

Jehovah Rapha
Exodus 15:22-27

Introduction:

- Good morning HMCC of Tangerang and Jakarta

- Regardless of whether you live in the US or in Indonesia, none of us enjoy a perfect, pain-free life
 - There is brokenness in all of our lives
 - But it's in the midst of these difficult circumstances that we face, that God reminds us that He is Jehovah Rapha – He is the Lord who heals

- **READ Exodus 15:22-27**

One Thing:

- In the various struggles of your life, remember God who is our healer

Main Point:

- 2 observations
 - The problem
 - The promise

1. The problem – vv. 22-25a

- vv. 22 gives us the context - we are told that Moses made Israel set out from the Red Sea

- Story of Moses and how God used him to rescue the people of Israel from slavery in the land of Egypt
 - God lead them through the wilderness towards to Red Sea
 - When the people came to the Red Sea, they found themselves trapped

- The people were overcome by despair and began complaining
 - In that moment, God intervened and parted the Red Sea

- As Moses lead them out from the Red Sea, they began to travel through the wilderness of Shur
 - The wilderness of Shur was a dry
 - They traveled for three days without finding any water
 - The people were pushed to their limits. And when they finally found some water, it was too bitter for them to drink

- vv.24 – And the people grumbled against Moses, saying, “What shall we drink?”

- Why did God lead them through the desert for 3 days?
 - vv. 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. There the Lord made for them a statue and a rule, and there he tested them

- “The information God had given to the Israelites three days before Marah was that He was bigger than water. He was more powerful than water. He was greater than water. God could intervene in their water problem in a way they couldn’t anticipate or predict. And three days after God taught the Israelites His lesson on water, He tested them on it – He gave them a water test” - *Tony Evans*
- “God never uses anyone greatly until he tests them deeply” - *A.W Tozer*
- Not all trials are from God to test us
- When we are tested through trials, they:
 1. **Expose our hearts**
 2. **Strengthen our faith**
- **James 1:2-4 – Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing**
- “Faith does not flourish when it lies untested. It atrophies when it goes unexercised. And eventually it dies. So, when God loves us with his saving love, and gives us saving faith, he commits, because he cares for us, to inject our lives with various trials to train, grow, sweeten, strengthen, and mature what matters most in us. Our “various trials” in this life are not superfluous to our enduring in faith. And they are not just threats to losing our faith. They are one of God’s essential means through which he preserves the faith he has given us and keeps us as his own.” - *David Mathis*
- The seasons of being tested and refined are a gift of God’s grace
- The problem of Shur and Marah wasn’t a problem of water, but it was a problem of trust
 - God strengthened their trust muscle through the struggles of Shur and Marah

2. The Promise – vv. 25b-27

- vv. 26 – 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, I will put none of the diseases on you that I put on the Egyptians, for I am the Lord, your healer.”
- I am Jehovah Rapha – I am God who heals
 - God is not saying you will never experience physical sickness
- God’s promise is that he will not bring on them all the diseases that He inflicted on the Egyptians
 - God inflicted Egypt with the 10 plagues when they refused to listen and obey
 - God was demonstrating to the Egyptians that He was greater than any of their gods and goddesses
- God warns the people to no become like the Egyptians who refused to listen and obey

- He promises that if they listen and obey His words, then they will be restored back to Him and be made whole from their brokenness
- Isaiah 53:5 – 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
- In Jesus, we see the reality of God who heals us and makes us whole

Life Application:

1. You have to yield to God
2. You have to trust God
 - “After God taught the Israelites and revealed to them His name, Jehovah Rapha, He immediately took them to Elim, where there was more than enough of a good thing for everyone. But notice that the Israelites didn’t get to Elim by skipping Marah. They got to Elim by going through the test of Marah. They discovered Elim once they discovered Jehovah Rapha” - *Tony Evans*