

Where's Your Chair?

Exodus 18 1-12



Salvation belongs to the Lord: may your blessing be upon your people.
Psalm 3:8

Praising:

At home, abroad in peace, in war,
thy God shall thee defend;
conduct thee through life's
pilgrimage
safe to thy journey's end.

Reading:

Exodus 18:1-12
The visit of Jethro

This family interlude for Moses breaks the action and serves two practical purposes. Firstly, it is a personal catch-up on events so far. Somehow Moses' wife Zipporah and her sons Gershom and Eliezer had been sent back from Egypt to Midian for safety. Perhaps it was obvious that the situation between the Egyptians and the Israelites was coming to a dangerous head. Secondly, it demonstrates the persuasive spiritual significance of all that

has already taken place. At one step removed from what has happened, it is not clear whether Jethro as priest of Midian is already a worshipper of the Lord. Yet as Moses recounts how God has so mightily delivered Israel, Jethro comes to rejoice in the great deeds of the God who has plainly given his son-in-law (Moses) victory after victory. A cultic celebration is the natural response.

Listening:

Praying:

We ask Lord for confidence

- in the power of the story of Christ to touch the hearts of people in every age and place
- in the power of our testimony to the transforming reality of Christ's love in our lives
- in the power of Christian witness, serving and sacrificing down the centuries

Father: looking back I see your leading and protecting; looking forwards I trust you for whatever lies ahead. Here and now, I give you the worship, praise and glory which are your due. Amen

Doing:

Friday, 26 August 2016