

Exodus 15:1-21 (KJV)

¹Then 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. ²The 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. ³The LORD *is* a man of war: the LORD *is* his name. ⁴Pharaoh's chariots and his host hath he cast into the sea: his chosen captains also are drowned in the Red sea. ⁵The depths have covered them: they sank into the bottom as a stone. ⁶Thy right hand, O LORD, is become glorious in power: thy right hand, O LORD, hath dashed in pieces the enemy. ⁷And 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. ⁸And 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. ⁹The 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. ¹⁰Thou didst blow with thy wind, the sea covered them: they sank as lead in the mighty waters. ¹¹Who *is* like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? who *is* like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful *in* praises, doing wonders? ¹²Thou stretchedst out thy right hand, the earth swallowed them. ¹³Thou in thy mercy hast led forth the people *which* thou hast redeemed: thou hast guided *them* in thy strength unto thy holy habitation. ¹⁴The people shall hear, *and* be afraid: sorrow shall take hold on the inhabitants of Palestina. ¹⁵Then 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. ¹⁶Fear 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. ¹⁷Thou 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. ¹⁸The LORD shall reign for ever and ever. ¹⁹For 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. ²⁰And 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. ²¹And Miriam answered them, Sing ye to the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.

Sing Ye to the LORD

OUTLINE

- (1) Of His Salvation (v1-10)**
- (2) Of His Fear (v11-16)**
- (3) Of His Inheritance (v17-21)**

INTRODUCTION

The manifestation of God in the lives of His people is a glorious experience that invokes many a response – of faith, of fear, of fervour. Encountering the presence of God in our lives invokes a sense of privilege as the psalmist said in psalm 8:4

Psalm 8:1-5 (KJV) ¹*O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens.* ²*Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.* ³*When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;* ⁴***What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou***

*Wednesday Bible Study – Call unto Me
Beginnings of the Hebrew Nation – The Exodus
20 September 2017*

visitest him?⁵ *For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour.*

Of the vast universe and the myriad of God's creation, man is but a puny creature. However, only man in all of God's creation, possess the communicable attributes of God and fellowships with Him like no other of His creation. The angels were not made in God's image.

The Biblical thinking about man's uniqueness stands in sharp contrast to much thinking that portrays man as just another animal, as a product of the theory of evolution.

"When people ask me if a god created the universe, I tell them that the question itself makes no sense. Time didn't exist before the big bang, so there is no time for god to make the universe in. It's like asking directions to the edge of the earth; The Earth is a sphere; it doesn't have an edge; so looking for it is a futile exercise. We are each free to believe what we want, and it's my view that the simplest explanation is; there is no god. No one created our universe, and no one directs our fate. This leads me to a profound realization; there is probably no heaven, and no afterlife either. We have this one life to appreciate the grand design of the universe, and for that I am extremely grateful." — Stephen Hawking (World No. 1 Physicist, an atheist) May God opened his spiritual eyes!

When Jesus created the vast universe, the earth was the focus. Just to give us an idea of the greatness of God and His Creative Act, this is some statistics:

Object	Diameter
Earth	7,900 miles
Earth-moon orbit	239,000 miles
Sun-earth orbit	186 million miles
Solar System	7 billion miles
Milky Way	100,000 light-years*
Universe	30 billion light-years ¹

Note: One light-year is about 6 trillion miles.

The greatness of Jesus can be seen in His creative work and His condescension to dwell with man. This is the mystery of godliness (1 Timothy 3:16).

Man was very special because only man was made in the image of God. That's given in Genesis 1:26-27.

Genesis 1:26-27 *And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.*

God breathed the breath of life into the man that he formed from the dust of the ground that he became a living soul.

Genesis 2:7 *And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.*

¹ Donald B. DeYoung, *Astronomy and the Bible – Questions and Answers*, Baker, 1988, 36.

God organised man into families and societies of families and nations. But the fact that God is the originator of all the structures of human organisation means that man ought indeed to acknowledge their Creator, Innovator, the Giver of life.

We see in the history of mankind a movement toward God and a movement away from God. The movement toward God brings peace, joy and spiritual prosperity whilst movement away from God brings distress, depression and spiritual depravity.

The Bible is a supernatural book that provides for us a record of these movements. We see it starkly in the Exodus especially in Israel's deliverance at the crossing of the Red Sea.

- (1) Of His Salvation (v1-10)
- (2) Of His Fear (v11-16)
- (3) Of His Inheritance (v17-21)

(1) Of His Salvation (v1-10)

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. 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 man of war: the LORD is his name. 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 depths have covered them: they sank into the bottom as a stone. 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 thine excellency thou hast overthrown them that rose up against thee: thou sentest forth thy wrath, which consumed them as stubble. 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 spoil; my lust shall be satisfied upon them; I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them. ¹⁰ Thou didst blow with thy wind, the sea covered them: they sank as lead in the mighty waters.

Moses hymn of praise was a description of God unleashing His power to save His people. A wonderful reminder and indicator of who our God is! His care for the interest of His people is remarkably demonstrated.

The awesome demonstration of His power by His right hand that dashed in pieces the enemy cannot be compared with what He did for our redemption as Spurgeon observed:

“God throws His whole self into the work of salvation. His little finger can create the stars and light them up or quench them at His will. But even His right arm is not sufficient for the redemption of His people. Both hands must bear the cruel nails, both feet must be fastened to the accursed tree, the heart of the Son of God must be pierced by the soldier's lance. He must come forth from the bosom of the Father and must descend, and still descend, and yet further descend, till He goes down to the lowest part of the earth, there to work out the salvation of His people.”

Salvation's story is a story of praise and thanksgiving. A story of praise rehearsed with rejoicing. This will be our story of praise in heaven.

Revelation 5:11-14 *And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten*

*Wednesday Bible Study – Call unto Me
Beginnings of the Hebrew Nation – The Exodus
20 September 2017*

thousand, and thousands of thousands; Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever. And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.

The salvation story of praise in heaven will far exceed the glory we have ever seen on earth even the crossing of the Red Sea will pale to the glory of the new heavens and the new earth to come. Singing and praise is the natural and uncontrollable response of rejoicing.

A large repertoire of psalms is written out of experiencing God's salvation and deliverance in the life of the psalmist. Such exuberant joy is recorded for our learning that we may imbibed the proper response of the sanctified heart to grace.

It reverberates with the call to prove God's faithfulness - **Psalm 34:8** *O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.*

"In ancient Israel when one was confronted with something beautiful, the typical reaction was not one of contemplation or passing of judgment but praise, "joying expressing itself in speech." The Hebrew language offers a rich praise vocabulary. Yet the vocabulary of praise is only the framework, or structure, to which descriptive praise is attached. Although the Psalms are full of special words of praise ("Praise the Lord", etc.), they are also replete with predications of who the Lord is and what He has done. The vocabulary of praise and the descriptive content are complementary."²

This is what we observed here in Moses' song of praise to God. A descriptive rendering of the acts of God interspersed with heart-felt praises and thanksgiving, extoling the power, glory and care of God for His people.

This is what we must learn too to see the glory of God manifested in our lives for our salvation and deliverance.

From the cry of the Israelites in the pain of their Egyptian bondage and slavery to the lifting of the burden through His great deliverance.

He knows the burden of each heart,
He sees each falling tear;
He can the truest peace impart
In place of doubt and fear.
He watches o've me constantly,
He knows my feeble frame;
His keeping power, His faithful love
Are evermore the same.
(Author Unknown)

(2) Of His Fear (v11-16)

² C. Hassell Bullock, *An Introduction to the Old Testament Poetic Books*, Moody Press, Chicago, 1979, 131-132.

Wednesday Bible Study – Call unto Me
Beginnings of the Hebrew Nation – The Exodus
20 September 2017

¹¹ Who is like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders? ¹² Thou stretchedst out thy right hand, the earth swallowed them. 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. ¹⁴ The people shall hear, and be afraid: sorrow shall take hold on the inhabitants of Palestina. 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 **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 holiness and His fear is conveyed in His acts. He is a Judge to the unsanctified soul. It causes a fearful trembling and uneasiness.

Psalm 99:3 *Let them praise thy great and terrible name; for it is holy.*

Psalm 106:22 *Wondrous works in the land of Ham, and terrible things by the Red sea.*

Psalm 145:6 *And men shall speak of the might of thy terrible acts: and I will declare thy greatness.*

Psalm 68:35 *O God, thou art terrible out of thy holy places: the God of Israel is he that giveth strength and power unto his people. Blessed be God.*

Psalm 47:2 *For the LORD most high is terrible; he is a great King over all the earth.*

Rahab, the harlot of Jericho, heard of the exploits of God in the deliverance of Israel in the Exodus and fear and reverence the holy God of Israel. This is a rightful response. To come in submission and fearful allegiance.

She pleaded with the Israelite spies to spare her family.

Joshua 2:9-13 *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. And as soon as we had heard these things, our hearts did melt, neither did there remain any more courage in any man, because of you: for the LORD your God, he is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath. Now therefore, I pray you, swear unto me by the LORD, since I have shewed you kindness, that ye will also shew kindness unto my father's house, and give me a true token: And that ye will save alive my father, and my mother, and my brethren, and my sisters, and all that they have, and deliver our lives from death.*

As the old saying goes, "God has two thrones: one in highest heaven and the other in the lowest heart."

God saved Rahab and her family alive when Jericho was destroyed.

As God said to Abraham many hundreds of years before in **Genesis 15:16** *But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full.*

Jericho was destroyed as a judgment from God for their sins in rejecting the God of Israel, the living and true God.

(3) Of His Inheritance (v17-21)

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.

Israel will finally inherit the land that was promised to Abraham their forefather.

Genesis 15:7-8 *And he said unto him, I am the LORD that brought thee out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give thee this land to inherit it. And he said, Lord GOD, whereby shall I know that I shall inherit it?*

God promised Abraham by the killing of the animals and passing through it to sealed His promise of inheritance.

Genesis 15:9-21 *And he said unto him, Take me an heifer of three years old, and a she goat of three years old, and a ram of three years old, and a turtledove, and a young pigeon. And he took unto him all these, and divided them in the midst, and laid each piece one against another: but the birds divided he not. And when the fowls came down upon the carcasses, Abram drove them away. And when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and, lo, an horror of great darkness fell upon him. And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years; And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance. And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age. But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full. And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces. In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates: The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites, And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims, And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.*

Israel indeed will by the promise of God enter the Promised Land and inherit the land. God is true to His promise.

2 Corinthians 1:20 *For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.*

God's plan was for Israel to be a nation of nations, the witness of God to the nations of the world that all kindreds and tongues and peoples of all nations may pay allegiance to their Maker God.

¹⁸ The LORD shall reign for ever and ever. 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 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 ye to the LORD,

It was a time of great rejoicing as they saw the chariots of the Egyptian army drowned in the Red Sea as the dry land that God created for their crossing disappeared after Israel crossed leaving a trail of destruction. It was a great relieve because the majority escaping Egypt were helpless women and children.

If God had not intervened, they would all have perished from the onslaught of the blood-thirsty Egyptian Pharaoh and his henchmen.

The heavenly pilgrim sojourning upon earth look forward to the day of redemption when we all get to heaven escaping the eternal fire and torment of hell.

When We All Get to Heaven

1. Sing the wondrous love of Jesus,
Sing His mercy and His grace;
In the mansions bright and blessed
He'll prepare for us a place.
 - *Refrain:*
When we all get to heaven,
What a day of rejoicing that will be!
When we all see Jesus,
We'll sing and shout the victory!
2. While we walk the pilgrim pathway,
Clouds will overspread the sky;
But when trav'ling days are over,
Not a shadow, not a sigh.
3. Let us then be true and faithful,
Trusting, serving every day;
Just one glimpse of Him in glory
Will the toils of life repay.
4. Onward to the prize before us!
Soon His beauty we'll behold;
Soon the pearly gates will open;
We shall tread the streets of gold.

What a day of rejoicing it will be!

CONCLUSION

May we be ready! Amen.