

Second psalm in the Hallel

- Strong parallelism
- No mention of praise
- No use of the name of God. Why?
- No mention of the 10 plagues

These first two verses, more than any other place in the psalms, summarize what was at the heart of the Exodus experience. It wasn't just a move or a deliverance. They were entering in to a marriage covenant with God Almighty.

Tremble ... before the God of Jacob

This is like the Pentecost of the Old Testament. God was in their midst.

Psalm 114

Because He...

Marvelously dwells with His people

He can make a way where there is no way. He can move what looks immovable.

*Leaving Egypt
Entering Canaan
Earthquake at Sinai*

Mightily moves to deliver

God changed the streams of water to a wall of rock on either side, and changed a wall of rock into streams of water.

Miraculously works to provide

Their story and they're sticking with it: God did amazing things in their experience to deliver them from their enemies and to show them who he was. If this has not been your experience, perhaps you have not fully experienced the first two verses:

1. Have you really left Egypt?(world, flesh, Devil)
2. Have you really become his sanctuary and dominion?

A sanctuary had always been a **place**, not a **people**. A dominion had always had a territorial boundaries and this was stationary. God's kingdom extends to every regenerate heart.

When **Israel** went forth from Egypt, the house of **Jacob** from a people of strange language, Judah became His **sanctuary**, Israel, His **dominion**.

SANCTUARY
Leaving

Presence



When they left Egypt they entered in to a new relationship with some deity.

2

The sea looked and fled; The Jordan turned back. The mountains skipped like rams, the hills, like lambs.

Cleaving

RAMS

Exodus 14: Joshua 3: Exodus 19:



Hallowed be Thy name (sanctuary) They kingdom come (dominion)

All of a sudden a lot of strange stuff started happening.

Power

"Looked and fled" - like Balaam's donkey in Numbers 22 when he saw the angel of the Lord and Balaam didn't.

6

What ails you, O sea, that you flee? O Jordan, that you turn back? O mountains, that you skip like rams? O hills, like lambs?

FOUNTAIN

Provision



Watch out for this God of theirs. He's not only moving mountains, but also can provide water in the desert.

Tremble, O earth, before the Lord, before the God of Jacob, who turned the rock into a pool of water, the flint into a fountain of water.

8 Ex. 14, Num. 20

There is no mention of what God expected of them. This is hallel. "Let's just praise the Lord!"

Tremble (vs.7) (חיל) - to whirl, dance, writhe. Used 16x to refer to movement with pain at childbirth. 9x "writhe in pain." 6x for being in anguish. So here in Ps. 114:7 another translation would be "writhe in agony, O earth."

How does all this start? When they left Egypt! You've got to decide you want things to change. It may not be comfortable or easy.

Like many national anthems. It is often a poetic treatment of historic events to stir up the heart and emotions more than inform the mind. It is not primarily for **education**, but for **celebration**.

"The sea looked and fled." "What ails you?" We can't see the wind, but we see its effects. We serve an invisible God, but His effects are visible. The sea parting and the mountains shaking at Sinai are poetically viewed here as living things that can see, think, fear, and move on their own. As we watch, they all of a sudden jump up and run away. So of course we are going to ask, "What are you afraid of? I don't see anything. What did they see that made them run?"

His Sanctuary (vs.2) (קִדְשׁ) noun, 3rd person singular - **apartness, holiness, sacredness**.

His Dominion (vs.2) (מְמִשְׁלָה) noun, 3rd person singular - **rule, realm, dominion**.

"The exodus of Israel from Egypt, with some of its most remarkable accompanying and consequent miracles, are, in this brief psalm, commemorated in the boldest style of poetry, with personifications, indeed, of inanimate nature of the utmost daring and sublimity, in 'thoughts that breathe, and words that burn.'" — Drake's Harp of Judah.