

19 "For the horse of Pharaoh went in with his chariots and with his horsemen into the sea, and the LORD brought again the waters of the sea upon them; but the children of Israel went on dry land in the midst of the sea. 20 And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances. 21 And Miriam answered them, Sing ye to the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea."

"**For the horse of Pharaoh went in with his chariots and with his horsemen into the sea,**" Many have debated if Pharaoh was destroyed, or if he remained on the seashore and did not die. This verse makes it plain that Pharaoh went in with his army, "**For the horse of Pharaoh went in.**" If Pharaoh's horse went in, then Pharaoh went in upon his horse, and God destroyed both Pharaoh and his army in the sea.

"**but the children of Israel went on dry land in the midst of the sea.**" This indicates: the destruction of Pharaoh and his army was completed before Israel was completely though the sea. Thus, Israel continued to the other side of the sea on dry ground, just as they had started out.

A glorious picture for us to see in our salvation in time. With the new birth of a Child of God, we begin to cross through the sinful sea of life on dry ground. We enter with the fear of the Pharaoh and his armies, the devil, and his minions, in pursuit of us. However, when we come to fully understand the doctrine of salvation by grace, and that we have been given eternal life, we see Pharaoh and his armies drowned in the sea. Now, we can continue our journey through the sea of life in time knowing that Jesus has eternally secured us by his finished work. We no longer have to fear the Egyptians, in the eternal perspective. This is why Miriam, and the women are singing and dancing. This is why we should be singing and dancing in praising, worshipping, and adoring, our Saviour and Lord, Jesus Christ.

What is dancing? It is moving to the rhythm of the music. Dancing for the child of God is moving in rhythm and response to "**thus saith the Lord.**" When we rightly responding to the word of God, we are dancing before the Lord. Miriam, and the women singing and dancing, is a prophetic picture of the New Testament church bodies, where the congregations gather and sing praise to God in worship of his holy and matchless name. Where we sing of the victory of Jesus being manifested in our lives, and our expectation of entrance into the eternal land of promise.

22 ¶ "So Moses brought Israel from the Red sea, and they went out into the wilderness of Shur; and they went three days in the wilderness, and found no water. 23 And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter: therefore, the name of it was called Marah. 24 And the people murmured against Moses, saying, What shall we drink? 25 And he cried unto the LORD; and the LORD shewed him a tree, which when he had cast into the waters, the waters were made sweet: there he made for them a statute and an ordinance, and there he proved them,"

"**So, Moses brought Israel from the Red sea,**" Moses brought them out of the sea singing and dancing after the seeing the destruction of the Egyptians: witnesses to the great salvation of God wrought in their lives. If you have been born-again you, like Israel, have every reason to be joyful in the Lord. Think on the scripture in: **Isa 61:10 ¶ "I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels."** And you will see some of the reasons to rejoice in the Lord.

It is interesting that the first trial that Israel faces, after their deliverance from Egypt, is that of thirst. What is the first thing that a newly born baby, and the newborn child of God, experience? Thirst for drink. The newborn baby will seek the breast for mother's milk. The newborn child of God will experience the need to drink from the fountain of the water of life. This is why they come to the assembled church. They desire to drink of the sincere milk of the word of life, which is the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Christ being born on the earth and suffering in the sinful sea of life, hanging on the tree of the cross, for the eternally acceptable sin sacrifice, is a picture of the bitter waters of Marah, which we cannot drink. What Christ accomplished we could not do. It took the sacrifice of Christ on the tree of the cross, in the sinful sea of life, to bring sweetness to the gospel waters. The sweetness of the gospel message is that Christ Jesus has completed

the work of eternal salvation for all of God's people. Our Eternal salvation is eternally secured because the purchase price was paid by Christ. The bitterness of toil in life is connected to our time salvation, as seen in: **Joh 16:33 "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."** There will be no bitter waters in the eternal place which Jesus has gone to prepare for us.

Notice that Moses, as mediator between God and man, prayed to God for the deliverance of God's chosen people, which is emblematic of Christ, who prayed to God the Father on our behalf, seen in: **Joh 17:9 "I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine."**

Do not forget that people must have water to sustain life. We, born-again Christians, must thirst for, and drink from, the fountain of the living water, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, or we shall shrivel up and die. We have further evidence of this in: **Joh 6:53-55; 53 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. 54 Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. 55 For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed."**

Now, can you see: As God revealed "**a tree**" to Moses, so Jesus, "**a tree**" (singular) was revealed as the fulfillment of the sacrificial law? When Christ died on the cross; the veil of the temple was rent in twain. The veil now being removed for God's born-again creatures; enables them to see the Mercy Seat and the Tree of Life. It empowers us to drink from the fountain of living waters, our sustenance of life, which is Christ Jesus.

Did you notice? They have only gone three days since the great deliverance from Pharaoh and the Egyptians. How quickly we forget the great deliverances of God in our lives, when we are faced with the tribulations of life. When I was brought to the church it was like I was floating above the surface of the earth for about three days, then the walls came tumbling down, as Satan buffeted me with all the thoughts of my former sins, and how unworthy I was to even think I could be a Child of God. Praise God, he soon brought me relief and has continued to supply my every need. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for salvation by the grace of God.

25 there he made for them a statute and an ordinance, and there he proved them," 26 And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee. 27 And they came to Elim, where were twelve wells of water, and threescore and ten palm trees: and they encamped there by the waters."

Just as Moses commanded Israel to be obedient to the commandments of God, to retain protection from God's judicial wrath: so, we, the children of God, are commanded to be obedient to the commandments of God, by which we may escape the consequence for disobedience to God here in time. Just as God told Israel: if you are not obedient, I will plague you with the same plagues I exercised upon the Egyptians, from whom I have freed you: likewise, we can expect to be plagued, here in time, if we continue in sinfulness against God, after being born-again. Understand, with willful sin there is a consequence to be borne here in time.

Remember, God's word tells us plainly: we shall suffer trials and tribulations in Christian living. These may be, or may not be, because of our sinfulness. Sometimes God allows us to suffer, to strengthen our faith and trust in Christ Jesus, and his finished work of salvation by grace. However, God will always cause us to suffer under the consequence of sin in our lives.

"Twelve wells of water, and three score and ten palm trees" We see here a picture of an oasis in the wilderness. A place of rest that is furnished with the needed things to bring rest to the bodies of the saints. The twelve wells of water are a picture of a well of water for each tribe of Israel. The three score and ten palm trees give us the picture of shaded places under which Israel may find rest in the heat of the day. This gives us the picture of the sufficiency of Jesus Christ. Jesus has provided us a land of promise here in time, the church. Jesus has provided his people a well of water from which they can drink. Jesus has provided manna from heaven for us to eat. Jesus has provided us an oasis of rest here in time, and the promise of a place of eternal rest, which he has gone to prepare for us. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for the Gospel of Jesus Christ, which tells us that "**the bitter waters have been sweet.**" Hallelujah! Amen!