

I Will Sing Unto the Lord as Long as I Live

“Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to Adonai: ‘I will sing to Adonai, for he is highly exalted: the horse and its rider he threw in the sea. Yah is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation. This is my God: I will glorify him; my father’s God: I will exalt him. Adonai is a warrior; Adonai is his name. Pharaoh’s chariots & his army he hurled into the sea. His elite commanders were drowned in the Sea of Reeds” (Ex. 15:1-4).

Parashat Beshalach (After {Pharaoh} had let go), is replete with important events that help establish the national distinctiveness of the Children of Israel. In four chapters it details the Israelites’ departure from Egypt, the crossing of the Red Sea with the destruction of the Egyptian chasers, the providing of *man-hu* (manna) by *Adonai* in the wilderness, the celebration of the *Shabbat* by the corporate Israel, the giving of water from the rock in the wilderness at *Horeb*, and Israel’s Battle with the Amalekites. This reading is full of valuable history. It forms much of the basis for Israel’s identity for centuries to come and for our Jewish identity as well.

In Exodus 14:3-12 Scripture describes the situation that ensued following the Children of Israel’s departure from Egypt. The Lord specifically allows Pharaoh to be hardhearted after they leave so that *“I will win glory for Myself at the expense of Pharaoh and all his army” (Vv. 4)*. This occurred through the destruction of his forces at the Red Sea. Because of this judgment they knew that *Adonai* was the Holy One of Israel.

But there is more. Pharaoh states: *“What have we done, letting Israel stop being our slaves?” (Vv. 5)* After all, the Israelite slaves were a major economic asset to the Egyptian Empire. Who would build the massive palaces, temples, and other facilities that gave testimony to the *greatness of Egypt*? In Pharaoh’s mind, he had to get them back, so he takes off with *“600 first-quality chariots, as well as all the other chariots in Egypt” (Vv. 6)*. Unfortunately for him, his forces were destroyed. Scripture is not clear whether or not the Pharaoh himself actually was killed. But even if he survived, he no doubt went back in utter disgrace.

What was the reaction of the people when they realized the Egyptians were chasing them? When seeing the elite forces of Egypt, they cry out to Moses in panic, believing that they are in the wilderness to die and saying that it would have been better to stay in Egypt than rot to death in this desert. At this point Moses is instructed by *Adonai* to lift up his staff so the Red Sea parts giving the Israelites the escape (Read *Ex. 12:13-31*).

There are strong parallels between the story of the Egyptian scrutiny of the Israelites at the bank of the Red Sea and the situation in America. Many have staunchly believed that prior to the beginning of difficult times all Christians will be given a pre-tribulation rapture to Heaven while the Jews experience the Tribulation. Well, if we look at what happened back in the Exodus, *Adonai* protected His people during the time of difficulty as a testimony to His greatness. The people shuddered but they were delivered through this tribulation. Let us learn from their example and not be escapists and afraid, as many who claim faith in *Messiah* are. Let us not cower and instead let us desire to witness *Adonai* glorified in the Earth as He was before the Egyptians. The Prophet Isaiah tells us *“when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness” (Isaiah 26:9, KJV)*. Therefore, let us sing unto the Lord, for he is highly exalted: the horse and its rider he threw into the sea!

♪ I will sing unto the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously, the horse and rider fell into the sea. (x2)
The Lord my God my strength my song has now become my victory. (x2)
The Lord is God and I will praise Him. My Father is God and I will exalt him. (x2) ♪

♪ Mi chamocha baelim Adonai. Mi chamocha nehda'hr ba-kodesh. Nora t'hilot oseh feleh.
Who is like Thee O Lord among the Gods? Who is like Thee glorious in holiness?
You are awesome in praise, doing wonders O Lord, who is like Thee O Lord? ♪

At the end of chapter 15 the Lord proclaims, *“I am Adonai Rophecha!” – I am Adonai Your Healer!*

♪ **I am the God, that healeth thee. I am the Lord your healer.**
I sent my Word and healed your disease. I am the Lord your healer ♪
♪ **You are the God, that healeth me. You are the Lord my healer.**
You sent Your Word and healed my disease. You are the Lord my healer ♪

When our people were hungry and complained to *Adonai* in Exodus 16, He gave them “*bread that rained from heaven.*” Since they did not know what to call it, they called it **Man-Hu** literally, from (of, out). We also have bread that came from heaven (See John 6:24-59).

♪ **I am the Bread of Life, He who comes to me shall not hunger. He who believes in me shall not thirst. No one can come to me, unless the Father draw him.**
And I will raise him up, And I will raise him up. And I will raise him up on the last day.
The bread that I will give, is my flesh for the life of the world.
And he who eats of this bread. He shall live forever ♪

We note that bread is necessary for life (*the staff of life*), Bread is to be eaten daily (*not by bread alone but by every word*), and that Bread helps produce growth.

I will stand in front of you there on the rock in Horev. You are to strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so the people can drink." Moshe did this in the sight of the leaders of Israel. (Exod. 17:6)

Yeshua is the Rock! When Rabbi Paul shared a *Midrash* in *1 Cor. 10:1-12*, do Believers see a Jewish rabbi saying what was common for him to say? I think not! Rabbi Paul is often quite misunderstood. Let me say it again *Yeshua* is the rock at *Horeb*! The children of Israel were aware that *something* or *someone* accompanied them in their journey in the wilderness. It was the Messenger (Angel) of *Adonai*, that is *Yeshua*! The representation of God as a solid rock is used often in the *TNK* (See *Deut. 32, Ps 18, 19, 29,31,42,62, etc.*) Our Jewish people sing the Shabbat song *Tzur Mishelo* (Rock of Ages) in their homes on Friday nights. We in *Kol Simcha* similarly sing:

♪ **I will call upon the Lord! Who is worthy to be praised.**
So shall I be saved from my enemies. I Will call upon the Lord!
The Lord liveth and blessed be the rock! And let the God of my salvation be exalted!! ♪

♪ **I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live: I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.**
My meditation of Him shall be sweet: I will be glad, I will be glad in the Lord.
Bless thou the Lord, O my soul. Praise ye the Lord! (x4) ♪