

Moses—Exodus 15

Song of Deliverance

I. Additional Scriptures...

1. Verse 2... Deut 10:21; Ps 22:3; 109:1; 140:7; Rev 15:3
2. Verse 7... Ex 9:16; Deut 33:26; Ps 68:33; 148:13; Isa 5:16; Jer 10:6
3. Verse 11, Holiness of God... Lev 19:2; Ps 89:18; 145:17; Isa 6:3; 30:11; 57:15; 1 Pet 1:15-16; Rev 4:8
4. Verse 17.. PLANT THEM—Ps 44:2; 78:54-55; 80:8; Isa 5:1-4; Jer 2:21; 32:41
5. Verse 20... This position of Miriam is VERY RARE among women and in New Testament times would be regulated by 1 Tim 2:12. Others who were prophetesses: Deborah, Judges 4:4; Huldah, 2 Kgs 22:14; Isaiah's wife, Isa 8:3; Anna, Luke 2:36; Philip's four virgin daughters, Acts 21:9.
6. Verse 23... Ruth 1:20

II. Chronology.

BIBLE PERIOD: **Wilderness Wandering.**

III. Summary.

When the children of Israel saw the miraculous deliverance the Lord had provided, they naturally began to praise Him, and in this instance did so by way of song. Moses and the people express great confidence and gratitude in this song that they sing to the Lord. Some have broken down the song into four stanzas with a closing statement (verses 1-5; 6-10; 11-13; and 14-17, with verse 18 as the close). Miriam, the sister of Moses, rejoices and leads the women in a dance of victory before the Lord. It must have been quite an emotional and joyous occasion to be free once and for from the cruel bondage of the Egyptians.

Moses leads the people three days into the Wilderness of Shur. One of the things they would have to have to survive in this wilderness was water and they were unable to find any at this time. When they finally found some water at Marah, the water was BITTER and they were still not refreshed. They began to MURMUR (v. 24). Moses petitioned the Lord and the Lord showed Moses a tree which when cast into the water caused it to become sweet and good. At this place is given the promise from the Lord that IF the children of Israel do the right they will be spared from the diseases He brought upon the Egyptians. One of the many names of God is revealed here to the children of Israel—*Jehovah-Rapha*, the Lord Who Heals. Next they camped at Elim, which was a more pleasant place than Marah.

IV. Outline.

1. The Song of Moses (Ex 15:1-18).
2. A restatement of what happened at the Red Sea (Ex 15:19).
3. Miriam leads the women in rejoicing over the victory (Ex 15:20-21).
4. Moses leads the Israelites three days into the wilderness of Shur (Ex 15:22).
5. They find bitter water at Marah and it is miraculously changed to good (Ex 15:23-25).
6. A conditional promise from the Lord (Ex 15:26).
7. The next camp is made at Elim where there are found seventy palm trees and twelve wells of water (Ex 15:27).

V. Questions.

True or False

01. _____ Seventy palm trees were found at Marah.
02. _____ The Hebrew name, MARA, used in verse 23 is also used to describe Naomi.
03. _____ Because of a weak voice, Moses was unable to join in the singing of the victory song, after crossing the Red Sea.
04. _____ CONSUMED AS STUBBLE was an expression used in the Song of Moses to describe what happened to the Egyptians.
05. _____ In Moses’ song of victory, the Egyptians army is compared to a stone and to lead.

Who/What Am I? Who Said It? Who Did It?

06. _____ glorious in power.
07. _____ “...The horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.”
08. _____ “What shall we drink?”
09. _____ “...I will put none of these diseases...”
10. _____ In this, the Lord led forth His people whom He had redeemed.

Fill in the Blanks

11. “And they came to _____, where were _____ wells of water, and threescore and ten _____: and they _____ there by the waters.”
12. The people sang about _____ taking hold on the inhabitants of Palestina.
13. “The Lord is my _____ and _____ and he is become my _____.”
14. In Moses’ Song, the Lord is described as: _____ in holiness; _____ in praises; doing _____.
15. _____ 1:20—“And she said unto them, Call me not _____, call me _____: for the Lord hath dealt very _____ with me.”

Each Question is worth 7 Points

My Score is: _____

Answers will be found on next week’s handout

ANSWERS to Lesson 01-61 ... [01—True, Ex 13:3; 02—True, Ex 13:20; 03—True, Ex 13:7; 04—True, Ex 13:14; 05—False, Ex 13:13; 06—a, Ex 13:21-22; 07—a, Ex 13:19; 08—b, Ex 13:14; 09—c, Ex 13:9; 10—b, Ex 13:4; 11—sanctify, firstborn, beast, mine, Ex 13:2; 12—seven, Ex 13:6; 13—token, frontlets, Ex 13:16; 14—Etham, Ex 13:20; 15—ordinance, year, year, Ex 13:10.]

VI. Lessons & Applications.

1. **Then Moses and the children of Israel sang this song to the Lord...** (Ex 15:1). It was truly a very great deliverance that the Lord provided over the Egyptians. It would be a completely natural and expected reaction of the people to be thankful and full of praise to the Lord for the victory He gave them. The song is a beautiful expression of praise and appreciation. We would do well to ponder carefully the words and often meditate upon the sentiments therein expressed. As we look back to this particular time and this song that was sung, the thing that tends to arouse our interest and attention, sadly, is the fact that these wonderful words of praise and thanksgiving sung here on this day are in such stark contrast to the actual behavior and words of the people in the very near future. If I have counted correctly TWENTY times the word MURMUR is used to describe the attitude of these same people in the coming days. All of this murmuring

they did indicates that the people lost their vision of Who was actually leading them and they boldly rejected His will for them. It causes us to understand better and appreciate more fully the words of the Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 14:15. He urges in this text the Corinthian saints (and us as well) to sing with the understanding. We can “sing a lie” just as well as we can tell one. In our own singing, we ought to give particular attention to the words we are singing and let them be a true and genuine expression of our hearts. The murmuring hearts of this people certainly was a disappointment to Moses and to the Lord.

2. **The people shall hear, and be afraid: sorrow shall take hold on the inhabitants of Palestina** (Ex 15:14). Again, the people were singing about what would be the effect of this great deliverance upon their enemies in Palestine. The effect would be that all of the enemies of Israel would be made to be afraid and sorrowful. BUT, how strong was the effect upon their own hearts???
3. **And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron...** (Ex 15:20). As is noticed in the “Additional Scriptures” section [#5.] above, prophetesses are VERY RARE in the Bible. We also know that any prophetess in the Christian Age would be doing her prophesying only in the presence of other women lest she violate 1 Timothy 2:12, since this is a part of the doctrine of Christ (2 John 9-11; Col 3:17). This event of the joyful victory dance of Miriam is used by some Scripture-twisters to attempt justification of participating in the modern dance. With just a tiny bit of thought we should be able to find many contrasts between the two activities and the Bible still condemns the lascivious type of bodily movements which are part and parcel of the modern dance (Gal 5:19-21).
4. **...There he made for them a statute and an ordinance, and there he proved them** (Ex 15:25). I think the comments of *Keil & Delitzsch* are helpful here. They write...
By this event Jehovah accomplished two things: (a) “there He put (made) for it (the nation) an ordinance and a right,” and (b) “there He proved it.”
The ordinance and right which Jehovah made for Israel did not consist in the words of God quoted in [Exo 15:26](#), for they merely give an explanation of the law and right, but in the divine act itself. The leading of Israel to bitter water, which their nature could not drink, and then the sweetening or curing of this water, were to be a *torah* for Israel, i.e., an institution or law by which God would always guide and govern His people, and a *statute* or right, inasmuch as Israel could always reckon upon the help of God, and deliverance from every trouble. But as Israel had not yet true confidence in the Lord, this was also a trial, serving to manifest its natural heart, and, through the relief of its distress on the part of God, to refine and strengthen its faith.

It is certainly true that God has always demanded faithfulness and whenever His people were faithful, they received the blessings of God. Whenever they turned their faces away from God to serve idols, judgment was what they received.

5. **And they came to Elim, where were twelve wells of water, and threescore and ten palm trees...** (Ex 15:26). The marvelous provision of the Lord is seen in this text. Whatever it was that His people needed during this period of wandering in the wilderness was always provided in abundance for this people. So often we become like the murmuring and complaining people of Israel when we forget to count our blessings. We ought to sing that song often to remind ourselves of the many ways God has showered down blessings upon each one of us.

VII. Seek-A-Word Puzzle.

Q A Z X S M A R A H S W E D C V F R B T
 T G B N H Y U J M K I O L P E R T Y I G
 B V F R E D W V B N M L J H Y U J M T T
 G B V F R E I W S X C V F R T G B N T U
 T S G S V D L R F A E S D E R V B N E U
 R T F V H B D N M B V C X Z A Q W D R C
 V A F R T U E Y Y L T N E G I L I D H N
 M T U V C D R E R F V B G T Y H N M J U
 R U F V C D N E D C X S W E D C V T E H
 E T C V B R E T A W O N N M L R F E E T
 D E C V E R S F V B G T Y H E N R U J E
 R F V B G T S Y H N D M J U A T R F E L
 S X C D E R F V B E T G B N R Y H N M A
 R F V C D E W S R E D C V T S R F F V E
 P R O V E D C U D E R F V C I W S X C H
 E D C V F R M T G B N Y M H N S M K U Y
 T G B V F R E D C S X O V B N M W T G E
 D C X W U W S X C R S R F V B Y H E T G
 B V C M X Z A Q W E S X C D E R F V E B
 V B N M R F C E S W D I S E A S E S X T

[The highlighted words can be found above. They may be backwards, diagonal, upside down, etc. See if you can find them all. The more you use the words of the Bible, the greater blessed you will be! You might be surprised at how much this little exercise will help you retain important truths. THANK YOU for the good effort you are putting forth in Bible study. DRL]

Exodus 15:22-26... ²²So **Moses** brought **Israel** from the **Red sea**, and they went out into the wilderness of **Shur**; and they went three days in the **wilderness**, and found **no water**. ²³And when they came to **Marah**, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they *were* **bitter**: therefore the name of it was called Marah. ²⁴And the people **murmured** against Moses, saying, What shall we drink? ²⁵And he cried unto the LORD; and the LORD showed him a **tree**, *which* when he had cast into the waters, the waters were made **sweet**: there he made for them a **statute** and an ordinance, and there he **proved** them, ²⁶And said, If thou wilt **diligently** hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these **diseases** upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I *am* the LORD that **healeth** thee.