

## Exodus Chapter 15 - Marah and Elim - Obedience Brings Healing

**I Corinthians 10:10** Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.

**I Corinthians 10:11** Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

**Exodus 15:22** So Moses brought Israel from the Red sea, and they went out into the wilderness of Shur; and they went three days in the wilderness, and found no water.

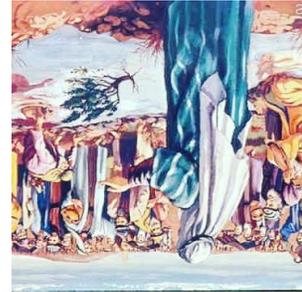
**Exodus 15:23** And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter: therefore the name of it was called Marah.

**Exodus 15:24** And the people murmured against Moses, saying, What shall we drink?

**Exodus 15:25** And he cried unto the LORD; and the LORD shewed him a tree, which when he had cast into the waters, the waters were made sweet: there he made for them a statute and an ordinance, and there he proved them,

**Exodus 15:26** And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee.

**Exodus 15:27** And they came to Elim, where were twelve wells of water, and threescore and ten palm trees: and they encamped there by the waters.



After experiencing the Deliverance of the Lord from Egyptian Bondage and celebrating the first Passover their last night in Egypt and beginning the unleavened Bread, the Children of Israel and miraculously delivered on dry land across the Red Sea, now are brought out by Moses into the Wilderness of Shur for three days. They evidently came to a place that looked like an oasis in the wilderness, but they could not drink the water, because it was bitter. The Hebrew word is *Marah* meaning "Bitterness" and the place they saw the bitter water was named "Marah". God is teaching His people a great lesson concerning what is the most important and needed in their lives. This was a trial for these people, but they did not believe God's Word in Exodus 6 that He would deliver them **out of** Egyptian bondage **unto** the Land (The walk of faith), instead they murmured against Moses. God does not break His promise, but is Faithful, God is not going to let the people die of thirst. That murmuring, as well as, a host of other sins we will find brings bitterness. Now these people are a type of our walk through trials with God; and if we do the same crazy things they did, it will bring bitterness in our lives as well. Without faith it is impossible to please God. (Hebrews 11:6)

**Hebrews 4:1** Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.

**Hebrews 4:2** For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.

**Hebrews 4:3** For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.

What these people need, and we need today, is “Water”. But not the natural water, not the “Bitter water” of Marah, but the Spiritual Water, that only Jesus can provide. We need this Water more than we need the things that are necessary to keep our natural bodies functioning. They and we need to develop a craving for that “Water”, and that “craving” needs to be greater than our need for natural sustenance. Because many of them failed this test of faith, they fell in the wilderness. “Water is a type of two very important “needs”, more needful than physical food and drink. What are those two?

## **i. Wilderness of Shur**

**Exodus 15:22 So Moses brought Israel from the Red sea, and they went out into the wilderness of Shur; and they went three days in the wilderness, and found no water.**

After three days, I’m sure that the people were thirsty. But as they arrived at the water source, they could not drink the water. God is teaching the children Israel, what is most important. There is something more important than the food and water needed to keep a person alive on this earth. This is a trial. What are the people to do? They, I am sure, were very thirsty after



of

traveling three days in the desert; but they and we, since these people are a type of our “walk” today, need to learn the most important lesson yet. More important than our necessary sustenance: Look what Jesus said to the “woman at the well, who had to come to this well every day to draw water:

**John 4:7 There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink.**

**John 4:8 (For his disciples were gone away unto the city to buy meat.)**

**John 4:9 Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him, How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans.**

**John 4:10 Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.**

**John 4:11 The woman saith unto him, Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep: from whence then hast thou that living water?**

**John 4:12 Art thou greater than our father Jacob, which gave us the well, and drank thereof himself, and his children, and his cattle?**

**John 4:13 Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again:**

**John 4:14 But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.**

**John 4:15 The woman saith unto him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw.**

**And at the great Feast of Tabernacles Jesus stood in front of everybody at the feast:**

**John 7:37 In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.**

John 7:38 He that believeth on me, **as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.**

John 7:39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

#### A. Water is a Picture of the Holy Ghost

*John 7:38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.*

*John 7:39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)*

#### B. Water is a Picture of the Holy Bible.

*Ephesians 5:26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,*

*Isaiah 55:10 For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:*

*Isaiah 55:11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.*

#### C. We will not enter His rest without God's divine supply of "Water."

## II. Bitter Waters



Exodus 15:23 And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter: therefore the name of it was called Marah.

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This experience is certainly the opposite of the song service after the Red Sea Deliverance. But do the people have to be in a state of depression? Do they have to murmur against Moses? No, those things are brought upon themselves. (or Ourselves). It is a simple three letter word called "sin". It started by Satan casting doubt in Eve's mind against God's Word. All Satan had to do was say, "Yea, hath God said?" and that caused Eve to add to God's Word. Eve created her own "Amplified Bible". As Eve acted on that doubt rather than faith in God's Word, she ate and gave the fruit to Adam beside her, and sin entered the world. Sin brings forth "Bitterness:"

**A. In the Book of Ruth, Naomi, the wife of Elimelech, and her two sons sojourned into Moab. They, of course, should not have left their inheritance to raise their family in Pagan Moab. In Moab, Elimelech and his two sons died leaving Naomi and her two Moabites daughters in law alone. Naomi and one of her daughters in law, Ruth, decided to return to Naomi's home town of Bethlehem:**

Ruth 1:19 So they two went until they came to Bethlehem. And it came to pass, when they were come to Bethlehem, that all the city was moved about them, and they said, **Is this Naomi?**

Ruth 1:20 And she said unto them, **Call me not Naomi, call me Mara: for the Almighty hath dealt very bitterly with me.**

Ruth 1:21 I went out full, and the LORD hath brought me home again empty: why then call ye me Naomi, seeing the LORD hath testified against me, and the Almighty hath afflicted me?

Ruth 1:22 So Naomi returned, and Ruth the Moabites, her daughter in law, with her, which returned out of the country of Moab: and they came to Bethlehem in the beginning of barley harvest.

**B. Esau's sin causing the root of bitterness to destroy him and keep him from his inheritance**

Hebrews 12:7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

Hebrews 12:8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

Hebrews 12:9 Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?

Hebrews 12:10 For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.

Hebrews 12:11 **Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.**

Hebrews 12:12 **Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees;**

Hebrews 12:13 **And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed.**

Hebrews 12:14 **Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:**

Hebrews 12:15 **Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;**

Hebrews 12:16 **Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright.**

Hebrews 12:17 **For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears.**

**C. The Third Trumpet in Revelation, is a falling star called wormwood, it was bitter and many died of its poison.**

**Revelation 8:10** And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters;  
**Revelation 8:11** And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter.

#### **D. Israel's Bondage in Egypt is called "Bitterness"**

**Exodus 1:8** Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph.

**Exodus 1:9** And he said unto his people, Behold, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we:

**Exodus 1:10** Come on, let us deal wisely with them; lest they multiply, and it come to pass, that, when there falleth out any war, they join also unto our enemies, and fight against us, and so get them up out of the land.

**Exodus 1:11** Therefore they did set over them taskmasters to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh treasure cities, Pithom and Raamses.

**Exodus 1:12** But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were grieved because of the children of Israel.

**Exodus 1:13** And the Egyptians made the children of Israel to serve with rigour:

**Exodus 1:14** **And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage**, in mortar, and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field: all their service, wherein they made them serve, was with rigour.

#### **E. Sin brings about the "gall of bitterness" and the "Bond of iniquity"**

**Acts 8:9** But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one:

**Acts 8:10** To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God.

**Acts 8:11** And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries.

**Acts 8:12** But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

**Acts 8:13** Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done.

**Acts 8:14** Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John:

**Acts 8:15** Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost:

**Acts 8:16** (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.)

**Acts 8:17** Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.

**Acts 8:18** And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money,

**Acts 8:19** Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost.

Acts 8:20 But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.

Acts 8:21 Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God.

Acts 8:22 Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.

Acts 8:23 For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity.

Acts 8:24 Then answered Simon, and said, Pray ye to the Lord for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me.

Acts 8:25 And they, when they had testified and preached the word of the Lord, returned to Jerusalem, and preached the gospel in many villages of the Samaritans.

#### F. Trials without Sin Eliminates Bitterness and makes us Spiritually Thirsty

Psalms 32:1 Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

Psalms 32:2 Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.

Psalms 32:3 When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long.

Psalms 32:4 For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah.

Psalms 32:5 I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.

Psalms 32:6 For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee in a time when thou mayest be found: surely in the floods of great waters they shall not come nigh unto him.

Psalms 32:7 Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. Selah.

Psalms 32:8 I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.

Psalms 32:9 Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee.

Psalms 32:10 Many sorrows shall be to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the LORD, mercy shall compass him about.

Psalms 32:11 Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart.

#### G. In God we have our Word and Water - Go through Trial without Murmuring

Psalms 42:1 As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God.

Psalms 42:2 My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?

Psalms 42:3 My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me, Where is thy God?

Psalms 42:4 When I remember these things, I pour out my soul in me: for I had gone with the multitude, I went with them to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holyday.

**Psalms 42:5** Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance.

**Psalms 42:6** O my God, my soul is cast down within me: therefore will I remember thee from the land of Jordan, and of the Hermonites, from the hill Mizar.

**Psalms 42:7** Deep calleth unto deep at the noise of thy waterspouts: all thy waves and thy billows are gone over me.

**Psalms 42:8** Yet the LORD will command his lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night his song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life.

**Psalms 63:1** A Psalm of David, when he was in the wilderness of Judah. O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is;

**Psalms 63:2** To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary.

**Psalms 63:3** Because thy lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise thee.

**Psalms 63:4** Thus will I bless thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name.

**Psalms 63:5** My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise thee with joyful lips:

**Psalms 63:6** When I remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the night watches.

**Psalms 63:7** Because thou hast been my help, therefore in the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice.

**Psalms 63:8** My soul followeth hard after thee: thy right hand upholdeth me.

**Psalms 63:9** But those that seek my soul, to destroy it, shall go into the lower parts of the earth.

**Psalms 63:10** They shall fall by the sword: they shall be a portion for foxes.

**Psalms 63:11** But the king shall rejoice in God; every one that sweareth by him shall glory: but the mouth of them that speak lies shall be stopped.

**Philippians 2:12** Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

**Philippians 2:13** For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

**Philippians 2:14** Do all things without murmurings and disputings:

**Philippians 2:15** That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;

**Philippians 2:16** Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

**Philippians 2:17** Yea, and if I be offered upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I joy, and rejoice with you all.

**Philippians 2:18** For the same cause also do ye joy, and rejoice with me.

**John 16:33** These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

**Romans 5:3** And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;

**Romans 5:4** And patience, experience; and experience, hope:

**Romans 5:5** And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in

our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

Romans 5:6 For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

Romans 5:7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.

Romans 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

Romans 5:10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

Romans 5:11 And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

II Corinthians 4:14-18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

### III. "The Lord Showed Him a Tree" - Picture of the Cross of Christ was cast into Our Bitter Waters

Galatians 3:13 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:

Galatians 3:14 That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Colossians 2:6 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him:

Colossians 2:7 Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

Colossians 2:8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

Colossians 2:9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

Colossians 2:10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:

Colossians 2:11 In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ:

Colossians 2:12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.

Colossians 2:13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

Colossians 2:14 Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;

Colossians 2:15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

### IV. None of These Diseases

Exodus 15:26 And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will

put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee.

**A. Notice the “ifs”:**

1. If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God
2. And wilt do that which is right in his sight
3. And wilt give ear to his commandments
4. And keep all his statutes

**B. Now, Notice the “I Will”**

1. I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians:
2. For I am the LORD that healeth thee.

Exodus 23:25 And ye shall serve the LORD your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee.

Deuteronomy 7:15 And the LORD will take away from thee all sickness, and will put none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which thou knowest, upon thee; but will lay them upon all them that hate thee.

Psalms 103:1 Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Psalms 103:2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

**Psalms 103:3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;**

Psalms 103:4 Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;

Psalms 103:5 Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Psalms 103:6 The LORD executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed.

Psalms 103:7 He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel.

Psalm 103:8 The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

Psalm 103:9 He will not always chide: neither will he keep his anger for ever.

Psalm 103:10 He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.

Psalm 103:11 For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him.

Psalm 103:12 As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

Psalm 103:13 Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him.

Psalm 103:14 For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.

Psalm 103:15 As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth.

Psalm 103:16 For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more.

Psalms 103:17 But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;

Psalm 103:18 To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them.

Psalm 103:19 The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.

I Peter 4:12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

I Peter 4:13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

**I Peter 4:14** If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.

**I Peter 4:15** But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters.

**I Peter 4:16** Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.

**I Peter 4:17** For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?

Observe that he made them a statute and an ordinance (v. 26). As we are obedient through trials, we have more and more faith

**Hebrews 5:5** So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee.

**Hebrews 5:6** As he saith also in another place, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.

**Hebrews 5:7** Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared;

**Hebrews 5:8** Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;

**Hebrews 5:9** And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;

**Hebrews 5:10** Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec.

## **V. Entering Rest at Blessed Wells**

**Exodus 15:27** And they came to Elim, where were twelve wells of water, and threescore and ten palm trees: and they encamped there by the waters.



Palm trees are representative of rejoicing (Leviticus 23:40; John 12:13; Revelation 7:9), and righteousness (Psalm 1:1-3; 92:12-15). They provide protection as the nation enjoys God's provision at the twelve wells (one for each tribe).

For every Marah, God has an Elim. And the Elim's are always sweeter than the

Marah's are bitter: In verse 23 it is "waters", but in verse 27 its "twelve wells". At Marah there's no mention of palm trees, but at Elim there are seventy. Marah is simply a passage, but Elim is an encampment. Israelites camped there and refreshed in the rest of the Lord. So should we.

The Lord may let us walk through the valley of the shadow of death, but he leads us beside green pastures and causes us to lie down beside still waters. If it's this sweet at Elim, imagine the Promised Land will be like for the people of God when they get there!

**Hebrews 4:11** Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.