



Jehovah Rapha, The God Who Heals
Exodus 15
June 22, 2014

Without a doubt, hospitals and medical clinics are growing and expanding in our area and surrounding areas. Why? Because for most people, life is filled with hurts, pains, and emotional trauma. Most everyone we know today is in need of a physician.

I. The Burdens We All Face.

Exodus 15:22a Then Moses made Israel set out from the Red Sea, and they went into the wilderness of Shur...

God's Principle:

Sometimes the only way to get from Egypt (where they had been delivered from) to Canaan (where they were being delivered to) is through the wilderness.

II. The Bitterness We All Fight.

Exodus 15:24 And the people grumbled against Moses, saying, what shall we drink?

Key Observation:

Somewhere between Verse 1 and Verse 24 the people went from singing, to murmuring and complaining. In a matter of 24 hours they went from sunshine to rain.

Principle:

It doesn't take us long to forget what God has done, therefore we are often oblivious to what God can do.

God's tests are always concerning life lessons we should already know. He never tests us in areas where we have never been.

Tests and trials are designed to do two things:

1. To demonstrate whether or not we have paid attention to lessons learned.
2. To give God the opportunity to reveal something new to us.

Principle:

Christianity isn't supposed to be a lifetime of smooth sailing. The Christian life is a hard life, but yet it is a life in which Christ exchanges lives with you. God's *process* of getting us *there* is as important as the *result*. Our *journey* through the wilderness is as important as our *arrival* into the Promised Land.

Phillip Brooks:

"Do not pray for easy lives. Pray to be stronger men and women. Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers. Pray for powers equal to your tasks."

Trials and troubles do one of two things. We either get *better* or *bitter*. Bitterness is a stage we can go through, but it must never become a state you live in.

III. The Blessings We All Can Find

Exodus 15:25a And he cried (prayed) out to the Lord and the Lord showed him a tree, which when he had cast into the waters, the waters were made sweet...

Principle:

The next time you are tempted to throw in the towel, just throw in the tree.

Randy Alcorn:

"Too many Christians want to come to church, read their Bibles, say their prayers without yielding to God and His authority. And yet they wonder why their hearts, minds, and bodies aren't healed. The reason is clear—they're not fully yielded to His control."