

The Song of the Sea
Exodus 15:1-18

1 Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord:

“I will sing to the LORD, for he is highly exalted.
Both horse and driver he has hurled into the sea.

2 “The LORD is my strength and my defense;
he has become my salvation.

He is my God, and I will praise him,
my father’s God, and I will exalt him.

3 The LORD is a warrior;
the LORD is his name.

4 Pharaoh’s chariots and his army he has hurled into the sea.
The best of Pharaoh’s officers are drowned in the Red Sea. ^b

5 The deep waters have covered them;
they sank to the depths like a stone.

6 Your right hand, LORD, was majestic in power.
Your right hand, LORD, shattered the enemy.

7 “In the greatness of your majesty
you threw down those who opposed you.

You unleashed your burning anger;
it consumed them like stubble.

8 By the blast of your nostrils
the waters piled up.

The surging waters stood up like a wall;
the deep waters congealed in the heart of the sea.

9 The enemy boasted,
‘I will pursue, I will overtake them.

I will divide the spoils;
I will gorge myself on them.

I will draw my sword
and my hand will destroy them.’

10 But you blew with your breath, and the sea covered them.
They sank like lead in the mighty waters.

11 Who among the gods is like you, LORD?
Who is like you—majestic in holiness,
awesome in glory, working wonders?

12 “You stretch out your right hand,
and the earth swallows your enemies.

13 In your unfailing love you will lead the people you have redeemed.
In your strength you will guide them to your holy dwelling.

14 The nations will hear and tremble;
anguish will grip the people of Philistia.

15 The chiefs of Edom will be terrified,
the leaders of Moab will be seized with trembling,
the people ^e of Canaan will melt away;

16 terror and dread will fall on them.
By the power of your arm they will be as still as a stone—
until your people pass by, LORD,
until the people you bought pass by.

17 You will bring them in and plant them
on the mountain of your inheritance—
the place, LORD, you made for your dwelling,
the sanctuary, Lord, your hands established.

18 “The LORD reigns for ever and ever.”

One-third of the Bible is poetry. God chose to communicate with us through poetry. The main purpose of poetry is not to give information or teach fact; rather, but rather “it is to create an experience that shapes how we feel and what we think.” (Tim Mackie)

Exodus 15:1-18 is a Song/Poetry responding to the factual/historical events at the Red Sea.

1. What pictures do you see in your mind? (engages imagination)
2. What do you *feel*? (emotional response)
3. What do you *think* about the characters, the events, the after effect?