

Psalm 114

Start with the unformatted text (Biblegateway etc.)...

¹ When Israel went out from Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language, ² Judah became his sanctuary, Israel his dominion. ³ The sea looked and fled; Jordan turned back. ⁴ The mountains skipped like rams, the hills like lambs. ⁵ What ails you, O sea, that you flee? O Jordan, that you turn back? ⁶ O mountains, that you skip like rams? O hills, like lambs? ⁷ Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob, ⁸ who turns the rock into a pool of water, the flint into a spring of water.

Identify the lines, noticing the parallels...

- ¹ When **Israel** went out from Egypt,
the **house of Jacob** from a people of strange language,
- ² **Judah** became his sanctuary,
Israel his dominion.
- ³ The **sea** looked and fled;
Jordan turned back.
- ⁴ The **mountains** skipped like **rams**,
the **hills** like **lambs**.
- ⁵ What ails you, O **sea**, that you flee?
O **Jordan**, that you turn back?
- ⁶ O **mountains**, that you skip like **rams**?
O **hills**, like **lambs**?
- ⁷ **Tremble**, O earth, at the presence of **the Lord**,
at the presence of **the God of Jacob**,
- ⁸ who turns the **rock** into a pool of water,
the **flint** into a spring of water.

Identify the stanzas, noticing any parallels...

- ¹ When **Israel** went out from Egypt,
the **house of Jacob** from a people of strange language,
- ² **Judah** became his sanctuary,
Israel his dominion.

- ³ The **sea** looked and fled;
Jordan turned back.

- ⁴ The **mountains** skipped like **rams**,
the **hills** like **lambs**.

- ⁵ What ails you, O **sea**, that you flee?
O **Jordan**, that you turn back?

- ⁶ O **mountains**, that you skip like **rams**?
O **hills**, like **lambs**?

- ⁷ **Tremble**, O earth, at the presence of **the Lord**,
at the presence of **the God of Jacob**,
- ⁸ who turns the **rock** into a pool of water,
the **flint** into a spring of water. ESV

Craft a Summary Title...

⇒ “Tremble at the God who Moved Waters and Mountains!”

Write down your initial observations and questions...

v1-2: from slavery to the privileged position of being the holy place where God dwells and rules.

v3-4: vivid language: the *personification* of the sea; mountains skipping!!

v3 and v5: See the poetic combination of Sea and Jordan, evoking both the deliverance at the Red Sea and the entry into the Promised Land.

v4 and v6: What is the reference to the skipping mountains/hills – is it the earthquake at Mt. Sinai? Or figurative: “God moved mountains for us”?

v7: Notice the Psalmist isn’t just addressing his own people, but the whole earth.

v8: In both v3-4 and v8 we see (1) God’s mighty acts... (2) for the care of his people. (in v3-4 for deliverance, in v8 for sustenance).