

# Today's Bible Verses

29 NOVEMBER 2018

Today's 54 verses are some of Paul's most direct (if sometimes most controversial) commands for how to live.

"Wives, be submissive to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord."

Colossians 3:18 (1 of 4 for Nov 29)

"Husbands, love your wives and don't be bitter toward them."

Colossians 3:19 (2 of 4 for Nov 29)

"Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord."

Colossians 3:20 (3 of 4 for Nov 29)

"Fathers, do not exasperate your children, so they won't become discouraged."

Colossians 3:21 (4 of 4 for Nov 29)

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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.*

**PART TWO**

**PART 2d The Song of Moses**

HOLMAN CHRISTIAN STANDARD BIBLE

21. **Air (tenor)**

SELECTION BEGINS AT 1:09:55

The enemy said, I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil; my lust shall be satisfied upon them; I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.

22. **Air (soprano)**

SELECTION BEGINS AT 1:12:37

Thou didst blow with the wind, the sea covered them; they sank as lead in the mighty waters.

23. **Chorus**

SELECTION BEGINS AT 1:14:27

Who is like unto Thee, O Lord, among the gods. Who is like Thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders? Thou stretchedst out Thy right hand, the earth swallowed them.

*The enemy said:*

*"I will pursue, I will overtake,  
I will divide the spoil.  
My desire will be gratified at their expense.  
I will draw my sword;  
my hand will destroy them."*

*But You blew with Your breath,  
and the sea covered them.  
They sank like lead  
in the mighty waters.*

*Yahweh, who is like You among the gods?  
Who is like You, glorious in holiness,  
revered with praises, performing wonders?  
You stretched out Your right hand,  
and the earth swallowed them.*

EXODUS 15:9-12

**PARALLEL VERSES:**

So [Pharaoh] got his chariot ready and took his troops with him; he took 600 of the best chariots and all the rest of the chariots of Egypt, with officers in each one. Yahweh hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued the Israelites, who were going out triumphantly. The Egyptians — all Pharaoh's horses and chariots, his horsemen, and his army — chased after them and caught up with them as they camped by the sea beside Pi-hahiroth, in front of Baal-zephon.

EXODUS 14:6-9

Lord Yahweh, You have begun to show Your greatness and power to Your servant, for what god is there in heaven or on earth who can perform deeds and mighty acts like Yours?

DEUTERONOMY 3:24

Then Solomon stood before the altar of Yahweh in front of the entire congregation of Israel and spread out his hands toward heaven. He said:

Yahweh God of Israel,  
there is no God like You  
in heaven above or on earth below,  
keeping the gracious covenant  
with Your servants who walk before You  
with their whole heart.

1 KINGS 8:22-23

You are the God who works wonders;  
You revealed Your strength among the peoples.  
With power You redeemed Your people,  
the descendants of Jacob and Joseph.

PSALM 77:14-15

I saw the Lord seated on a high and lofty throne, and His robe filled the temple. Seraphim were standing above Him; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another:

Holy, holy, holy is Yahweh of Hosts;  
His glory fills the whole earth.

ISAIAH 6:1-3

Each of the four living creatures had six wings; they were covered with eyes around and inside. Day and night they never stop, saying:

Holy, holy, holy,  
Lord God, the Almighty,  
who was, who is, and who is coming.

REVELATION 4:8

The three musical selections we consider today are from the Song of Moses, at the point where he is describing Pharaoh's intentions and God's answer.

First, we have a short description of the leader of Egypt's decision to pursue, overtake, divide the spoil, satisfy his lust upon them, draw his sword, and destroy them by his hand.

Pharaoh had boasted (at least to himself) about the strength of his own hand. By this he no doubt meant the power of his army, which he alone controlled. We know now, and the Israelites had just learned, what puny arrogance and petty hubris this was on Pharaoh's part. Next, the chorus answers with what actually happened. Here we find that it took merely a puff of God's breath to completely annihilate the entire army, chariots, horses, and all.

And finally, the children of Israel lift their voices in praise and worship of their mighty God who accomplished all of this to save them. The Bible is full of praise for God, but note the similarity of style and content in the Parallel Verses above from Deuteronomy (Moses), 1 Kings (Solomon), and the book of Psalms.

And according to visions provided by God to Isaiah (OT) and John (NT), praise for God is by no means limited to this earthly realm. See the last two Parallel Verses above. Not only do we get an almost identical description of what the seraphim look like in a vision, but also we get to read their continuing message of praise and worship. How continuous is our praise and worship of Him?

### 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



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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!

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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 (begun 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](#).

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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..