

Exodus 14:1-31 | Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the Lord, saying,
 “I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously;
 the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.

² The Lord is my strength and my song,
 and he has become my salvation;
 this is my God, and I will praise him,
 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 he cast into the sea,
 and his chosen officers were sunk in the Red Sea.

⁵ The floods covered them;
 they went down into the depths like a stone.

⁶ Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power,
 your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy.

⁷ In the greatness of your majesty you overthrow your adversaries;
 you send out your fury; it consumes them like stubble.

⁸ At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up;
 the floods stood up in a heap;
 the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea.

⁹ The enemy said, ‘I will pursue, I will overtake,
 I will divide the spoil, my desire shall have its fill of them.
 I will draw my sword; my hand shall destroy them.’

¹⁰ You blew with your wind; the sea covered them;
 they sank like lead in the mighty waters.

¹¹ “Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods?
 Who is like you, majestic in holiness,
 awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?

¹² You stretched out your right hand;
 the earth swallowed them.

¹³ “You have led in your steadfast love the people whom you have redeemed;
 you have guided them by your strength to your holy abode.

¹⁴ The peoples have heard; they tremble;
 pangs have seized the inhabitants of Philistia.

¹⁵ Now are the chiefs of Edom dismayed;
 trembling seizes the leaders of Moab;
 all the inhabitants of Canaan have melted away.

¹⁶ Terror and dread fall upon them;
 because of the greatness of your arm, they are still as a stone,
 till your people, O Lord, pass by,
 till the people pass by whom you have purchased.

¹⁷ You will bring them in and plant them on your own mountain,
 the place, O Lord, which you have made for your abode,
 the sanctuary, O Lord, which your hands have established.

¹⁸ The Lord will reign forever and ever.”

¹⁹ For when the horses of Pharaoh with his chariots and his horsemen went into the sea, the Lord brought back the waters of the sea upon them, but the people of Israel walked on dry ground in the midst of the sea. ²⁰ Then Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a tambourine in her hand, and all the women went out after her with tambourines and dancing.

²¹ And Miriam sang to them:

“Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously;
 the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.”

Exodus 15:1-21 | I Will Sing Unto the Lord

My favorite memories from being a kid all have to do with music. K92FM played all time country and the latest hits. I learned all the words in the car to and from school. My Dad put a new sound system into his car and we would blast “*Why can’t this be love*” by *Van Halen*. My mom loved *Alison Krauss*, when I hear her album “*Forget about it*” I’m in the front seat getting picked up from middle school and she has the seat heater on in Florida. My older sister had a boyfriend in high school who introduced me to *Chris Ledoux* on tape in his lifted Ford Ranger. My middle sister would drive me to school and we’d blast her latest burned CD, “Why you have to go and make things so complicated!” She also had a boyfriend who for my birthday burned all his Dave Matthews Band CDs for me.

Clint Black says, “Aint it funny how a melody, can bring back a memory, take you to another place in time, completely change your state of mind.” God marks his moments with music. He makes us mark our moments with music. If you grab your Bible and open up to the middle you’ll find a song book. When he saves us he puts a new song in our mouth. The angels that surround the throne of God fly around and they’re covered in flame, and while they’re there they sing. You can’t fly and be on fire, but you can sing. God is a singing God. He does things that can only be captured in song. Things so glorious they can only be understood in music. So its no surprise that the response of God’s people to their glorious salvation on the other side of the Red Sea is a song. It’s no surprise that when he calls us together each week to worship him we sing.

1. Stanza 1: God is my song

Exodus 14:1-2 | Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the Lord, saying, “I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea. ² The Lord is my strength and my song,

I will sing unto the Lord for he has triumphed gloriously the horse and the rider thrown into the sea. God said he’d get his glory over Pharaoh, and he did. Its shown in the song in the mouths of those he saved. Their song shows that God did it all. This is the true song of praise that shouts forth from the heart of the saved. He did it. God is our hero. Why are their enemies destroyed? Because God triumphed gloriously, he threw the horse and rider into the sea. Why are they strong, because God is their strength. God is my song.

God is my song! What does it mean for God to be your song? It means he is the one you worship and celebrate. Your song has an object. It’s a hymn of praise. Your WWE walkout music is about him. Your at bat song is about him. Songs give glory. God being your song means you recognize that his glory is your glory, his victory is your victory. So that is why the rest of this first stanza is all about God but it is all about God as mine! My strength, my song, my salvation, my father’s God, the Lord is a man of war, the Lord is his name.

2. Stanza 2: Conquering God

Exodus 15:4-5 | “Pharaoh’s chariots and his host he cast into the sea, and his chosen officers were sunk in the Red Sea.⁵ The floods covered them; they went down into the depths like a stone.

The next part of this hymn of praise is singing to remember and honor what God has done. And what he did was conquer the enemies of Israel. To really get it you have to see the strength and glory of Israel. The chariots the chosen officers. They sank like a stone.

Exodus 15:6-7 | Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power, your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy. ⁷ In the greatness of your majesty you overthrow your adversaries; you send out your fury; it consumes them like stubble.

Look at what this says about God. Pharaoh held Israel by his strong hand, but the hand of the Lord is glorious in power and shattered Pharaoh. They were consumed like stubble. It is the greatest imaginable opponent and the victory God accomplished over them was like nothing for God. So how great is God’s power! There are even these wonderful connections the Israelites must have remembered. You know the stubble is what they used to have to go and collect for themselves to make bricks for Pharaoh. But when face to face with their God this might of Pharaoh burned up like stubble. The song has this great moment just a stack of verbs that the enemy said they would do; I will Pursue, overtake, divide, devour, destroy.

Exodus 15:10 | You blew with your wind; the sea covered them; they sank like lead in the mighty waters.

God blew with his mighty wind and they were covered in the sea. They sank like lead in the waters. They sink like a stone, they fought like lead in the water.

3. Stanza 3: God of gods

Exodus 15:11 | “Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?

Do not think this is merely the story of a god destroying a man. Doesn’t seem that hard. Thor could do that. Baal could do that. But that’s not all their singing about on the other side of the sea. Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods? Which God is like God, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders? Isn’t that the right question! What other God has rescued his people from within another nation while punishing the gods of that nation? Remember Pharaoh is the son of Ra, but Israel is the son of God. They each had their earthly representatives, but our God is the God of Gods. This is no mere hyperbole, this is what God actually did in the Exodus.

This was God's plan all along that is why in Exodus 12:12 God says of his Passover that he will *"I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the Lord."* In our modern mythology of materialism we tend to think of all things as coming from the ground up, and then being governed by principles. The principle of gravity, the principle of a government. But we are bad at recognizing the biblical reality of a world governed by principalities. It is obvious however when you look at the nations of the world they are not merely expressions of principles of personalities. They express the personality of the being which they worship. God is the God of all of them. He is the only one worthy of worship.

4. Steadfast Love and hope

Exodus 15:13 | "You have led in your steadfast love the people whom you have redeemed; you have guided them by your strength to your holy abode.

The song then praises the glory of the steadfast love that God has shown to his people. Why is it good news that the God of Israel is God of gods? Because he shows steadfast love to his people. He is bringing his people whom he has redeemed to dwell in holiness with him forever! And this looking toward to the future permanent home with God guided by his steadfast love causes Moses in his song to look forward in hope. He lifts his eyes to all the enemies he knows they will be brought to as they are given the land of Canaan. And he sees that this victory ensures their victory over all the enemies yet to come.

Exodus 15:14-15 | The peoples have heard; they tremble; pangs have seized the inhabitants of Philistia.¹⁵ Now are the chiefs of Edom dismayed; trembling seizes the leaders of Moab; all the inhabitants of Canaan have melted away.

Moses knows, this news is going to spread. The inhabitants of Philistia, the chiefs of Edom, the leaders of Moab, inhabitants of Canaan. They are going to be terrified at this news. Their song turns from celebration of what God has done, to recognition of his steadfast love and therefore assurance of what he will do! Praise becomes hope.

5. Final Glory

Exodus 15:17-18 | You will bring them in and plant them on your own mountain, the place, O Lord, which you have made for your abode, the sanctuary, O Lord, which your hands have established.¹⁸ The Lord will reign forever and ever."

The hope is incredibly far reaching. They look forward to being planted on the mountain of God. Dwelling in the holy sanctuary where the Lord will reign forever and ever. It is a holy sanctuary mountain like Eden, but it looks forward through all the nations coming to the Lord. This is our hope this is our song.

Exodus 15:20-21 | Then Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a tambourine in her hand, and all the women went out after her with tambourines and dancing. ²¹ And Miriam sang to them: “Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.”

There is a last bit I want to draw our attention to. Miriam, the prophetess and sister of Moses and Aaron, leads the women out to sing. This is the second time she drew Moses out of the waters. The older sister who followed the tiny ark. Think of the memories that flooded back at this song, when she witnessed her God perform this same rescue for her whole world.