

# Today's Bible Verses

26 NOVEMBER 2018

**Today's 5 verses, read in order, are Paul's exhortation to seek heavenly things and forgo the earthly.**

a "If you have been raised with the Messiah, seek what is above, where the Messiah is, seated at the right hand of God."

Colossians 3:1 (1 of 5 for Nov 26)

b "Set your minds on what is above, not on what is on the earth."

Colossians 3:2 (2 of 5 for Nov 26)

c "For you have died, and your life is hidden with the Messiah in God."

Colossians 3:3 (3 of 5 for Nov 26)

d "When the Messiah, who is your life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory."

Colossians 3:4 (4 of 5 for Nov 26)

e "Therefore, put to death what belongs to your worldly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desire, and greed."

Colossians 3:5 (5 of 5 for Nov 26)

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(ALL VERSES ARE EXCERPTED FROM THE HOLMAN CHRISTIAN STANDARD BIBLE, HCSB.)

**The Bible verses in the box above are this day's verses which I selected for my daily posting on both [FACEBOOK](#) and [TWITTER](#).**

SEE ALSO:

[ChristOurPassover.org](http://ChristOurPassover.org)

ADDITIONAL VERSES:

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GEORG FRIEDRICH HANDEL  
**ISRAEL IN EGYPT**

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Welcome to this "Additional Verses" Bible Study of the text of

Handel's choral masterpiece, *Israel in Egypt*.

*Sing ye to the Lord,  
for He hath triumphed gloriously!  
The Lord shall reign for ever and ever!  
The Lord is my strength and my song;  
He is become my salvation.  
The Lord shall reign for ever and ever!*

## PART ONE

## PART 2a The Song of Moses

HOLMAN CHRISTIAN STANDARD BIBLE

### 14. [Chorus](#)

SELECTION BEGINS AT 42:46

Moses and the children of Israel sung this song unto the Lord, and spake, saying:  
I will sing unto the Lord, for He hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider hath He thrown into the sea.

### 15. [Duet \(soprano 1 & 2\)](#)

SELECTION BEGINS AT 46:31

The Lord is my strength and my song;  
He is become my salvation.

### 16. [Chorus](#)

SELECTION BEGINS AT 50:31

He is my god, and I will prepare Him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt Him.

*Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to Yahweh. They said:*

*I will sing to Yahweh,  
for He is highly exalted;  
He has thrown the horse  
and its rider into the sea.*

*Yahweh is my strength and my song;  
He has become my salvation.*

*This is my God, and I will praise Him,  
my father's God, and I will exalt Him.*

EXODUS 15:1-2

#### PARALLEL VERSES:

I love You, Yahweh, my strength.  
Yahweh is my rock,  
my fortress, and my deliverer,  
my God, my mountain where I seek refuge,  
my shield and the horn of my salvation,  
my stronghold.  
I called to Yahweh, who is worthy of praise,  
and I was saved from my enemies.

PSALM 18:1-3

Yet I will triumph in Yahweh;  
I will rejoice in the God of my salvation!  
Yahweh my Lord is my strength!

HABAKKUK 3:18,19

Yahweh, You are my God;  
I will exalt You. I will praise Your name,  
for You have accomplished wonders,  
plans formed long ago, with perfect faithfulness.

ISAIAH 25:1

Part 2 of Handel's *Israel in Egypt* is called "The Song of Moses" (or "The Song of Moses and Miriam"). It comprises all of Exodus 15:1-22, which is 65 lines long – and Handel set every one of them to music for the second and last part of this work.

The purpose of our musical Bible Studies here (*Messiah, Israel in Egypt*) is to find and study verses that surround the text used in the musical piece. Through study of these, we gain context and additional information on the story or idea being conveyed. Our understanding is deepened, and

a more complete picture of God's plan and His actions can emerge.

Well, in these 65 lines in 22 verses, there **are no surrounding verses**, because Handel used every one. So instead of what we did for Part 1, for the remainder of "The Song of Moses" I have searched for and found verses which are parallel to the concepts and ideas found in each grouping of musical selections (today there are three pieces).

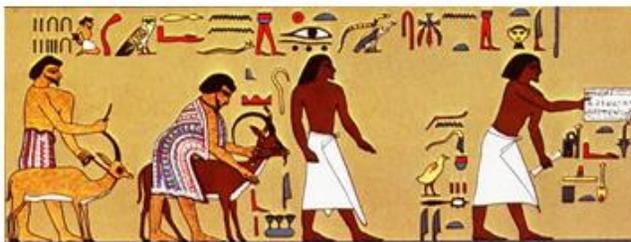
Today, the main theme is God as Israel's salvation and their strength. David (in the Psalms), Habakkuk, and Isaiah express similar ideas, which are shown above.

The mighty hand of God is sure and strong, and He has accomplished the promised deliverance of Israel, just as spoken in the "plans formed long ago."

The concept of salvation (in a physical form) is introduced here in clear and direct foreshadowing of the spiritual salvation that Messiah was promised to deliver to all the world at His later coming. Both were promised; both are sure; both are perfect.

### INFORMATION ON THIS STUDY

German-turned-English composer George Friedrich Handel (1685-1759) is most famous, I think, for his sweeping, powerful, majestic



choral masterpieces. The grand "Hallelujah" Chorus from his masterpiece, *Messiah* invites (urges!) all who hear it to be swept up in its grandeur. Mozart said of Handel, "When he chooses, he strikes like a thunderbolt!" Beethoven once said, "I bow the knee to Handel," and on his deathbed, he held up a score by Handel and said, "This is truth!"

In our recent study of the Biblical text of *Messiah*, I introduced you to Handel's friend Charles Jennens, a wealthy landowner and devout Anglican, who selected the text for that great work directly from Scripture. Three years earlier, Jennens also provided (from the Bible) the libretto (book) for another Handel choral masterpiece, *Israel in Egypt*. And that is the subject of the current study.

*Israel in Egypt*, as you may suspect from the title, is the story of the freeing of the Israelite slaves from Egypt and the start of their journey through Sinai. Some have described this work as more of a "choral symphony" because of the dominant role the chorus (often double choruses) plays throughout. As we did in the previous "Additional Verses" Bible Study, we will read (and, if you like, listen to) the original text of Handel's work – **AND** we will mirror them with an expanded, context-laden study of the Scriptures surrounding those Jennens chose and Handel set to music.

We will work our way through the entire text of *Israel in Egypt*, day by day. You will find each day's excerpt from Handel's libretto in the left column, and the expanded (but wholly Biblical) context for each of the musical numbers in the right column. (See above.) Since this work is far more narrative in nature than *Messiah*, there will be less need for my own commentary – though I will give some when I think it necessary. As before, that will appear in the right column, **and it will be in this burgundy color**. (I was taught by a truly great man and mentor of mine that true learning and understanding happens best when you are asked the "next question," so that's what I will endeavor to do for you.)

I have designed it so that either column can be read straight down, in order to get the narrative (left column for Handel's message in his music; right column to see that message in magnified Biblical context). I have also put each musical number in its

own row, so you may read across the columns for each selection to compare the Handel/Jennens text with the HCSB translation with context.

***I have added a special bonus to this series:*** If you should wish to *listen* to a scintillating performance of the musical number in each day's section of Handel's *Israel in Egypt*, there are links in the left column you can use to take you there! I would listen, if I were you. (Unlike before, when the musical selections were in individual Youtube files, this one is contained in one, very large file. As such, each time I give you a link for a specific selection, I have embedded the URL so that it will go directly to the location where it begins. Always therefore go to the musical selections from the links I have provided. There is more information on the audio file, this performance, and *Israel in Egypt* below.)

Just as in *Messiah*, Handel shows a great devotion to God and to praising Him through this work. Let us approach the inspired words and glorious music with this same devotion.

*Sing ye to the Lord,  
for He hath triumphed gloriously!  
The Lord shall reign for ever and ever!  
The Lord is my strength and my song;  
He is become my salvation.  
The Lord shall reign for ever and ever!*



#### ADDITIONAL NOTES ON ISRAEL IN EGYPT

**Charles Jennens** (right) pulled together the passages that became the “little book” (Italian: *Libretto*) for his friend, composer **George Friedrich Handel** (left) to use in his massive choral work, *Israel in Egypt*.

The libretto compiled by Jennens comprises passages from the book of Exodus in Authorized (King James) Version of the Bible and Psalms 105 and 106 from the Psalter of the Anglican *Book of*



*Common Prayer* (which come from the poetic 1535 Miles Coverdale translation).

When *Israel in Egypt* was first performed in 1739, it had three sections: (1) a lament over the death of Joseph; (2) the Exodus, from the enslavement of Israel to the crossing of the Red Sea; and (3) The Song of Moses (found in Exodus 15). Handel soon thereafter dropped the first part, and the work has been performed with just the second and third parts ever since.

As Christians, we share a belief in the inspiration of Scripture, and so a study of these “Additional Verses” makes perfect sense, I believe, in the context of these daily emails. However, we have the added bonus in this case of the gloriously and spectacularly powerful music associated with our study.

*(The links to the music file are found in the left column, in the description of each selection. Just click, and it will open your browser, take you to YouTube, and play that selection. The LP of this recording came out in 1971, and even though it was recorded in analog, the quality of all records on this label is tremendous. So with that in mind, I absolutely encourage you to use good quality headphones!)*

(There is complete information about this recording in the Credits section, at the bottom of this email.)

I would welcome any comments or questions you may have about this (admittedly unusual) form of Bible study. Thank you!

As I do in all my Daily and Additional Verses, whenever an OT passage contains the four-letter Name of God יהוה (transliteration: YHVH or YHWH), I change the translation from The LORD to Yahweh.

I don't do this for reasons of doctrine (*or because I think my prayers won't be heard if I don't pronounce God's name correctly!*) – but simply because in the original Hebrew, **the word is a proper name**. (See Exodus 3:15 below.)

And as such, I believe to read the text in a way that uses a proper name (and not a title, like Lord) conveys more accurate information. Paul told us that “All Scripture is inspired by God,” and so why wouldn't we want to read it the way He inspired it? While it is true that the correct pronunciation of YHWH has been lost, “Yahweh” is probably our era's most commonly used equivalent.

*God also said to Moses, “Say this to the Israelites: Yahweh, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever; this is how I am to be remembered in every generation.”*  
[Exodus 3:15]

*All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable  
for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness,  
so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.*

2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17 (HCSB)

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***The additional verses which are below the Daily Verses will only appear in these emails (which are also posted on some websites).*** The current series (began 31 October 2018) of these “Additional Verses” takes the Scriptural words from the great choral work *Messiah* by Handel and uses them as a springboard to examine the context of the birth, ministry, character, death, and Kingdom of Jesus the Christ.

***If you know of others who would like to receive these Daily Verses emails – free of charge***, of course – just have them send me their email address. I will never allow anyone but me to see or to use the email addresses entrusted to me, and I will use them only for the purpose of these Daily Verses. Promise.

–GBP2

### **How Did All of This Get Started?**

*In early 2017, I wrote a computer app that “knows” all 66 books and 1189 chapters which the Bible comprises. When run, it selects a totally random chapter in the Bible, and keeps track of the ones that have been selected. That way, I can work my way through all 1189 chapters, without the app ever giving me a duplicate.*

*I first used this for Bible study, and later decided that choosing one or more verses from each chapter would make a good series of Facebook posts.*

*I began posting them on December 8, 2017, and have been doing it daily ever since. I later added them to my Twitter account, and am now sending them by email, for those who prefer to get them this way.*

### **TO UNSUBSCRIBE:**

If you do not wish to receive these daily emails, please feel free any time to hit “Reply” and tell me. I know that mailbox clutter is greatly annoying, and that is certainly not my intention for this!



Research for this publication was assisted by Faithlife Corporation's [Logos Bible Software 7](#).

Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture quotations are taken from the [Holman Christian Standard Bible \(HCSB\)](#).  
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**CREDITS:**

***Portrait of G.F. Handel:*** attrib. Balthasar Denner (1685-1749); National Portrait Gallery, London (75 x 63 cm).

***Portrait of Chas. Jennens:*** Thomas Hudson (1701-1779); Handel & Hendrix, London (122 x 98 cm).

***Israel in Egypt banner & Egyptian hieroglyphic illustration:*** Original cover of DG Archiv recording which is used here.

***Handel: Israel in Egypt (recording):*** Archiv Produktion (DG) edition (1971). Heather Harper, Patricia Clark, Paul Esswood, Alexander Young, Michael Rippon, Christopher Keyte, Leeds Festival Chorus, English Chamber Orchestra, Sir Charles Mackerras, conductor..