Study Notes and Questions for Exodus 14, 15 and 16

- REVIEW: What was the sign of God's presence with His people, and what did it do for them (see 13:20–22)?
- Why did the Lord position Israel by the sea (see 14:2–4)?
- Since God had already liberated Israel, why do you think He was still concerned with Pharaoh and the Egyptians?
- How did the Israelites react to the Egyptian threat (see 14:10–12)?
- What was the root cause of their reaction?
- How did Moses respond?
- Pharaoh and his army are types of Satan and his army, who want to re-enslave Christians to sin. What can you conclude from Exodus 14:1–15:21 about God's plans in your world and your life for Satan and sin? How should you act in light of this?
- Note: The term "Red Sea" was a general one used to designate the whole body of water to the east of Egypt and the Sudan. (Ancient Greek writers even called the Indian Ocean "the Red Sea"!) The Hebrew text of Exodus uses the term Yam Suph, which means "Sea of [papyrus] Reeds."
- Why do you think God instructed Moses to perform visible symbolic gestures to unleash His miraculous power (see 14:16, 26)?
- The text notes how Israel's faith grew through this experience (see 14:31), then describes how the nation praised God (see 15:1–21). What point do you think the Holy Spirit is making here?
- Israel's song of praise can be divided into two main parts: 15:1–12 and 15:14–18, with verse 13 serving as a transition between them. How is God pictured in each part of the song?
- How does Exodus 12:1–15:21 partly fulfill Genesis 12:1–3?
- How could the Israelites, who believed in God and Moses after the Red Sea miracle, show such unbelief only a few days later?
- Why do you think the people directed their grumbling at Moses and Aaron?
- These experiences with water and food were tests for Israel. What was God testing?