

THE WATERS OF MARAH



Exodus 15:22-27, ESV – ²² Then Moses made Israel set out from the Red Sea, and they went into the wilderness of Shur. They went three days in the wilderness and found no water. ²³ When they came to Marah, they could not drink the water of Marah because it was bitter; therefore it was named Marah. ²⁴ And the people grumbled against Moses, saying, “What shall we drink?” ²⁵ And he cried to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a log, and he threw it into the water, and the water became sweet.

There the LORD made for them a statute and a rule, and there he tested them, ²⁶ saying, “If you will diligently listen to the voice of the LORD your God, and do that which is right in his eyes, and give ear to his commandments and keep all his statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you that I put on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, your healer.”

²⁷ Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve springs of water and seventy palm trees, and they encamped there by the water.

Notes:

1.

2.

3.

SERMON-BASED STUDY

For the week of September 27, 2020

Exodus 15:22-27

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 In what ways does the journey of Israel in the exodus mirror the Christian life?
- 2 This weekend we were reminded that there are times where we will be led into "the wilderness." Share a time when you have refused to step into what God has next for you because you were still lingering on past triumphs.
- 3 Our "wilderness" experiences are intended to teach us dependence on God. Share a time when you have had to learn a new, deeper, level of dependence on God.

DIGGING DEEPER

A **Matthew 6:1-11, ESV** – *Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ² And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³ And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴ But he answered, "It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" ⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶ and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you," and "On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'" ⁷ Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.'" ¹¹ Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.*

4 In the passage above, we see Jesus going through His own “wilderness” experience. How did Jesus deal with this experience? What lessons can we learn from His example?

5 Why do you think Jesus had to go through this experience? What lessons or benefits do you think He gained from His time in the wilderness?

B *Psalm 107:4-9, ESV – ⁴ Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to a city to dwell in; ⁵ hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them. ⁶ Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. ⁷ He led them by a straight way till they reached a city to dwell in.*

⁸ Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man! ⁹ For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things.

6 Psalm 107 refers to Israel’s rescue from their disastrous situation. How is their situation analogous to the plight of all sinners?

7 How is Jesus’ self-offer as the Way, the Water of Life, and the Bread of Life parallel to how God rescued Israel?

C *Psalm 118:5-7, ESV – ⁵ Out of my distress I called on the LORD; the LORD answered me and set me free. ⁶ The LORD is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me? ⁷ The LORD is on my side as my helper; I shall look in triumph on those who hate me.*

8 Similar to the Psalmist, we tend to only call out to the Lord during times of distress. Why do we not call out to the Lord during good times?

9 Share a time when you have called out to God in a moment of distress. How did He answer you? What lessons did you learn from that experience?

TAKING IT HOME

God's intention for our wilderness experiences is to teach us how to live in greater dependence on God. Share with your group or accountability partner what areas of life you need to become more dependent on God and pray for a transformed heart that is dependent on Him.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

→

→

→

→

→

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Psalm 46:1, 62:5

Proverbs 3:5-6

John 15:5

Galatians 5:16

Hebrews 4:16, 13:6