



## Lesson #7: Jehovah-Rapha

As we turn to Exodus 15 we read that the Israelites are going through a “\_\_\_\_\_.” The Lord had just delivered them from out of the bondage of Egypt. Exodus 15 begins by recording Israel’s celebration after crossing the Red Sea. Both \_\_\_\_\_ (15:1-19) and \_\_\_\_\_ (15:20-21) sing songs of praise. But verse 22 makes an abrupt change. After the songs of triumph we have a record of Israel’s murmuring and discontentment. They had just trusted God to lead them out of Egypt but now he had placed them in the wilderness where there was no \_\_\_\_\_. In a stunning shift of irony these bitter people come to a bitter source of water (“Marra” means water). This teachable moment was meant to address one of life’s fallen conditions: When life is \_\_\_\_\_ we tend to become \_\_\_\_\_.

As God teaches the Israelites in the midst of (or perhaps because of) their broken condition he reveals to them a new name for Himself. “Jehovah-Rapha” (sometimes translated “Jehovah-Rophi” or “Jehovah-Rophe”). The name means “I am the LORD that healeth thee” (15:26). This morning, let’s step back in time and join Israel at Marah. Together, we will glean from Jehovah-Rapha some timeless “life lessons.”

### JEHOVAH-RAPHA TEACHES US ABOUT THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_\_

As the Israelites came into the wilderness they did so grumbling at Moses saying, “What shall we drink” (15:24). They failed to reason that if Yahweh can hold back the walls of the water in the Red Sea he can surely provide water now

- A. Life is a \_\_\_\_\_**  
Life is full of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. After the miracles of the Red Sea comes the misery of the wilderness. I suppose the Israelites, like a lot of people in our day, assumed that once you sign up to follow the Lord everything is going to be perfect. But that is faulty thinking!
- B. Life has a \_\_\_\_\_**  
When Israel arrived at Marah, they seem to forget all the wonderful things God had just done for them. They were struggling with a case of spiritual \_\_\_\_\_. They forgot that up until that time The Lord had proven Himself to be in absolute control. Jehovah-Rapha had fixed broken situations before; surely He could do it again!

### JEHOVAH-RAPHA TEACHES US ABOUT OUR \_\_\_\_\_ ON \_\_\_\_\_

God had more in mind than to have simply delivered His people out of Egypt. And so, in order to equip the people of Israel, and train them to live for Him, God allowed them to be tested and tried.

- A. We tend to live only by \_\_\_\_\_**  
In Exodus 15, God is using a powerful object lesson to show His people that there need is not for \_\_\_\_\_, but for the healing of their \_\_\_\_\_ souls. They were looking only by sight and God wanted them to live by faith!
- B. We tend to never be \_\_\_\_\_**  
Just three days before the events of Marah these people had seen the Lord do great things on their behalf. When all these things happened they opened their mouths and praised the Lord in song. Now they are standing by a pool of bitter water, complaining because the Lord didn’t do it their \_\_\_\_\_, in their \_\_\_\_\_. That is where bitterness comes from. Bitterness is \_\_\_\_\_. It comes when ...
- 1) I wanted it and God said \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2) I had it and God \_\_\_\_\_ it away
- Those who are most susceptible to bitterness are those who are never \_\_\_\_\_.

### JEHOVAH-RAPHA TEACHES US ABOUT THE \_\_\_\_\_ FOR THIS \_\_\_\_\_

God uses Marah’s in our lives to remove all false \_\_\_\_\_ one by one so we will trust in Him alone.

- A. God is aware of your \_\_\_\_\_**  
It came as no surprise to God that the Israelites came to the bitter waters of Marah. He, Himself, had planned the journey. Aren’t you glad that we serve a God who knows what we need before we even need it? He is \_\_\_\_\_!
- B. God is \_\_\_\_\_ to meet your needs**  
The last line of Exodus 15:26 brings the truth of the verse home. “I am the LORD your healer.” It is very interesting that God says He is the healer of Israel, not the \_\_\_\_\_. God’s main concern was not to fix all of Israel’s outward circumstances. His goal was to work on the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Israelites. More important than the sweetening of the waters was the sweetening of their \_\_\_\_\_.

### Concluding Thoughts

At Marah God revealed Himself to Israel as “JEHOVAH-RAPHA” or “The Lord your \_\_\_\_\_.” Marah was a teaching moment in Israel’s history. It was a “life lesson.” If Israel had never faced this bitter time, they would never have known this aspect of God’s character. Truly, we all too often respond to the broken situations in life with bitter spirits. But, because Jehovah-Rapha can fix our \_\_\_\_\_ problems we need to rely on Him in the midst of our \_\_\_\_\_.