

Beginnings of Hallel

Contributed by [Jessica Belding](#)

Source: Translation based on Jewish Publication Society Bible (1917)

Although our seder is not over, we have filled the commandment to tell the story. Therefore, we begin to sing.

Betzeit yisrael mimitzrayim,..... בְּצֵאת יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמִּצְרַיִם
beit Ya'akov meam loez..... בֵּית יַעֲקֹב מֵעַם לֵעָז
Haytah yehudah lekodsho..... הָיְתָה יְהוּדָה לְקֹדֶשׁוֹ
Yisrael mamshelotav..... יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמְשָׁלוֹתָיו

Hayam ra'ah vayanos,..... הַיָּם רָאָה וַיָּנֹס
hayarden yisov leachor..... הַיַּרְדֵּן יָסַב לְאַחֹר
Heharim rakedu cheilim,..... הַהַרִים רָקְדוּ כְּאֵילִים
gevaot kivnei tzon..... גְּבָעוֹת כִּבְנֵי צֹאן

Mah lecha hayam ki tanus,..... מַה לְּךָ הַיָּם כִּי תָנוּס
hayarden tisov leachor..... הַיַּרְדֵּן תִּסַּב לְאַחֹר
Heharim tirkedu cheilim,..... הַהַרִים תִּרְקְדוּ כְּאֵילִים
gevaot kivnei tzon..... גְּבָעוֹת כִּבְנֵי צֹאן

Milifnei adon chuli aretz,..... מִלִּפְנֵי אֲדֹנָי חוּלֵי אֶרֶץ
Mlifnei eloah ya'akov..... מִלִּפְנֵי אֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב
Hahofechi hatzur agam mayim,..... הַהֹפְכִי הַצּוּר אֶגַם מַיִם
Chalamish lemayeno mayim..... חָלַמֵּיֶשׁ לְמַעַיְנו מַיִם

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Translation:

*When Israel came forth out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language;
Judah became His sanctuary, Israel His dominion.*

The sea saw it, and fled; the Jordan turned backward.

The mountains skipped like rams, the hills like young sheep.

What is has come upon you, the sea, that you flee? The Jordan, that you turn backward?

The mountains, that you skip like rams; the hills, like young sheep?

Tremble, earth, at the presence of the Master, at the presence of the God of Jacob;

Who turned the rock into a pool of water, the flint into a fountain of waters.