

Journey To The Center Of The Will Of God

Exodus 15:22-27

22. Then Moses led Israel from the Red Sea and they went into the Desert of Shur. For three days they traveled in the desert without finding water.

23. When they came to Marah, they could not drink its water because it was bitter. (That is why the place is called Marah.)

24. So the people grumbled against Moses, saying, "What are we to drink?"

25. Then Moses cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a piece of wood. He threw it into the water, and the water became sweet. There the LORD made a decree and a law for them, and there he tested them.

26. He said, "If you listen carefully to the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, who heals you."

27. Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve springs and seventy palm trees, and they camped there near the water.

I. We come to the place of DELIVERANCE!

vs. 22a - "Then Moses led Israel from the Red Sea ..."

Ex. 13:17-18 - When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them on the road through the Philistine country, though that was shorter. For God said, "If they face war, they might change their minds and return to Egypt." So God led the people around by the desert road toward the Red Sea. The Israelites went up out of Egypt armed for battle.

Ex. 14:9-12 - The Egyptians--all Pharaoh's horses and chariots, horsemen and troops--pursued the Israelites and overtook them as they camped by the sea near Pi Hahiroth, opposite Baal Zephon. As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the LORD. They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you brought us to the desert to die? What have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt? Didn't we say to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone; let us serve the Egyptians'? It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!"

II. We come to the place of DRYNESS!

vs. 22b - "...they went into the Desert of Shur. For three days they traveled in the desert without finding water."

STATS by Barna:

- (a) Stressed Out: 31%
- (b) Too Busy: 49%
- (c) Needing New Friends: 50%
- (d) In Debt: 40%
- (e) Dealing with Addiction: 11%
- (f) Self-Sufficient: 90%
- (g) Searching for purpose: 48%
- (h) Skeptical: 55%

Luke 4:1-2 - Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.

III. We come to the place of DISAPPOINTMENT!

vs. 23, 24 – When they came to Marah, they could not drink its water because it was bitter. (That is why the place is called Marah.) So the people grumbled against Moses, saying, "What are we to drink?"

IV. We come to the place of DIRECTION!

vs. 25, 26 - "Then Moses cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a piece of wood. He threw it into the water, and the water became sweet. There the LORD made a decree and a law for them, and there he tested them. He said, "If you listen carefully to the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, who heals you." ..."

Heb. 3:6-8 - But Christ is faithful as a son over God's house. And we are his house, if we hold on to our courage and the hope of which we boast. So, as the Holy Spirit says: "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion, during the time of testing in the desert,

V. We come to the place of DRENCHING!

vs. 27 - "Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve springs and seventy palm trees, and they camped there near the water."

12 = Perfect government, The product of 3 (perfection of divinity) x 4 (the number of the earth) Heaven on Earth, 12 foundations of the Heavenly Jerusalem

70 = The product of 7 (Spiritual perfection and fullness or completion. It is the number of Covenant and of the Holy Spirit) and 10 (Perfection of divine order), Jesus sent out 70 disciples