

## ISRAEL IN EGYPT TEXTS

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### THE LAMENTATION OF THE ISRAELITES FOR THE DEATH OF JOSEPH

#### The Ways of Zion Do Mourn, HWV 264

The ways of Zion do mourn, and she is in bitterness.  
All her people sigh and hang down their heads to the ground

How are the mighty fall'n,  
She that was great among the nations and princess of the provinces!

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### EXODUS

#### Israel in Egypt, HWV 54

##### *1. Recitative*

Now there arose a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph;  
and he set over Israel taskmasters to afflict them with burdens,  
and they made them serve with rigour.

##### *2. Alto Solo and Double Chorus*

And the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage,  
and their cry came unto God.  
They oppressed them with burthens,  
and made them serve with rigour;  
and their cry came up unto God.

##### *3. Recitative*

Then sent he Moses, His servant, and Aaron,  
whom he had chosen; these shew'd his signs  
among them, and wonders in the land of Ham.  
He turned their waters into blood:

##### *4. Chorus*

They loathed to drink of the river;  
He turned their waters into blood.

##### *5. Air*

Their land brought forth frogs, yea even in their king's chambers.  
He gave their cattle over to the pestilence;  
blotches and blains broke forth on man and beast.

*6. Double chorus*

He spake the word, and there came all manner of flies and lice in all their quarters.  
He spake, and the locusts came without number,  
and devoured the fruits of the ground.

*7. Double chorus*

He gave them hailstones for rain;  
fire mingled with the hail ran along upon the ground.

*8. Chorus*

He sent a thick darkness over all the land,  
even darkness which might be felt.

*9. Chorus*

He smote all the first-born of Egypt,  
the chief of all their strength.

*10. Chorus*

But as for his people, he led them forth like sheep:  
He brought them out with silver and gold;  
there was not one feeble person among their tribes.

*12. Double chorus*

He rebuked the Red Sea, and it was dried up.

*14. Double chorus*

But the waters overwhelmed their enemies,  
there was not one of them left.

*15. Double chorus*

And Israel saw that great work that the Lord did upon the Egyptians;  
and the people feared the Lord.

*16. Chorus*

And believed the Lord and his servant Moses;  
and the people feared the Lord...

## MOSES' SONG

### *17. Chorus*

Moses and the children of Israel sung this song  
unto the Lord, and spake, saying:

### *18. Chorus*

I will sing unto the Lord, for He hath triumphed gloriously;  
the horse and his rider hath He thrown into the sea.

### *19. Duet*

The Lord is my strength and my song; he is become my salvation.

### *20. Chorus*

He is my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God.

### *21. Chorus*

And I will exalt him. He is my father's God. I will exalt him.

### *22. Duet*

The Lord is a man of war.  
Lord is his name.  
Pharaoh's chariots and his host hath he cast into the sea.  
His chosen captains also are drowned in the Red Sea.

### *23. Double chorus*

The depths have covered them; they sank into the bottom as a stone.

### *24. Double chorus*

Thy right hand, O Lord, is become glorious in power.  
Thy right hand, O Lord, hath dashed in pieces the enemy.

### *25. Double chorus*

And in the greatness of thine excellency,  
thou hast overthrown them that rose up against thee.

### *26. Double chorus*

Thou sentest forth thy wrath, which consumed them as stubble.

### *28. Air*

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».

### *29. Air*

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

*30. Double chorus*

Who is like unto thee, O Lord, among the gods?  
Who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?  
Thou stretchest out thy right hand:

*31. Double chorus*

The earth swallowed them.

*32. Air*

Thou, in thy mercy hast led forth thy people, which thou hast redeemed;  
Thou hast guided them in thy strength unto thy holy habitation.

*33. Double chorus*

The people shall hear, and be afraid:  
sorrow shall take hold on them.  
All the inhabitants of Canaan shall melt away,  
by the greatness of thy arm.  
They shall be as still as a stone, till thy people pass over, O Lord,  
thy people which thou hast purchased.

*34. Air*

Thou shall bring them in, and plant them in the mountain of thine inheritance,  
in the place, O Lord, which thou hast made for thee to dwell in,  
in the sanctuary, O Lord, which thy hands have established.

*35. Double chorus*

The Lord shall reign for ever and ever.

*36. Recitative*

For the horse of Pharaoh went in with his chariots and with his horsemen into the sea,  
and the Lord brought again the waters of the sea upon them;  
but the children of Israel went on dry land in the midst of the sea.

*37. Double chorus*

The Lord shall reign for ever and ever.

*38. Recitative*

And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron,  
took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out,  
after her with timbrels and with dances. And Miriam answered them:

*39. Soprano solo & double chorus*

Sing ye to the Lord, for He hath triumphed gloriously.  
The Lord shall reign for ever and ever.  
The horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.  
I will sing unto the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously;  
the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.