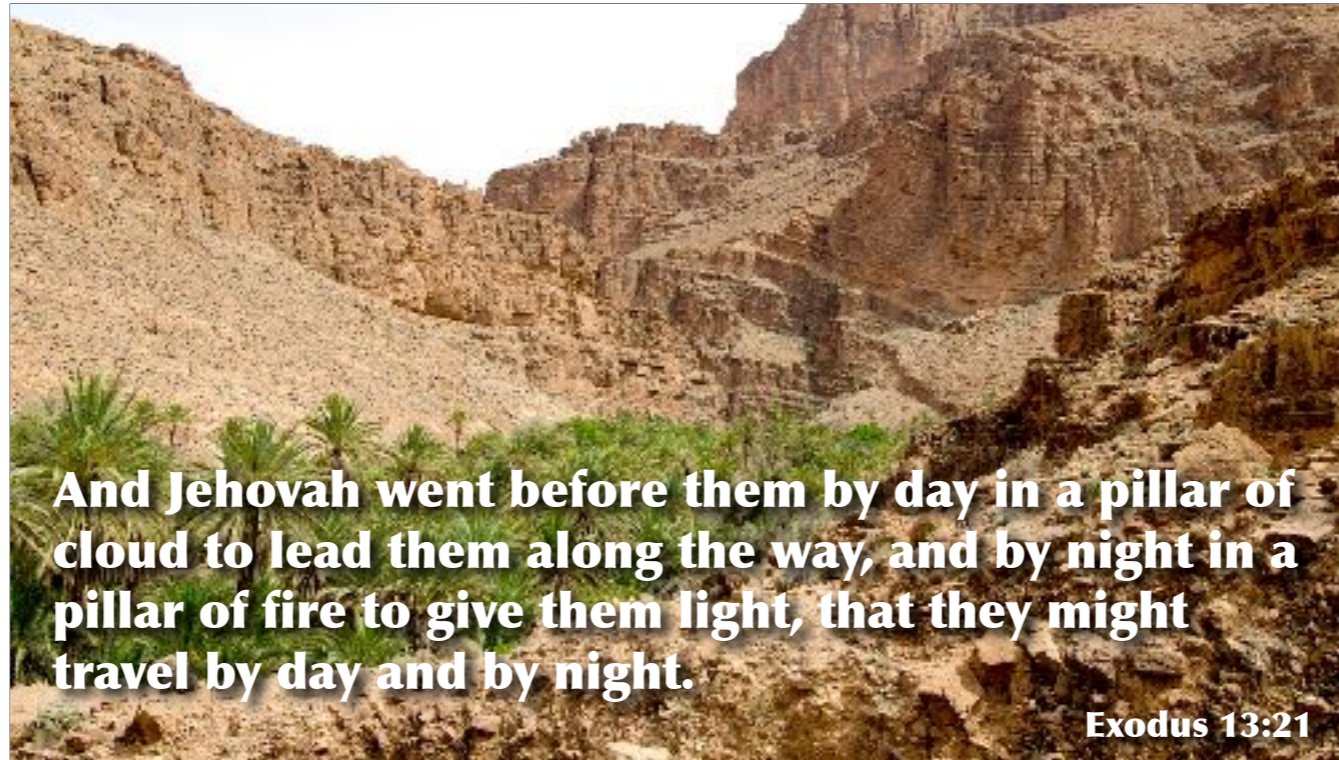
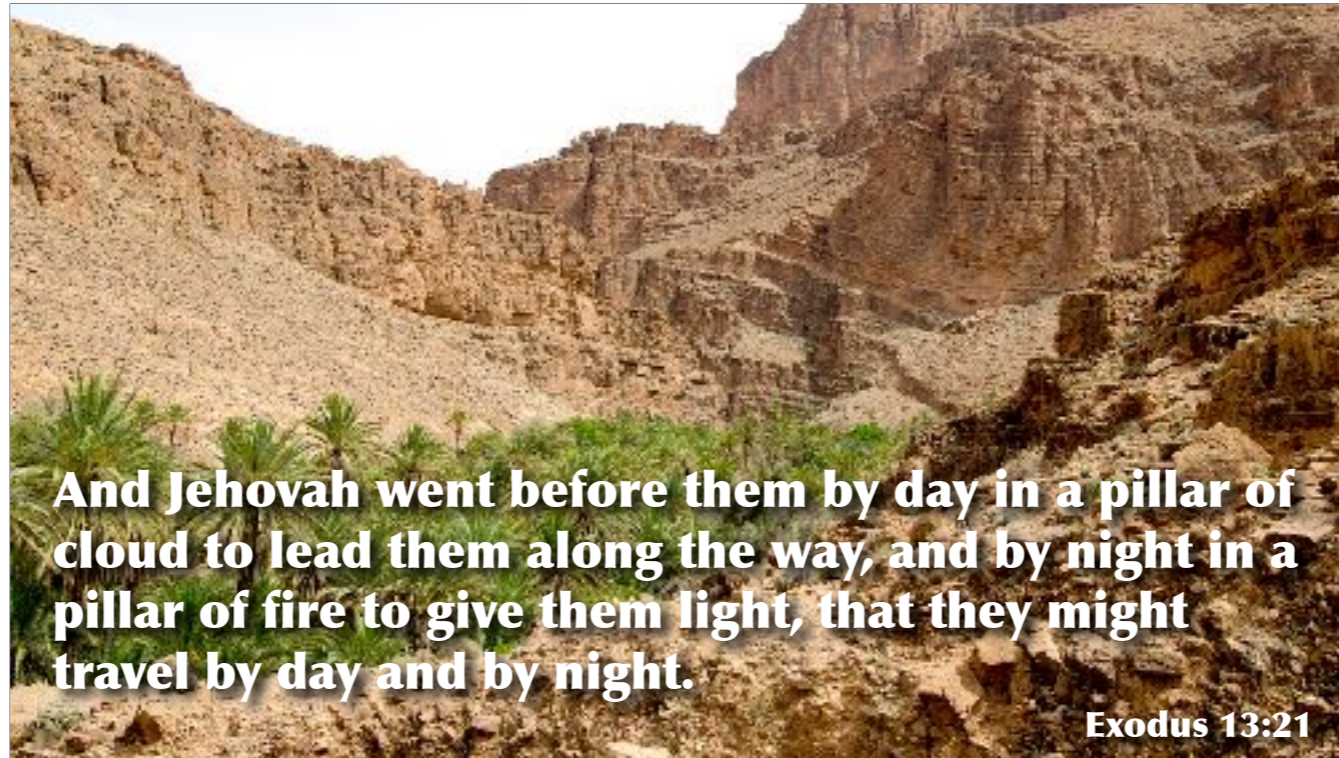




- Exodus 15:22-27



- Exodus 13:17 — When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near. For God said, “Lest the people change their minds when they see war and return to Egypt.”
- Exodus 13:21-22 — And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night. 22 The pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night did not depart from before the people.



And Jehovah went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night.

Exodus 13:21

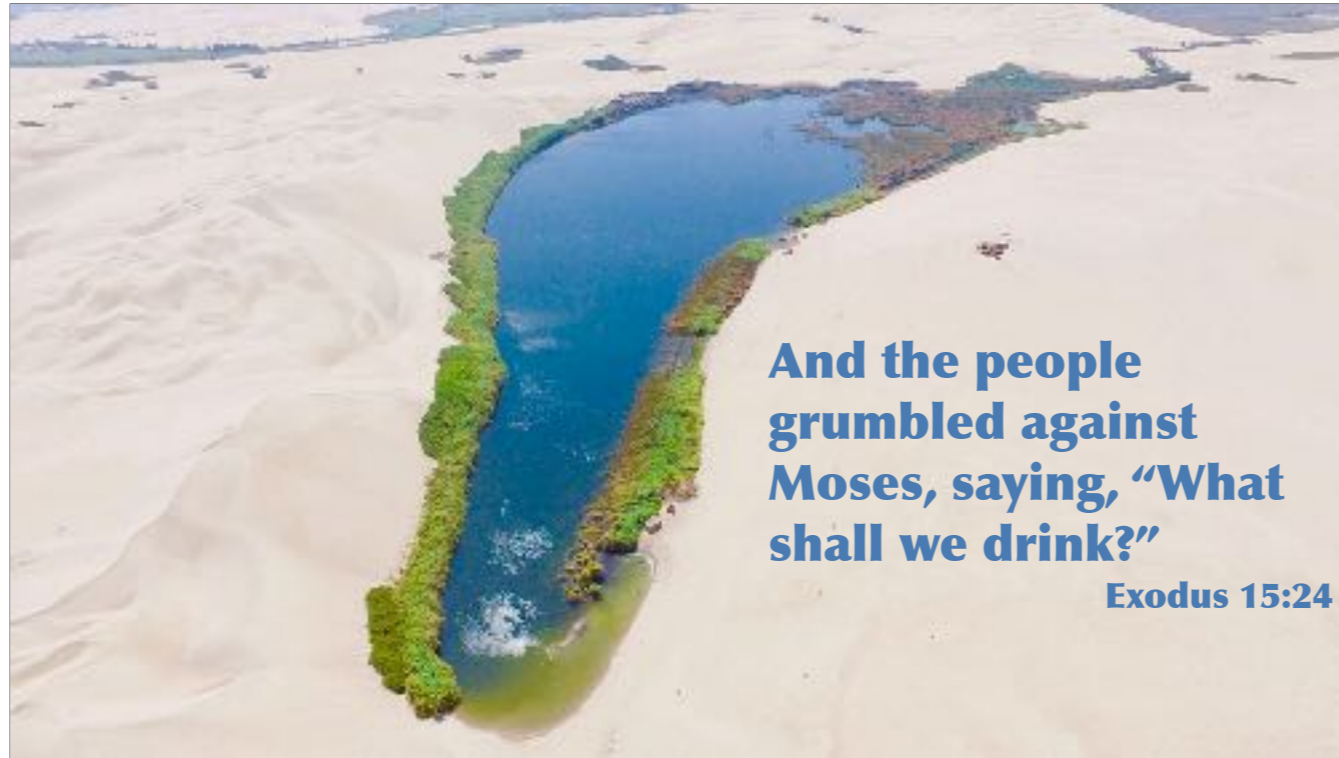
- Going to the promised land ... as promised to Abraham; flowing with milk and honey
- God's power displayed in Egypt and Red Sea
- God's love displayed that He rescued Israel from slavery
- God's leadership
 - following God's lead; following in His way
 - do you really trust God to lead you?
 - what happens when the way becomes difficult and deadly?



- Exodus 15:22 — 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.
- How desperate were the people for water?
 - A person needs about 0.5 gallons of water per day. For 2 million people that would be about a million gallons of water.
 - usgs: You would need to build a pool about 267 feet long (almost as long as a football field), 50 feet wide, and 10 feet deep.
(https://www.usgs.gov/special-topic/water-science-school/science/a-million-gallons-water-how-much-it?qt-science_center_objects=0#qt-science_center_objects)
 - Plus livestock.



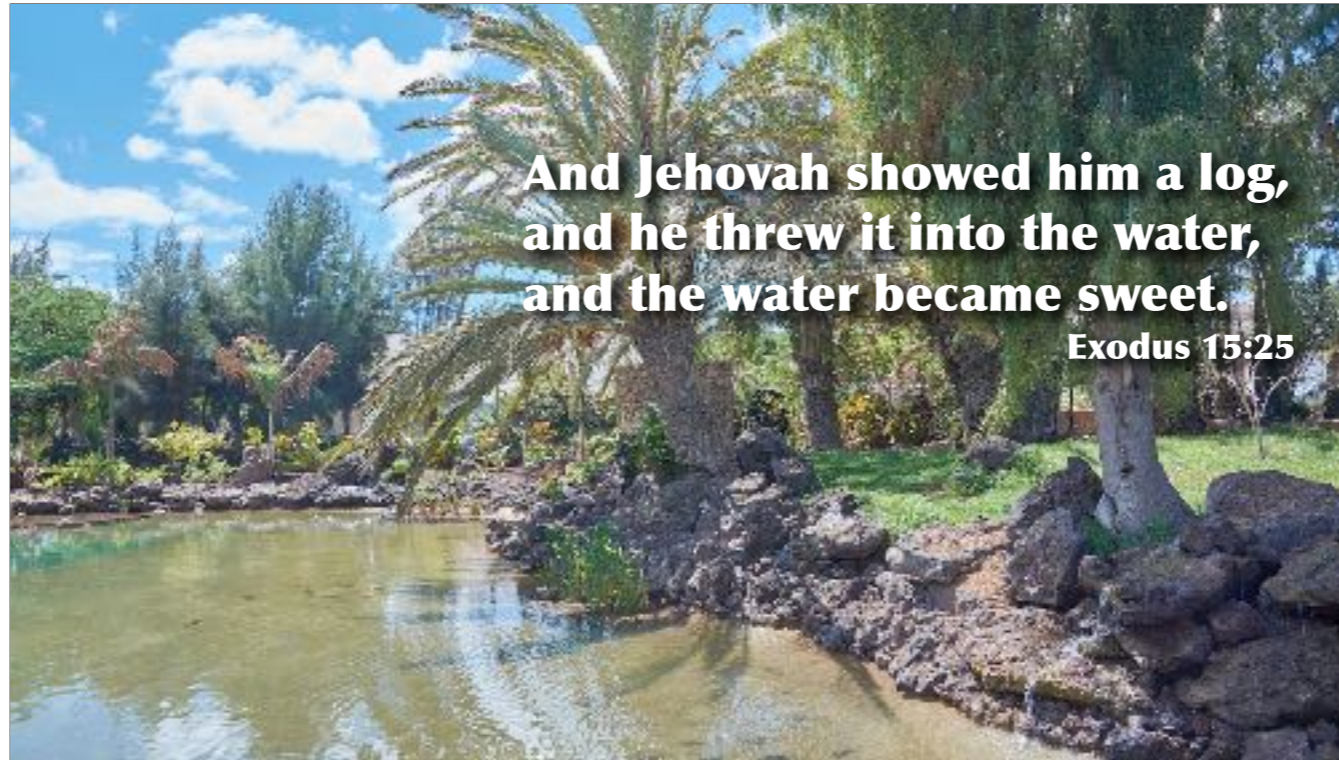
- 23 When they came to Marah, they could not drink the water of Marah because it was bitter; therefore it was named Marah.



**And the people
grumbled against
Moses, saying, “What
shall we drink?”**

Exodus 15:24

- Exodus 15:24 — And the people grumbled against Moses, saying, “What shall we drink?”
- This is easy to understand: hopes had been crushed.
- Who started the grumbling?
 - How fast did it spread?
 - “The water’s not drinkable!”
 - “What are we going to do now?”
 - “Why would Moses lead us here?” “Does he know what he’s doing?”
 - “Why would God lead us here?” “Is he trying to kill us?”
- Ultimately the struggle is about how you think about God.



- Exodus 15:25 — 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.
- What kind of wood turns water from bitter to sweet?
 - Not about science
 - About the power of God.
- Text doesn't mention the response of the people, but not hard to guess: joy, hope, gratefulness



- There the LORD made for them a statute and a rule, and there he tested them,
- This was not an accident, God lead them to these waters on purpose!
- What was God testing? and Why?
 - (MED) denotes the testing of a person's loyalty or obedience and may be translated "test, prove."
 - (MED) Deut. 8:2-3 suggests that the wilderness experience was a test of deprivation intended to teach the people that covenant relationship is more than just depending on God for food; it requires in addition absolute loyalty to his every word. In the ancient Near East, a superior king would measure or test for the loyalty of an inferior king or vassal by means of his demonstrated obedience to the stipulation of the treaty. In the new covenant, believers are called to demonstrate loyalty in response to the one who has demonstrated perfect obedience and stands in our place before God.
 - Deuteronomy 8:1-10 (ESV) 1 "The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers. 2 And you shall remember the whole way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. 3 And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. 4 Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years. 5 Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the LORD your God disciplines you. 6 So you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him. 7 For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing out in the valleys and hills, 8 a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, 9 a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper. 10 And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land he has given you.



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If you will diligently **listen to the voice of Jehovah
your God, and **do** that which is right in his eyes, and
give ear to his commandments and **keep** all his
statutes**

Exodus 15:26

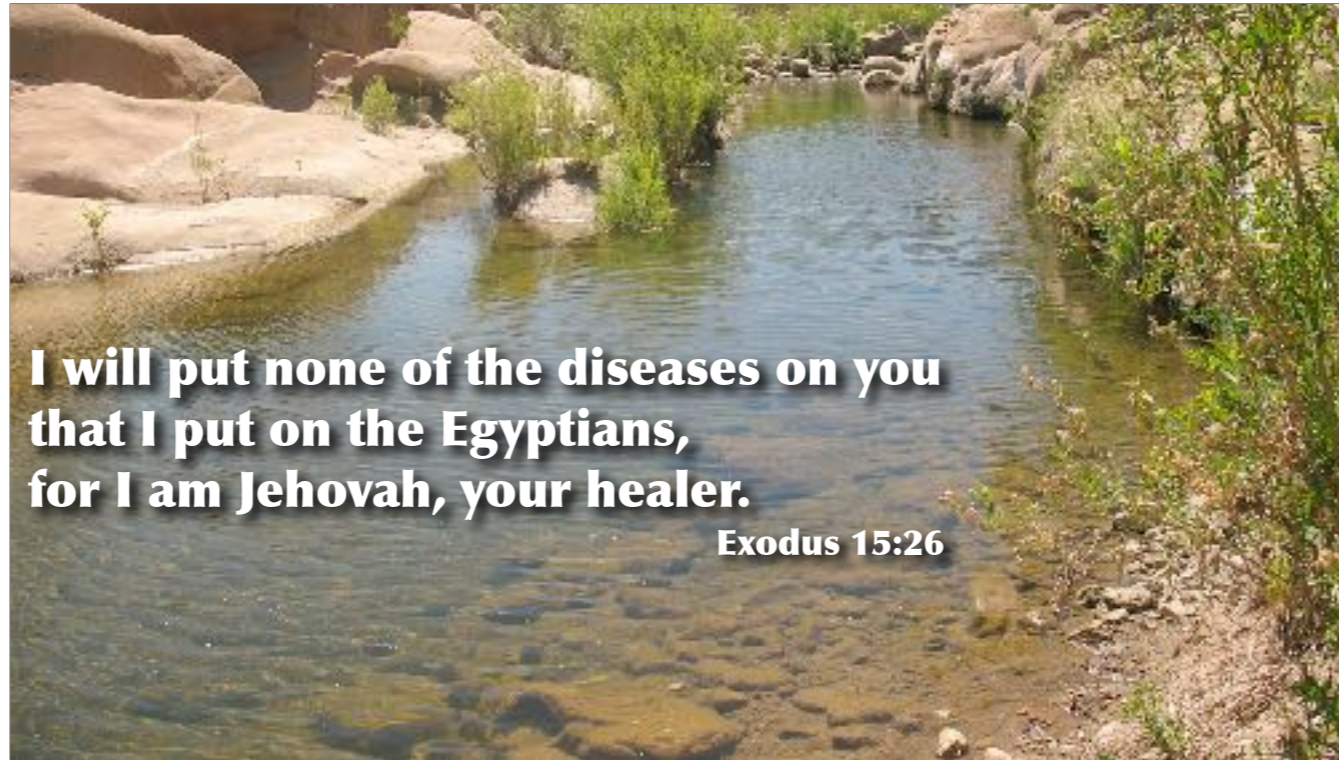
- Exodus 15:26 (ESV) 26 saying,
 - “If you will diligently listen to the voice of the LORD your God,
 - and do that which is right in his eyes,
 - and give ear to his commandments
 - and keep all his statutes,



If you will diligently **listen to the voice of Jehovah your God, and **do** that which is right in his eyes, and **give ear** to his commandments and **keep** all his statutes**

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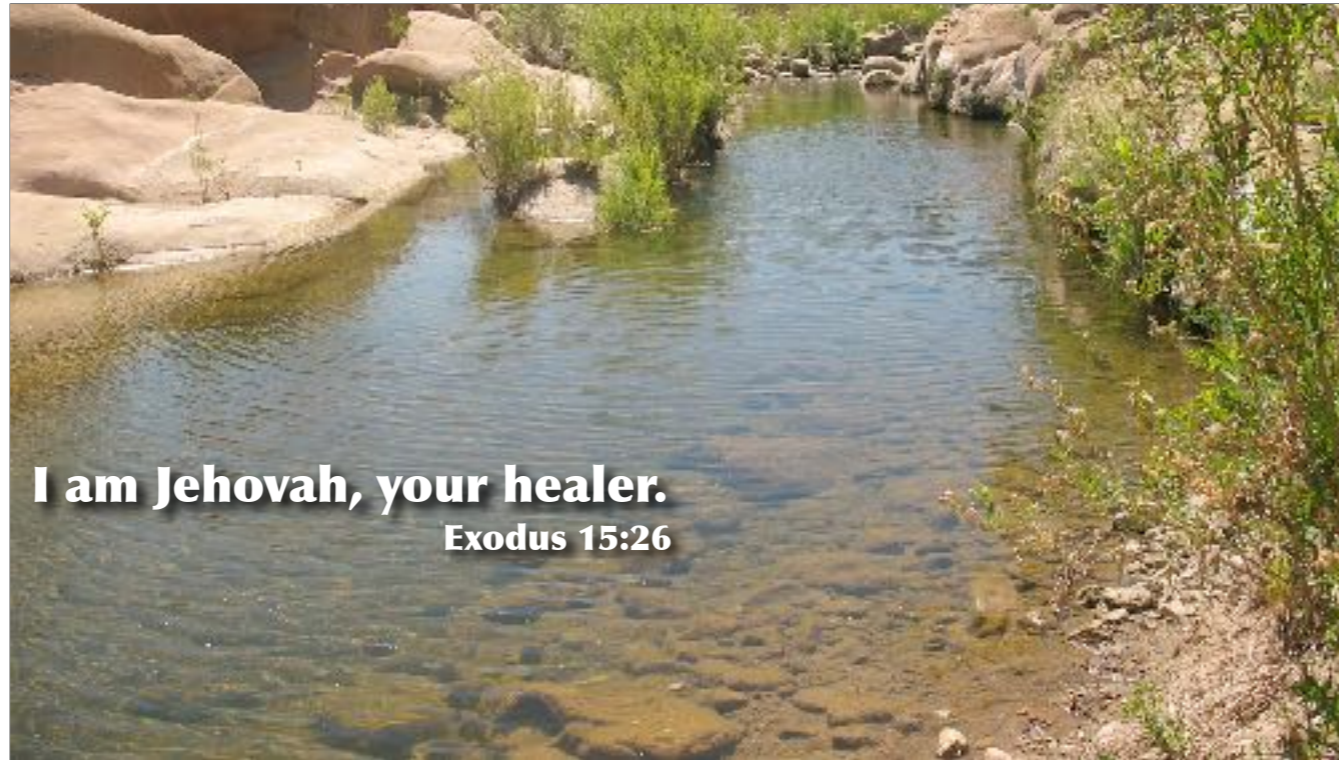
- Is God just asking for obedience?
 - Or is there more? Not obedience sake just because God demands it.
 - Why do we listen and obey?
 - TRUST.
- Do I trust God to lead me home by His way?



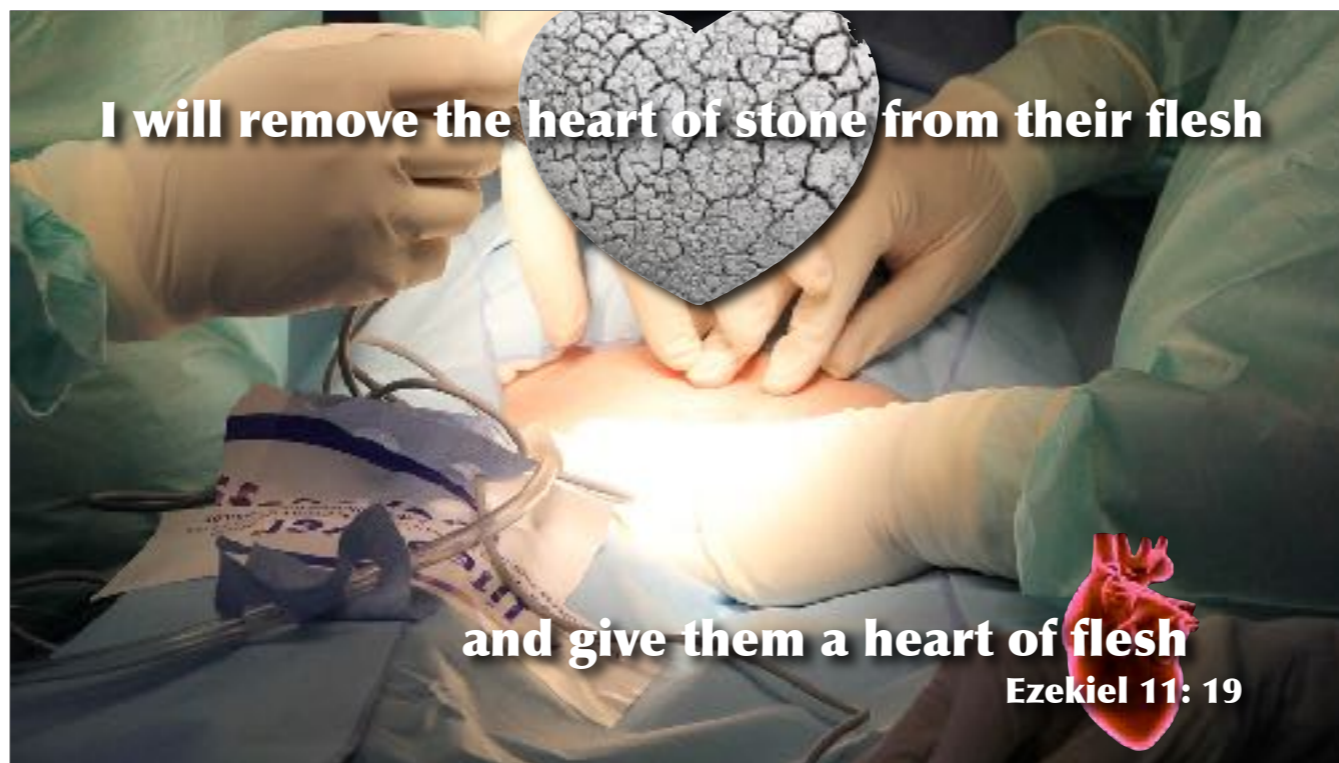
**I will put none of the diseases on you
that I put on the Egyptians,
for I am Jehovah, your healer.**

Exodus 15:26

- Exodus 15:26 — I will put none of the diseases on you that I put on the Egyptians, for I am JEHOVAH, your healer.”
- This is almost a non sequitur.
- What’s the connection between obeying God (trusting God) and God being a healer?
 - God wants good for us, plans good for us; wants us to trust him, follow him, however difficult the way becomes
 - Do you think God is working for your good or seeking ways to punish you?
- Jehovah is your healer!!!



- Jehovah is your healer!!!
- Psalms 103:2-3 (ESV) 2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, 3 who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

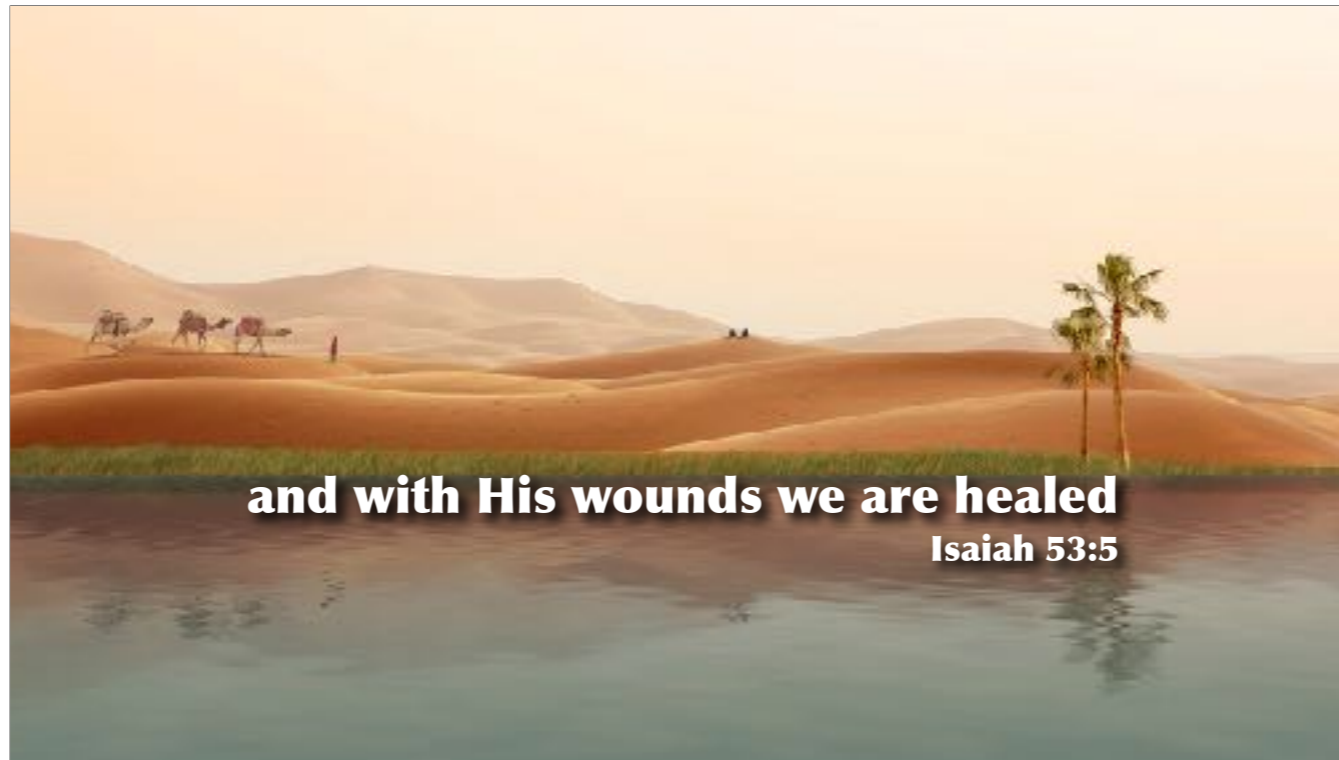


- Ezekiel 11:19-20 (ESV) 19 And I will give them one heart, and a new spirit I will put within them. I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, 20 that they may walk in my statutes and keep my rules and obey them. And they shall be my people, and I will be their God.

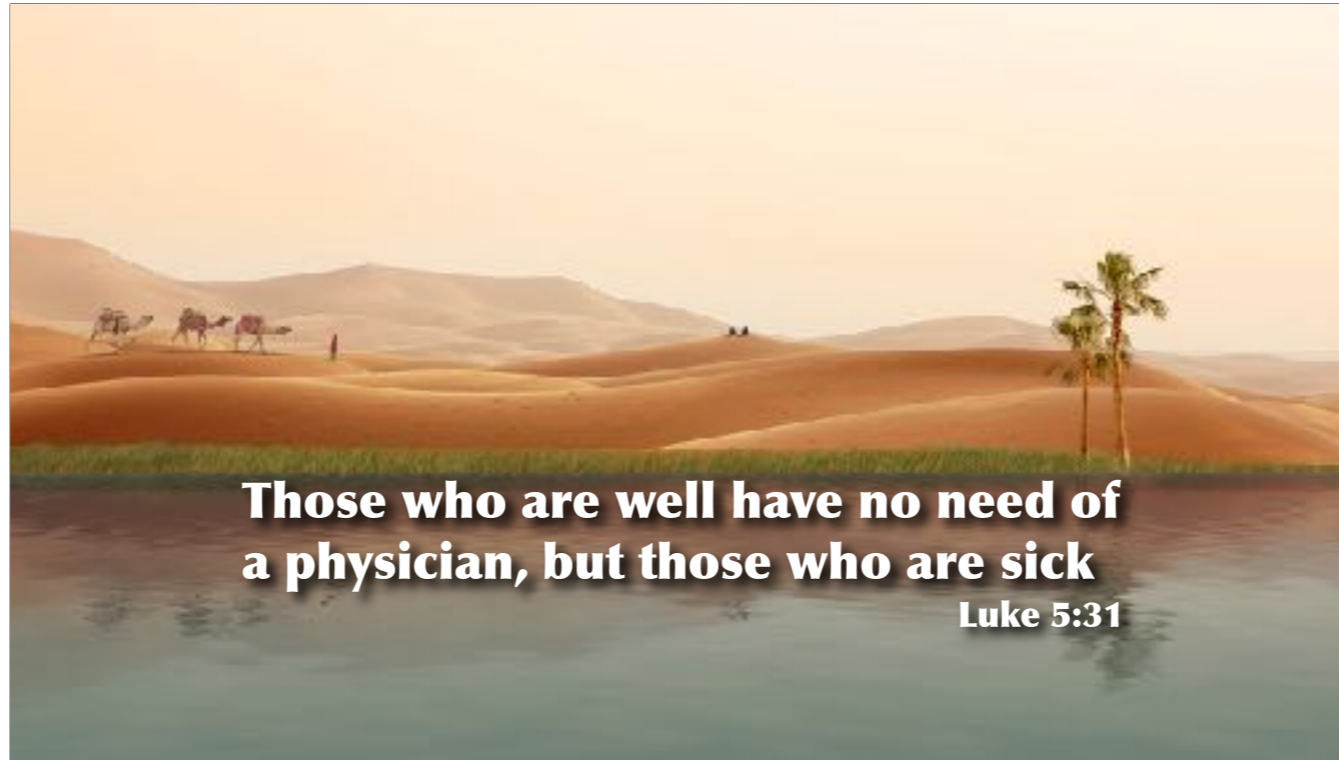


Do you trust Jehovah to lead you and heal you?

- Do you trust Jehovah to lead you and heal you?
- So many people are looking in the wrong places for refreshment.
 - Find bitter water. Grumble.
 - Blame God



- Jesus gave himself so that you could be healed!
 - Isaiah 53:4-5 (ESV) 4 Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. 5 But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.



- Luke 5:31-32 (ESV) 31 And Jesus answered them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. 32 I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.”
- Sick ... sin
 - Often struggle with understanding that sin is a spiritual sickness, worse than any physical disease
- repentance ... change; follow Him not self



- The test is not just at the beginning of our journey, but all along.
- Saul (Paul)
 - Acts 9:17-19 (ESV) 17 So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” 18 And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; 19 and taking food, he was strengthened.



- Acts 9:19-20 (ESV) For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. 20 And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”
- Acts 9:22 (ESV) 22 But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.



- Acts 9:23-25 (ESV) 23 When many days had passed, the Jews plotted to kill him, 24 but their plot became known to Saul. They were watching the gates day and night in order to kill him, 25 but his disciples took him by night and let him down through an opening in the wall, lowering him in a basket



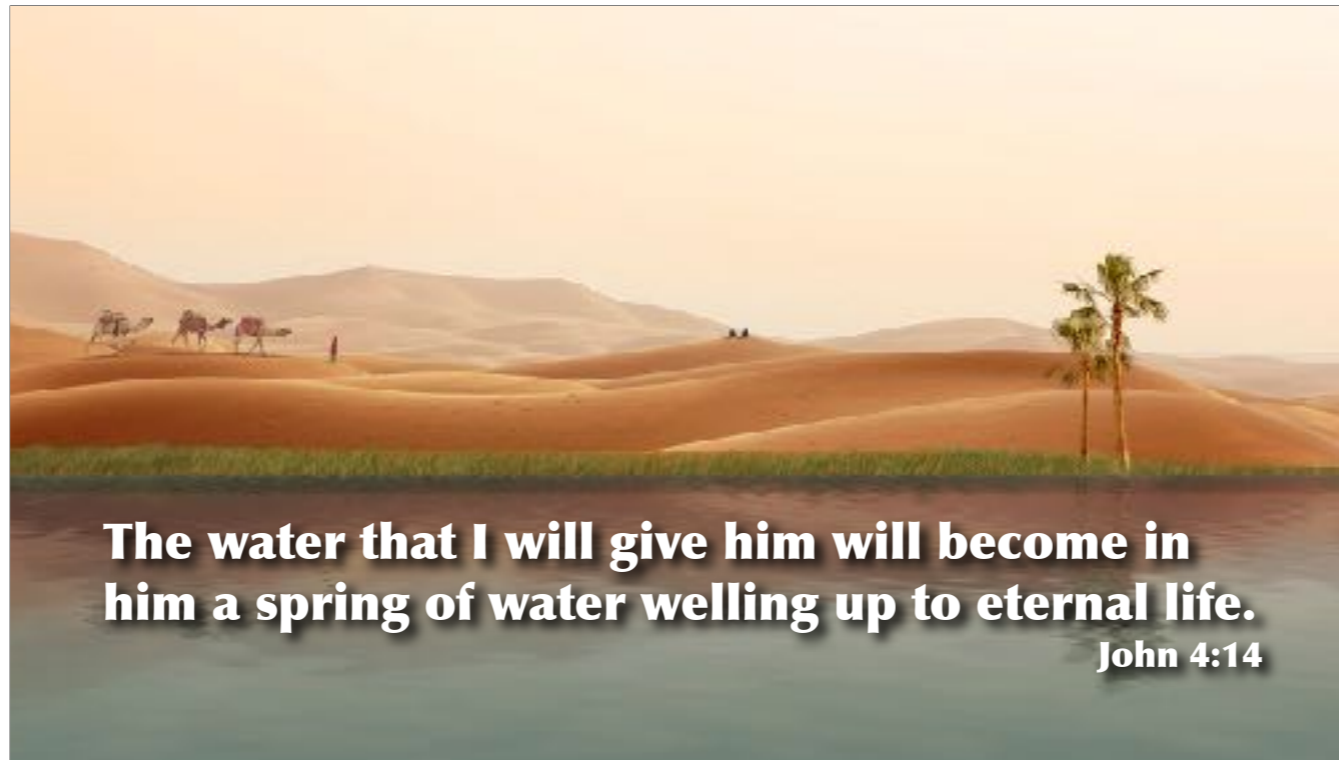
- If right after you became a Christian you had to run for your life would you keep trusting him?
- Would you grumble? question God?
- Or would you trust him more?



For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.

Acts 9:16

- Acts 9:16 — For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.”
 - But Saul never stopped, he trusted in Jesus, followed him, and obeyed Him.
- So how are you doing with all the trials and tests in being a follower of Jesus?
 - When things become difficult, do you grumble against church? Jesus?
 - Do you have a heart of stone? stubborn?
 - Or do you choose to trust God, listen to him, obey him and keep following him?



- John 4:14 — but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

**We implore you on
behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.**

2 Corinthians 5:20

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Your Healer

Exodus 15:22-27

Synopsis: When God lead the Israelites into the wilderness, after three days without finding water they arrive at a place with only bitter water and the people complain to Moses. However Jehovah has brought them to this place as a test, to help them see how important it is to trust him wherever he may lead them.

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“Let all that you do be done with love.”