

Psalm 114 - Notes

Background:

1. The author is not known, nor can we not determine the occasion upon which the Psalm was written.
2. We do, however, know great detail about the occasion the Psalm was written about: the deliverance of Israel from slavery in Egypt - from their crossing the Red Sea to their crossing the Jordan.
3. It is a Comfort Psalm, a Historical Psalm, and a Praise Psalm. It deals with God's presence, power, and providence.
4. It is a strophe psalm. Logos has it divided in 4 sections (1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8)
5. It is considered one of the most beautifully written/worded of the psalms.
6. The probably only one repeated key word in this Psalm: Israel/God (el) 3x. However, there are the repeated ideas of the land (mountains, hills, earth, rock, flint) and water (sea, Jordan, water).

VV. 1-2 - The Presence of God

1. Even when in the land of Egypt, God was there working. Ultimately, He was working a plan to deliver them a powerful nation
2. Notice the **Synonymous Parallelisms**:
 1. v. 1: Israel and house of Jacob - went forth and from - Egypt and people of strange language
 2. v. 2: Judah and Israel - sanctuary and dominion
3. Notice also the contrast:
 1. v. 1: Israel/Jacob was in Egypt (not their home) among a different people
 2. v. 2: Judah/Israel became the set-apart home (sanctuary) of God and His dominion (they are His people).

VV. 3-6 - The Power of God

1. vv. 3-4 - Great power over nature was on display in their time of weakness!
 1. The sea fled - The Red Sea Parted
 2. The Jordan turned back - stopped flowing for them to cross
 3. The mountains and hills skipped - From Mt. Sinai quaking at the presence of God to the leveling of the land when they conquered the promised land
2. vv. 5-6 - What was the source of that great power? There can be only one answer - GOD!
 1. Who causes the sea to flee? Only God!
 2. Who caused the river to stop? Only God!
 3. Who causes the mountains and hills to quake? Only God!

VV. 7-8 - The Providence of God

1. v. 7 - What should our response be to such a God? Tremble (writhe or dance in fear, BDB) before Him!
2. v. 8 - Why? His awesomeness is on display in the way He cares for His people:
 1. Twice God provided water from rock.
 2. Moses spoke on one occasion, and struck on another.
3. If God can do all these things and provide all these things, what have we to fear with Him?