

Living in the Light of these Truths

- Have you ever felt like bursting out in praise and thanks to God? What has prompted this?
- Why is it good to look back in our lives and recognise what God has done?
- What view of the future do you have? Are you confident or fearful of it?
- What challenges or pressures are you facing at the moment. Share these with each other and pray for each other to trust in God through them.

Next time:

Chapters 15:22-17:7

How will the people cope when they face troubles or challenges on the journey to Sinai to worship God?

Why not read the passage in advance of Sunday?

KNOWING GOD

To know and be known

EXODUS 13-15

Quick Recap of ch. 7-12

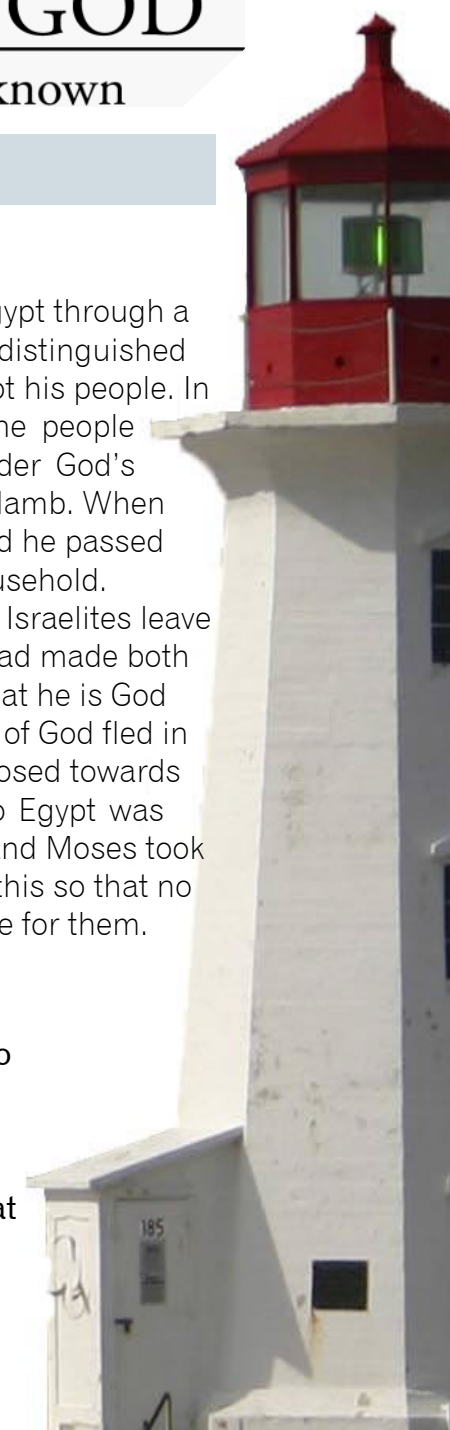
God has rescued Israel from slavery in Egypt through a succession of plagues. In these the Lord distinguished between his people and those who are not his people. In the final plague against the firstborn the people themselves had to choose to come under God's protection by trusting in the blood of the lamb. When God saw the substitute had been provided he passed over and did not bring a death in that household.

After this Pharaoh instructed that the Israelites leave to worship God as requested. The Lord had made both the Egyptians and the Israelites realise that he is God and that there is no other. As the people of God fled in haste the Egyptians were favourably disposed towards them and gave them silver and gold, so Egypt was plundered. This was a day to remember and Moses took instruction from God how they would do this so that no generation ever forgot what God had done for them.

Reflection

1) How do these events point forward to Jesus Christ?

2) What are we to remember about what he has done for us?



A CLOSER LOOK

Exodus 13-15

Overview of chapters 13:17-15:21

God knows his people well. He does not lead them a direct path to Mount Sinai because that will go through enemy territory and 'if they face war, they might change their minds and return to Egypt!' (13v17) So he takes them towards the Red Sea. Pharaoh has a change of heart and pursues them to bring them back. The Israelites think they will die and wish they hadn't been rescued at all. However the Lord delivers them through the water and destroys all the Egyptian armies at the same time. After this the people 'feared the Lord and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant.' (14v31) For now!!!

Recap and reflect on the sermon from chapter 14

- 1) Do you have any questions or comments?
- 2) How does this victory relate to us as Christians today? What tries to pull us back to our old life?
- 3) How does crossing the Red Sea relate to the picture of baptism in the New Testament? (see Romans 6:1-14)
- 4) How does this Old Testament event help you to trust God?

Looking at the Text

Read Exodus 15:1-21

Moses and co. were in celebratory mood. Rescued by God, again, they sang, danced, even got the tambourines out.

1. In v1-3 what were they so excitedly singing about? What lines can you echo?
2. In v4-12 See how amazed they were at God's work. How many phrases did they use to describe God's work?
3. What did they conclude about God (v11-12)? Do you agree?
4. In v13-21 what were they singing about now? Why were they so confident about the future?
5. What did they rightly recognise (v18)

