

## EXODUS 15 –Bitter Into Sweet.

### I. Singing to the LORD.

- i. (1-5) The Lord is a man of war.

The first song in the Bible as Moses led the nation into the wilderness on the other side of the Red Sea. They sang this song when their salvation was real to them.

He has triumphed; He is our strength, Song, God...

- ii. (6-10) **You have overthrown those who rose against You.**

His glorious power has dashed the enemy in pieces, consumed and sunk them.

- iii. (11-19) **Who is like You, O Lord, among the gods?**

If the people of Egypt still did not know who the Lord was, the people of Israel did. They knew the Lord was not like any of the false gods of Egypt or Canaan.

**Moses and the children of Israel knew that the victory was also a notice to the enemies of Israel; they would become afraid when they heard of the great things God did for Israel.**

- iv. (20-21) Miriam, Moses' sister, leads the women in worship.

*Zechariah 14:3 - Then **the LORD** will go forth and fight against those nations, as He  **fights**  in  **the**  day of battle.*

*Deuteronomy 3:22 - 'You must not fear them, for  **the LORD**  your God Himself  **fights**  for you.'*

*Revelation 20:10 - The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.*

### II. (22-27) Bitter Into Sweet.

God led them into the Wilderness of Shur, three days without water and when they find some, it was bitter.

“Three days is the maximum time the human body can go without water in the desert.” (Buckingham).

In the same direction, God gives them a remedy for making the water drinkable, using a tree.

We can say that God was not only interested in getting the children of Israel out of Egypt; He also wanted to get Egypt out of the children of Israel – both physically and spiritually.

God **tested** Israel by giving them a command to obey. When God tells us what to do, He really gives us a test. Our obedience determines if we pass the test or not.

It had yet to be demonstrated by testing whether the children of Israel were a worshipping people who occasionally murmured, or if they were a murmuring people who occasionally worshipped. Their true nature would be revealed in times of testing.

Marah was a place of bitterness and testing, but God healed the waters, refreshed them and led them to rest at Elim. Moses taught them that enjoying God's blessings is going to require following His instructions.

**When sorrow seems to surround you, When suffering hangs heavy over your head, Know that tomorrow brings wholeness and healing, God knows your need, just believe what He said. He gives beauty for ashes, Strength for fear, Gladness for mourning, Peace for despair.**

*Isaiah 61:1-3 - "The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, because the LORD has anointed Me to preach **good tidings to the poor**; He has sent Me to **heal the brokenhearted**, **to proclaim liberty to the captives**, and **the opening of the prison to those who are bound**; to **proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD**, and **the day of vengeance of our God**; **to comfort all who mourn**, **to console those who mourn** in Zion, **to give them beauty for ashes**, **the oil of joy for mourning**, **the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness**; that they may be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified."*

*Psalms 30:5 - For His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for life; **weeping may endure for a night**, **but joy comes in the morning**.*

*Psalms 30:11-12 - You have turned for me **my mourning into dancing**; **You have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness**, to the end that my glory may **sing praise to You and not be silent**. O LORD my God, I will give thanks to You forever.*