



Gospel Community Notes & Questions

Title: The Song of the Redeemed

Text: Exodus 15:1-21

Theme: The LORD displays his Kingship in both redemption and retribution.

Teaching Notes: The Israelites didn't just experience God's miraculous deliverance through the Red Sea, they sang about it. Exodus 15 is a song of praise – the first in the Bible – extolling the greatness of God for destroying Israel's enemies. If that seems unchristian to you, this message explores themes of God's holiness, love, justice, and redemption through strength.

Outline:

Key Question: Why does God destroy his adversaries?

1. To deliver his covenant people.
2. To dispense justice.
3. To deter others from evil.
4. To demonstrate his character.
 - a. Holiness.
 - b. Steadfast love.
5. To declare his Kingship.

Gospel Applications:

1. Trust that Jesus died to make his enemies his family.
2. Let the sovereignty and salvation of the Lord be the theme of your life's song.



Questions from Exodus 15 to explore individually and with your group:

1. What's one thing you learned or observed from the Song of Moses?
2. What's your initial reaction to reading things like, "*The LORD is a man of war,*" and seeing the people of God praise him for the demise of their enemies?
3. If you had a friend who objected to Christianity because "the Old Testament God was vindictive and wrathful, and engaged in things like holy war," how would you respond?
4. Of the five reasons in the Song of Moses why God destroys his adversaries, which resonated the most/least with you? Discuss.
5. Adam Smith wrote, "*Mercy to the guilty is cruelty to the innocent.*" How is that concept relevant to the justice God enacts in Exodus 15?
6. Mariano DiGangi wrote, "*The wrath of God is not a vehement, irrational, vindictive, arbitrary, capricious venting of some supernatural spleen. It is the manifestation of the repugnance of a holy God against all who defile, disrupt, and destroy the world that he has made.*" Describe the relationship between God's holiness and God's righteous judgment.
7. The message asserted that one way or another, everyone will recognize the LORD as King (Philippians 2:10-11) – whether as a conquered foe or as a beloved and redeemed child. In this light, how is God glorified in defeating and removing every trace of evil from his Creation?
8. The quotation of Exodus 15:2 in Psalm 118:14, a Passover "Hallel" Psalm, demonstrates that God's triumph over the wicked ultimately points to what event? Who are the real and final adversaries that God promises to destroy? How is that relevant to your application of this song to your life?
9. If you focused on the strength/sovereignty and salvation of the LORD, and praised him daily for those two things, how would that impact your thinking?
10. What one actionable thing will you do this week in response to this message?

Prayer Prompts:

1. Praise the Lord that he loves his Creation enough to destroy the wicked enemy who defiles, enslaves, and tortures it.
2. Confess where you have been unforgiving, hateful, and vindictive in your attitudes and actions, rather than leaving judgment to God.
3. Ask God to help you trust and celebrate his strength and salvation this week.