

Sing A Song...and Live It!

“God of the Movement” Series – Part 01

Connect: What song do you sing or hum when you desire some comfort for your soul?

HOOK: We’ve all been there...The shock of realizing that all this time the lyrics you sing along to while alone in the shower are actually, very, very wrong.

Here are a few examples:

- “I left my brains down in Africa” Actual lyric: “I bless the rains down in Africa” (Toto)
- “The ants are my friends, they're blowing in the wind” Actual lyric: "The answer my friends is blowing in the wind" – (Bob Dylan)
- “You've been outright offensive, for so long now” Actual lyric: "You've been out riding fences for so long now"- (The Eagles)
- "Lucy's in a fight, with Linus" Actual lyric: "Lucy in the sky with diamonds" – (Beatles)

What lyrics have you misunderstood and sang?

We find that the children of Israel, after they crossed the Red Sea in Exodus 14, stopped for a moment and worshipped God. Perhaps their leader Moses had written a song for the occasion and in Exodus 15 we have “The Song of Israel at the Red Sea”. Lets read the lyrics and determine the meaning of the song:

BOOK: Exodus 15

Exo 15:1 Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the LORD: "I will sing to the LORD, for He has triumphed gloriously; He has hurled both horse and rider into the sea.

Exo 15:2 The LORD is my strength and my song; He has given me victory. This is my God, and I will praise Him—my father's God, and I will exalt Him!

Exo 15:3 The LORD is a warrior; Yahweh is His name!

Exo 15:4 Pharaoh's chariots and army He has hurled into the sea. The finest of Pharaoh's officers are drowned in the Red Sea.

Exo 15:5 The deep waters gushed over them; they sank to the bottom like a stone.

Exo 15:6 "Your right hand, O LORD, is glorious in power. Your right hand, O LORD, smashes the enemy.

Exo 15:7 In the greatness of Your majesty, You overthrow those who rise against You. You unleash Your blazing fury; it consumes them like straw.

Exo 15:8 At the blast of Your breath, the waters piled up! The surging waters stood straight like a wall; in the heart of the sea the deep waters became hard.

Exo 15:9 "The enemy boasted, 'I will chase them and catch up with them. I will plunder them and consume them. I will flash my sword; my powerful hand will destroy them.'

Exo 15:10 But You blew with Your breath, and the sea covered them. They sank like lead in the mighty waters.

Exo 15:11 "Who is like You among the gods, O LORD—glorious in holiness, awesome in splendor, performing great wonders?

Exo 15:12 You raised Your right hand, and the earth swallowed our enemies.

Exo 15:13 "With Your unfailing love You lead the people You have redeemed. In Your might, You guide them to Your sacred home.

Exo 15:14 The peoples hear and tremble; anguish grips those who live in Philistia.

Exo 15:15 The leaders of Edom are terrified; the nobles of Moab tremble. All who live in Canaan melt away;

Exo 15:16 terror and dread fall upon them. The power of Your arm makes them lifeless as stone until Your people pass by, O LORD, until the people You purchased pass by.

Exo 15:17 You will bring them in and plant them on Your own mountain—the place, O LORD, reserved for Your own dwelling, the sanctuary, O Lord, that Your hands have established.

Exo 15:18 The LORD will reign forever and ever!"

Exo 15:19 When Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and charioteers rushed into the sea, the LORD brought the water crashing down on them. But the people of Israel had walked through the middle of the sea on dry ground!

Exo 15:20 Then Miriam the prophet, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine and led all the women as they played their tambourines and danced.

Exo 15:21 And Miriam sang this song: "Sing to the LORD, for He has triumphed gloriously; He has hurled both horse and rider into the sea."

LOOK:

Who was to be the recipient of this song? Was it a corporate or personal song of worship? Why?

What are some of the attributes of God that are specified in this song?

What had God done for His people before this song was sang and what would He do for them in the future?

Could they trust God to act on their behalf?

Let's learn an important lesson from the rest of the chapter:

Exo 15:22 Then Moses led the people of Israel away from the Red Sea, and they moved out into the desert of Shur. They traveled in this desert for three days without finding any water.

Exo 15:23 When they came to the oasis of Marah, the water was too bitter to drink. So they called the place Marah (which means "bitter").

Exo 15:24 Then the people complained and turned against Moses. "What are we going to drink?" they demanded.

Exo 15:25 So Moses cried out to the LORD for help, and the LORD showed him a piece of wood. Moses threw it into the water, and this made the water good to drink. It was there at Marah that the LORD set before them the following decree as a standard to test their faithfulness to Him.

Exo 15:26 He said, "If you will listen carefully to the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in His sight, obeying His commands and keeping all His decrees, then I will not make you suffer any of the diseases I sent on the Egyptians; for I am the LORD who heals you."

Exo 15:27 After leaving Marah, the Israelites traveled on to the oasis of Elim, where they found twelve springs and seventy palm trees. They camped there beside the water.

When God began to move His people, He took them from a "mountain top" experience to one that was in the valley (or desert). Why do you suppose God would lead in such a way?

To whom did the children of Israel turn to in their time of trial?

How might it seem that the Song of Israel was a "nice tune" but very few believed its message?

If they were "living the song", how might they have responded differently?

How did God respond to their complaining?

Think of the words to your favorite praise song. How can you live it out this week?