

## Lesson 6 Exodus Chapters 14-16

### PART A: EXODUS 14, 15:1-21

#### FIRST READING: EXODUS 14:1-20

A1. Many who have studied the route taken by the Israelites and the geography of the area agree that the people walked into a trap by following the Lord's directions in 14:1-2. Why would God march his people into a trap? What does He imply in v. 2-4?

A2. Why did Pharaoh decide to go after the Israelites? Cite verse.

A3. Verse 8 says the Israelites went out "with a high hand." This is an idiomatic expression in ancient Hebrew of uncertain meaning. Try to picture different ways one might use one's hands/arms to express emotion. What are some likely meanings for this: the Israelites "went out with a high hand"?

A4. a) How did the Israelites first respond when they saw Pharaoh's armies coming at them?

b) After this they sort of divided: Some turned to God and \_\_\_\_\_, others turned to Moses and \_\_\_\_\_.

c) When we are in great straits we also have this same choice of actions. How do sudden, threatening difficulties like these in our lives teach us things about God and about ourselves?

A5. a) Among the directions in verses 13 & 14 are some things that the people were supposed to *do*. What are these things?

b) Take one of them and tell how doing that thing would help you face difficulty.

A6. PERSONAL: Was there ever something in your life that looked like a sure defeat, which God turned into an unmistakable exhibition of His power to deliver?

A7. a) How did God protect the Israelites on the day when the Egyptians overtook them?

b) How can something that is providing light to one group of people, be complete darkness to a different group? Can you think of an example?

**SECOND READING: EXODUS 14:21-31**

A8. a) What do you think God's feelings were for *the Egyptian soldiers* drowned in the Red Sea?

b) How could the gospel give comfort to Egyptians who suffered losses in the Exodus? Give any scriptures that come to your mind.

**THIRD READING: EXODUS 15:1-21**

A9. How many times are the words "THE LORD" found in this passage in Exodus? \_\_\_\_\_  
(*"THE LORD" in small caps in the Old Testament is a translation of the Hebrew "Yahweh" or Jehovah.*)

A10. a) Why was the crossing of the Red Sea and destruction of Pharaoh's armies important to the future establishment of Israel as a nation?

b) This is the first recorded "epic poem." Its purpose is to preserve the memory of a particularly important event. Hebrew poetry often used parallelisms, or adjoining phrases that were similar in meaning. Find a parallelism in this hymn and tell what it's referring to.

c) What are some hymns that preserve in our memory events of the Latter-day Restoration?

A11. a) Describe Miriam's part in the worship service that occurred after crossing the Red Sea?

b) See Micah 6:4. Why do you think women sometimes need the inspiration and leadership of other women?

c) Can you name one way that Relief Society has blessed your life?

**PART B: EXODUS 15:22-27, EXODUS 16****FIRST READING: EXODUS 15:22-27**

B1. a) The Sinai Peninsula is an inhospitable desert environment. How would a harsh wilderness teach and test the people and, at the same time, protect them?

b) What could *the wilderness* symbolize in the Christian life?

B2. a) How long had they been traveling, and what was the reaction of the people when they tasted the waters of Marah?

b) From their complaint, what do you think their expectations were, as “God’s people”? Do you think these expectations were reasonable? Why or why not?

B3. a) What did the Lord show Moses to use to heal the waters and make them healthy to drink?

b) One of the names of the Savior in scripture is “The Branch.” (Zechariah 3: 8) This story in Exodus 15 seems to be a type or symbol of Christ. Describe how the Savior can heal the bitter waters (experiences) in our lives and make them sweet.

B4. The Sinai Peninsula was hot and dusty. The people complained in Marah because God hadn’t provided for their every physical need. Jesus says in John 7:37 “If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.”

a) What kind of thirst is Jesus promising to fulfill in this scripture?

b) CHALLENGE: Human beings tend to focus on physical needs over spiritual needs. They want to avoid suffering. What do you think is man’s greatest need and how does God help us learn truth through suffering?

B5. a) The Israelites left Marah and came to Elim. What sort of place was it?

b) There are “Marahs” in life and there are “Elims.” From the years of your life experience, how would you describe the rhythm of life between these two kinds of experiences?

B6. In Exodus 15:26 the Lord gives a covenant of obedience to His children.

a) What four things does He enumerate in this verse that the Israelites must do?

b) What possible Egyptian diseases, physical or spiritual, would obedience protect them from?

**SECOND READING: EXODUS 16:1-21**

B7. a) How can stress lead to complaining in our lives?

b) What have you found to be a better way to deal with life's frustrations?

B8. What two different "food miracles" did the Lord provide in these verses?

B9. a) Read Matthew 6:11, Matthew 4:4, John 5:39 and John 6:32-35. (See Scripture List following)  
From the passages in Exodus and these scriptures, what kind of daily "manna" do we need and why?

b) Why was it important to gather manna early in the day? How could you liken this to us?

**THIRD READING: EXODUS 16:22-36 and Ezekiel 20:5-20 (SEE SCRIPTURE LIST FOLLOWING)**

B10. The Ten Commandments had not yet been given. How did God establish a Sabbath among them? (They were likely not allowed a day of rest under Pharaoh even if they had wanted to observe it.)

B11. What additional "manna miracle" did the Lord establish in verse 32 and why?

B12. Read the passage in Ezekiel 20:5-20 from The Scripture List (following page).

a) What do you learn about the Israelites and the idols of Egypt?

b) What do you learn about why God provided a Sabbath for Israel?

B13. PERSONAL: Has God ever provided a miracle for you to enable you to keep one of His commandments?

**SCRIPTURE LIST FOR LESSON 6, PART B****MATTHEW 6:11**

"Give us this day our daily bread."

**MATTHEW 4:4**

"But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

**JOHN 6:32-35**

"Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. 33 For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world. 34 Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread. 35 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

**EZEKIEL 20:5-20**

5 ¶ And say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; In the day when I chose Israel, and lifted up mine hand unto the seed of the house of Jacob, and made myself known unto them in the land of Egypt, when I lifted up mine hand unto them, saying, I am the Lord your God;  
 6 In the day that I lifted up mine hand unto them, to bring them forth of the land of Egypt into a land that I had espied for them, flowing with milk and honey, which is the glory of all lands:  
 7 Then said I unto them, Cast ye away every man the abominations of his eyes, and defile not yourselves with the idols of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.  
 8 But they rebelled against me, and would not hearken unto me: they did not every man cast away the abominations of their eyes, neither did they forsake the idols of Egypt: then I said, I will pour out my fury upon them, to accomplish my anger against them in the midst of the land of Egypt.  
 9 But I wrought for my name's sake, that it should not be polluted before the heathen, among whom they were, in whose sight I made myself known unto them, in bringing them forth out of the land of Egypt.  
 10 Wherefore I caused them to go forth out of the land of Egypt, and brought them into the wilderness.  
 11 And I gave them my statutes, and shewed them my judgments, which if a man do, he shall even live in them.  
 12 Moreover also I gave them my sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them, that they might know that I am the Lord that sanctify them.  
 13 But the house of Israel rebelled against me in the wilderness: they walked not in my statutes, and they despised my judgments, which if a man do, he shall even live in them; and my sabbaths they greatly polluted: then I said, I would pour out my fury upon them in the wilderness, to consume them.  
 14 But I wrought for my name's sake, that it should not be polluted before the heathen, in whose sight I brought them out.  
 15 Yet also I lifted up my hand unto them in the wilderness, that I would not bring them into the land which I had given them, flowing with milk and honey, which is the glory of all lands;  
 16 Because they despised my judgments, and walked not in my statutes, but polluted my sabbaths: for their heart went after their idols.  
 17 Nevertheless mine eye spared them from destroying them, neither did I make an end of them in the wilderness.  
 18 But I said unto their children in the wilderness, Walk ye not in the statutes of your fathers, neither observe their judgments, nor defile yourselves with their idols:  
 19 I am the Lord your God; walk in my statutes, and keep my judgments, and do them;  
 20 And hallow my sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I am the Lord your God.