

Sept 05, 2021



Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

**The Oaks
Baptist Church**
Grand Prairie, Texas

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:
Songs can be an indicator of the direction of our heart

COMMENT FOR THE WEEK:
Songs are nearly impossible to forget, so it's wise to be selective about what we sing. Some songs are just for fun, and that's fine, but we benefit from songs that boast in Jesus and encourage our faith

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:
Therefore Moses wrote this song the same day, and taught it to the children of Israel
(Deut 31:22 NKJV)

(from "Our Daily Bread", Jan 13, 2021)

Series: Celebrating God

**UNIT 1: God's People
Offer Praise**

NEXT WEEK
Praise in Dance
(2 Samuel 6:1-5, 14-19)

Praise with Music **Exodus 15:11-21**

Lesson Background and Introduction

As God's people left Egypt, they were reminded again that their destination was Canaan (13:5, 11). Pharaoh, however, changed his mind and decided to bring his labor force back (Exodus 14:5-8). The Egyptians pursued Israel to the edge of the Red Sea. It seemed that the Israelites were blocked by the sea and victory for the Egyptians was assured. God had other plans. The Israelites crossed the Red Sea safely after the waters parted, but the Egyptians drowned when they tried to follow. The God of Israel was superior to any of the fictitious gods of Pharaoh! The crossing of the Red Sea was pivotal in the history of ancient Israel. The slaves were free, beyond reach of Pharaoh. Moses and the people responded by bursting forth with joyous singing (Exodus 15:1-21). The printed text for this lesson concerns their song. The first song in the history of this new nation is a song of rejoicing because of the victory that the Lord has obtained for the people. Our songs always come with context. For instance, the story behind "Amazing Grace" adds depth to the lyrics of the song itself. Its long history in England and especially in North America has shaped how we hear or sing it today. The situations in which we have heard it played or sung change how we process the lyrics. Different arrangements let us hear the song afresh. Like the song that Moses, Miriam, and the people sang, our songs come from specific situations: of deliverance, of healing, of crossing from death into life. When we sing, with whom we sing—these things matter! Therefore, let us do as the psalmist challenged us and "sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things" (Psalm 98:1). What song will you sing as a result of God's character and work in your life—in your family, church, and community?

(Adapted from the NIV Standard Lesson Commentary)

A People in Bondage - The Hebrew nation, God's chosen people, lived in Egypt for 430 years (Exod. 12:40). A new Pharaoh, who knew nothing about Joseph, took over. He became threatened by the vast number of Israelites. He placed God's children into a cruel sub-servant position—bondage. The people cried out to God, and He selected Moses to perform many miraculous acts for their deliverance. The Father, with His mighty hand, freed His people from their oppressors, and they celebrated with praise.

Their Deliverance - Pharaoh realized with the absence of the Hebrews he had given up his free labor. He foolishly pursued his former slaves. He believed, with his mighty army, he could force them back into slavery. But God stood as the defender of His weaponless nation. He opened the Red Sea, and all the children of Israel walked through on dry ground to the other side. When the Egyptian army followed, God caused the sea to rejoin, drowning Pharaoh's men.

Their Song - After the people stood safely on the other side of the sea, Moses led the congregation in singing. In Exodus 15, he recorded the hymn of praise and thanksgiving. The last part of the song spoke of God's character, and how absolutely no one is comparable to Jehovah. This generation of Hebrews became awfully familiar with Egypt's multi-god culture. The 10 plagues God afflicted on the Egyptians through Moses highlighted the power and superiority of God Almighty over all Egyptian gods or goddesses. They praised God for His goodness, wisdom, and great rescue. God stepped in like a kinsman, providing for those unable to provide for themselves. Then He guided them to a better place, a land of their own. Moses led the men in singing their anthem of praise. Then Miriam, the prophetess, sister of Aaron and Moses, took up her tambourine. Moses and the men had already sung out in praise, and now Miriam led the women, leaping, jumping, and shouting. What a thunderous celebration before the Lord.

A Victorious People - God purchased or redeemed the Hebrew children for Himself. He has redeemed us as well. We can sing a song of victory to Him and praise His holy name.

(Adapted from the Echoes Commentary)

NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

Musical Song about God's Majestic Power (Exodus 15:11-13)

God's power displayed in His works (11)

- God's works are great (Ps 111:2)
- God's works are wonderful (Ps 145:5-6)
- God's works are awesome (Ps 66:3)
- God's works are mighty (Jer 32:18-19)

God's power through His right hand (12)

- God's hands are on His witnesses (Acts 11:21)
- God's hands provide unity (2 Chron 30:12)
- God's hands provides guidance (Ezra 7:9)
- God's hands provide provisions (Neh 2:8)
- God's hands provides blessings (Luke 1:66)

God's power displayed in His mercy (13)

- God's mercy keeps Him from putting an end to the wicked (Neh 9:29-31)
- God's mercy sometimes causes Him to relent (Ps 106:45)
- God's mercy empowers perseverance (James 5:11)
- God's mercy makes Christians a people of God (1 Peter 2:10)

Musical Song about Fearing God (Exodus 15:14-16)

Fear God through His Word (14)

- God's word is powerful because it is the power for salvation (Rom 1:16)
- God's word is powerful because it always achieves its purpose (Isa 55:10-11)
- God's word is powerful because it is life (John 6:63)
- God's word is powerful because it is the actual word of God (1 Thess 2:13)

Fear God because of His authority (15)

- God has the authority because He stands behind every Word He says (Jer 1:17)
- God has the authority because He is the great "I AM" (Exodus 3:14)
- God has the authority because He establishes all (2 Cor 1:20-21)
- God has the authority because He is the only one who has the power (Job 40:8-10)

Fear God because He owns us (16)

- God owns us because He bought us with a price (1 Cor 6:19-20)
- God owns us because He made us (Ps 100:3)
- God owns us because Jesus redeemed us (Titus 2:14)
- God owns us because He dwells in us (Rom 8:9-11)

Musical Song about God's Mighty Reign (Exodus 15:17-19)

God reigns over His creations (17)

- God reigns over creation because it was accomplished by His Word (Ps 33:6-9)
- God reigns over creation because the Trinity accomplished it (John 1:1-3)
- God reigns over creation because God's invisible qualities are displayed (Rom 1:19-20)
- God reigns over creation because it was formed by His Will (Rev 4:11)

God reigns eternally (18)

- God reigns eternally because He established it (Ps 9:7)
- God reigns eternally because He endures forever (Ps 102:12)
- God reigns eternally from generation to generation (Lam 5:19)
- God reigns eternally because He is enthroned forever (Ps 29:10)

God reigns over His people (19)

- God reigns over all nations (Ps 47:8)
- God reigns over all His dominion (Ps 22:28)
- God reigns over all the world (Ps 96:10)

Musical Song about God's Triumph (Exodus 15:20-21)

God triumphs deserves worship (20)

- God deserves worship because He is due it (Ps 29:2)
- God deserves worship because He is the creator (Ps 95:6-7)
- God deserves worship through offering ourselves as a living sacrifice (Rom 12:1)
- God deserves worship because of His eternal kingdom (Heb 12:28)

God triumphs are glorious (21)

- God's triumphs are glorious because He rules over them (1 Chron 29:11)
- God's triumphs are glorious because they are a matter of power (1 Cor 4:20)
- God's triumphs are glorious because through them we are saved (Rev 12:10)