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Prayer Meeting Address by Mr. J. Delves at "Ebenezer" Clapham on
26th. June, 1950

Reading: Exodus 14 from v. 26 and 15.

This appears to be one of the first recorded songs, in the Scriptures, of praise to God for a singular and particular deliverance. It points out the ways of God with men, the leadings of His providence with respect to the place He brought them to and the difficulties that surrounded them, their helpless condition, their dependence and their apparent likelihood of falling a prey to the hands of their enemies. But God appeared for His people in a remarkable way and afterward this song was sung.

It becomes us to acknowledge the mercies of God, His providence, His delivering hand, His power, and His sovereignty; and it is noticeable here how the children of Israel in this song gave God the glory and honour. They attribute all to His majesty, His holiness and His power. He is said to be incomparable. "Who is like unto Thee, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like Thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?" It was a solemn instance because it was in the case of the dead who were drowned in the sea, /^adivine judgment; God was fearful in praises and glorious in holiness. His glory reveals itself in His dispensations with men. He glorifies Himself, not only in the destruction of His enemies but in the deliverance of His people.

It must be an infinite mercy to know God, to have a sober conception of His majesty. It produces a gracious trembling, humility and yet as it is perceived in Christ, it is bearably attractive and no child of God would wish Him to be less than He is. 'Though His majesty be great, we would not wish it less'. Often has He appeared as the strength of His people, whereby He becomes their song. To experience some temporal deliverance does not in itself indicate necessarily an interest in the Gospel and in

salvation, but if that temporal deliverance be coupled with a gracious exercise of soul in a person it bears an evidence then that God is both a God of providence and a God of grace. He led them forth as a people that He had redeemed, delivered from a long bondage. He guided them in His strength unto His holy habitation and this appears to be the key-note of the song, "The Lord shall reign for ever and ever". This is what a vessel of mercy would desire, especially when the power of God is made manifest in deliverance. Oh, what a mercy for a sinner to know God and to prove that God to be our Salvation, to have a saving contact, access in prayer, to lay hold of God and to receive by prayer of the fulness of Christ.