slaves –

¹³ So the Egyptians made the children of Israel serve with rigor. ¹⁴ And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage—in mortar, in brick, and in all manner of service in the field. All their service in which they made them serve was with rigor. Exodus 1:13-14

2. Strange language –

- A. One they did not understand ...
B. Because of the worship of false gods, a language filled with lies –

3. Yet, out of Egypt, out of Bondage, things are radically different –

This is some time later, after wandering through the wilderness, likely, but not necessarily, after Solomon was king, as Judah and Israel are discussed separately in these verses ...

Separately, but grandly, joyously - ² Judah became His sanctuary

- *Meaning God’s sanctuary!*
- And Israel His dominion.*
- *Meaning God’s dominion!*

God dwelt and ruled in Israel! With His people, He was king!

²⁸ Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.” Matthew 11:28–30 (NKJV)

Wearing Jesus’ yoke, means He is your Master, you His servant, you are under His dominion, God’s dominion! Yet, serving God is a delightful service!

This Psalm is an expression of that delight!

II. Israel’s coming out of Egypt, and being brought to the Promised Land was a dramatic, powerful, fearful thing – Psalm 114:3-7

1. The Red Sea parted / fled

³ The sea saw it and fled; ... Psalm 114:3 A

This is obviously speaking of God’s parting of the Red Sea –
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. Exodus 14:21

This miracle was caused by God, and He used a strong east wind ... Yet, here in the Psalm, poetically, the sea is pictured as fearfully running away from God!

2. The Jordan turned back -

... Jordan turned back. Psalm 114:3 B

¹⁴ So it was, when the people set out from their camp to cross over the Jordan, with the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people, ¹⁵ and as those who bore the ark came to the Jordan, and the feet of the priests who bore the ark dipped in the edge of the water (for the Jordan overflows all its banks during the whole time of harvest), ¹⁶ that the waters which came down from upstream stood *still*, and rose in a heap very far away at Adam, the city that is beside Zaretan. So the waters that went down into the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, failed, and were cut off; and the people crossed over opposite Jericho. ¹⁷ Then the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan; and all Israel crossed over on dry ground, until all the people had crossed completely over the Jordan. Joshua 3:14-17

- A. *Israel’s crossing the Jordan was some 40 years after their Red Sea experience! This because of lack of faith, and disobedience ...*

B. *Yet, crossing they have the Ark, a symbol of God's presence with them – Joshua 3:14*

C. *This was when the water was at flood stage – for the Jordan overflows all its banks during the whole time of harvest), Joshua 3:15*

Yet, in Psalm 114 – the Jordan River is also personified as fearful in turning ...

3. *The mountains skipped -*

⁴ **The mountains skipped like rams, The little hills like lambs. Psalm 114:4 (NKJV)**

The mountains. The mountains were symbols of power, firmness, and endurance (Ps. 46). God's appearance shakes them like frightened rams. R. C. Sproul, Reformation Study Bible

May too, be a reference to Mt. Sinai ... when the law was given –

III. *A rhetorical, poetical question, about the fear of God, is asked and answer –*

1. *Asked -*

⁵ **What ails you, O sea, that you fled? O Jordan, that you turned back?**

⁶ **O mountains, that you skipped like rams? O little hills, like lambs? Psalm 114:3-6**

2. *Answered -*

⁷ **Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, At the presence of the God of Jacob, Psalm 114:7**

IV. *God's power is not only for fear, but also grace*

–

⁸ **Who turned the rock into a pool of water, The flint into a fountain of waters. Psalm 114:8**

God's people, fresh out of Egypt, a matter of days, are angry with Moses because of a lack of water in the wilderness. They are almost ready to stone him. They seem to have forgotten the miracles already

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Yet, instead of punishing them for a lack of faith, God provides for their needs from an unlikely place, water from a rock -

⁴ **So Moses cried out to the LORD, saying, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me!" ⁵And the LORD said to Moses, "Go on before the people, and take with you some of the elders of Israel. Also take in your hand your rod with which you struck the river, and go. ⁶Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it, that the people may drink." Exodus 17:4-6**

V. *Application –*

1. *Our redemption is just as dramatic, awesome –*

A. *We were in bondage to sin –*

³⁴ **Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. John 8:34 (NKJV)**

B. *Our deliverance required a battle, warfare against our sin, payment had to be made –*

²¹ **For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. 2 Corinthians 5:21 (NKJV)**

C. *It required the might of God on a cross –*

⁵³ **Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? ²For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, There is no beauty that we should desire Him. He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. ⁴ Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. ⁵ But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. ⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. Isaiah 53:1–6 (NKJV)**

2. *And just as gracious –*

⁶ **And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. Revelation 21:6**

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