

# Today's Bible Verses

28 NOVEMBER 2018

Today's 4 verses, read in order, are from Paul showing the way to live through Jesus the Messiah.

a "Above all, put on love — the perfect bond of unity."  
Colossians 3:14 (1 of 4 for Nov 28)

b "And let the peace of the Messiah, to which you were also called in one body, control your hearts. Be thankful."  
Colossians 3:15 (2 of 4 for Nov 28)

Today's 4 verses, read in order, are from Paul showing the way to live through Jesus the Messiah.

c "Let the message about the Messiah dwell richly among you, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom."  
Colossians 3:16 (3 of 4 for Nov 28)

Today's 4 verses, read in order, are from Paul showing the way to live through Jesus the Messiah.

d "In word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."  
Colossians 3:17 (4 of 4 for Nov 28)

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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 HÄNDEL  
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 TWO

## PART 2c The Song of Moses

HOLMAN CHRISTIAN STANDARD BIBLE

### 19. [Chorus](#)

SELECTION BEGINS AT 1:02:18

Thy right hand, O Lord, is become glorious in power; Thy right hand, O Lord, hath dashed in pieces the enemy. And in the greatness of Thine excellency Thou hast overthrown them that rose up against Thee. Thou sentest forth Thy wrath, which consumed them as stubble.

### 20. [Chorus](#)

SELECTION BEGINS AT 1:06:24

And with the blast of Thy nostrils the waters were gathered together, the floods stood upright as an heap, and the depths were congealed in the heart of the sea.

*Yahweh, Your right hand is glorious in power.  
Yahweh, Your right hand shattered the enemy.  
You overthrew Your adversaries  
by Your great majesty.  
You unleashed Your burning wrath;  
it consumed them like stubble.  
  
The waters heaped up at the blast of Your nostrils;  
the currents stood firm like a dam.  
The watery depths congealed in the heart of the sea.*  
EXODUS 15:6-8

#### PARALLEL VERSES:

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. Yahweh drove the sea back with a powerful east wind all that night and turned the sea into dry land. So the waters were divided, and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with the waters like a wall to them on their right and their left.  
EXODUS 14:21-22

He split the sea and brought them across;  
the water stood firm like a wall.  
PSALM 78:13

There are shouts of joy and victory  
in the tents of the righteous:  
"Yahweh's right hand performs valiantly!  
Yahweh's right hand is raised.  
Yahweh's right hand performs valiantly!"  
PSALM 118:15-16

Therefore, as a tongue of fire consumes straw and as dry grass shrivels in the flame, so their roots will become like something rotten and their blossoms will blow away like dust, for they have rejected the instruction of Yahweh of Hosts, and they have despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.  
ISAIAH 5:24

In today's music, Moses and the Israelites continue their song of celebration and victory and of praise to their God. There are two main themes in this part of the song – the first of which is the might of the right hand of God. It has become "glorious in power" and "has dashed in pieces the enemy." The Psalmist takes up that same idea, saying that

when God's right hand is raised, it performs valiantly – raising the shouts of joy and victory from the righteous. After the astoundingly unexpected and miraculous destruction of the Egyptian army, it is no wonder that the Israelites would raise their voices in praise and worship over the mighty works of their God, assuming they were even able to speak at all.

Along with the right arm of God, His nose is singled out for poetic praise, crediting Him with parting the sea with a “blast of Thy nostrils.” So strong was that blast that the waters stood upright like a wall or a dam for the entire night, while the Israelites crossed safely on dry ground. The second theme here is the destruction “down to stubble” which seemed to describe what the Israelites saw as they looked back on the remnants of the once great army. Isaiah uses stubble also to describe those who raise their hand against and despise the word of the God of Israel, Yahweh of Hosts.

Motion pictures (with computerized special effects) allow us to actually see miracles and wonders that otherwise would not be a part of our day-to-day lives. And several directors have attempted to show the parting of the sea as a way of thrilling and amazing their audiences. I don't know about you, but reading the first-hand accounts of Moses, and the song of praise he led the Israelites to sing afterward, I get the feeling that there has never been a cinematic representation of the miracle of the parting of the sea that was comparable in scope to what actually occurred. Cecil B. DeMille was famous for his version back in the 1950s, when computer graphics was completely unknown, and it looks “dated” today. But even in the more recent films, I suspect that what God did that day was far more impressive, amazing, and jaw-dropping.

Can we imagine having been there, fearing desperately for our lives, uncertain of the outcome, only to have Moses follow the commands of God, causing our salvation to become completely and absolutely and supernaturally assured?

How would we react? Would we know what to say? Would we be able to sing our praise to God after that? Could we even speak?

I wonder.

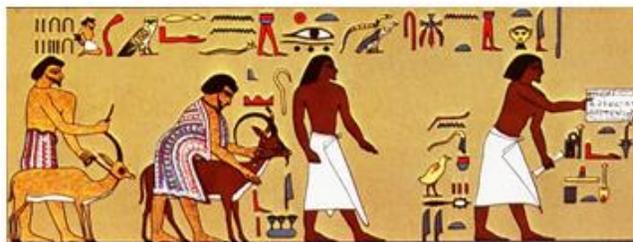
### INFORMATION ON THIS STUDY

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.



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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!

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#### USAGE OF THE NAME OF GOD IN THESE STUDIES

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]

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*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 \(HCSB\)](#). Copyright © 1999, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2009 by Holman Bible Publishers.

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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..