

119

MINISTRIES

“The following is a direct script of a teaching that is intended to be presented via video, incorporating relevant text, slides, media, and graphics to assist in illustration, thus facilitating the presentation of the material. In some places, this may cause the written material to not flow or sound rather awkward in some places. In addition, there may be grammatical errors that are often not acceptable in literary work. We encourage the viewing of the video teachings to complement the written teaching you see below.”

Parashah Points: Beshalach – Why Sing?

Welcome to another episode of Parashah Points—short thoughts from the weekly Torah Portion.

This week’s Parashah Point comes from Beshalach (Bay-shah-lakh), which is Hebrew for “When he sent,” and it goes from Exodus 13:17 to Exodus 17:16.

In this Torah Portion, Pharaoh sends an army after the Israelites, trapping them at the Red Sea. So God splits the Red Sea, allowing the Israelites to pass, then closes the sea back upon the Egyptians.

It also records the Song of Moses that the Israelites sang after God delivered them from the Egyptians.

Then we read about the miracles of manna coming down from heaven, and the bitter water of Marah made sweet, and Moses bringing water out of a rock.

The parashah concludes with Amalek attacking Israel and being defeated.

There’s a lot we can talk about in this Torah Portion. Today we’re going to present just a thought on music.

In most Church and Synagogue services, there’s usually an entire section of the service devoted to singing. Now, this looks different depending on the denominational orientation of the service. It can be anything from a full band with drums and electric guitars to the congregation simply singing hymns a cappella.

Nevertheless, music has always been a big part of worship. We see this all the way back to the time of Moses.

Exodus 15:1-2

Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the Lord (YHWH), saying, “I will sing to the Lord (YHWH), for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea. The Lord (YHWH) is my strength and my son, and he has become my salvation; this is

my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.

This song continues on for almost the entire chapter! The Israelites sang and danced and played instruments, rejoicing in what God had done for them.

We as believers, are passionate about what it means to follow and honor God according to the Scriptures. That's why we focus so much on learning how to walk out God's commandments and having proper theology. But how much time do we think about glorifying God through music and singing? After all, if when we examine the Biblical lifestyle, we certainly see the role that music plays in God's people giving praise back to Him.

Psalm 96:1-2 says “sing to the Lord (YHWH) a new song.” Psalm 46:6 says, “sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!”

Interestingly enough, the book of Psalms is itself a collection of songs, which goes to show how seriously God's people took music.

Not only that, but Yeshua our Messiah sang hymns with His disciples:

Matthew 26:30

And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

The apostles also associated singing psalms and hymns with a thankful heart.

Colossians 3:16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

So why is music so important? Well there are many reasons. For one, singing songs might be a way to unite the congregation. When everyone is singing the same words—declaring the same biblical truths at the same time—it could have a powerful unifying affect for the body of Messiah.

Singing is also way to express emotion, and quite frankly, it is quite easy to become rather emotional when reflecting on YHWH's love for us. Music itself can even encourage an emotional response. It can place us in the right frame of mind to worship and praise our Creator.

Worship is not only studying God's Word and keeping His commandments, but also engaging YHWH on an emotional level as well. We see that so often in the Psalms, and it's important. We are emotional beings. Emotion connects us.

Finally, music and singing can help us to remember and memorize important biblical truth. God created us to enjoy music and melodies and can be a way to remember who He is and what He's done. There could be a reason that the first thing the Israelites did after they were saved from the Egyptians was to sing a song—they were certainly glorifying and praising YHWH in that instance, but in preserving that song going forward, they may have been using song as a means to always remember how amazing and powerful and loving their God is!

And those are just a few of the reasons why we sing. He is worthy to be praised, and one way to praise Him can be through music and song.

Thank you for joining us for another Parashah Point!

We pray you have been blessed by this teaching. Remember, continue to test everything. Shalom! For more on this and other teachings, please visit us at www.testeverything.net

Shalom, and may Yahweh bless you in walking in the whole Word of God.

EMAIL: Info@119ministries.com

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/119Ministries

WEBSITE: www.TestEverything.net & www.ExaminatoTodo.net

TWITTER: www.twitter.com/119Ministries#