



## **“GROWING THROUGH TRIALS”**

Series: “SO MUCH MORE”, Part 9 of 10

Sunday, March 5, 2023 at 9:00 & 11:00 AM

Text: Exodus 15:22-27

**Big Idea: When we faithfully persevere through our seasons of disappointment and trials, God deepens us and draws us closer to Him.**

Exodus 15:22-27, “Then Moses led Israel from the Red Sea and they went into the Desert of Shur. For three days they traveled in the desert without finding water. When they came to Marah, they could not drink its water because it was bitter. (That is why the place is called Marah.) So the people grumbled against Moses, saying, “What are we to drink?” Then Moses cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a piece of wood. He threw it into the water, and the water became sweet. There the LORD made a decree and a law for them, and there he tested them. He said, “If you listen carefully to the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, who heals you.” Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve springs and seventy palm trees, and they camped there near the water.”

- I. SEASONS OF TRIUMPH AND SEASONS OF TRIALS OFTEN FOLLOW CLOSELY TOGETHER.**
  
- II. HOW WE RESPOND TO TRIALS MAKES A TREMENDOUS DIFFERENCE IN HOW THEY IMPACT US.**

**A. Bitter trials can cause us to turn to grumbling.**

Exodus 15:24, “So the people grumbled against Moses, saying, ‘What are we to drink?’”

Exodus 16:2, “In the desert the whole community grumbled against Moses and Aaron.”

Exodus 16:11-12a, “The LORD said to Moses, “I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites.””

Deuteronomy 13:3b, "The LORD your God is testing you to find out whether you love him with all your heart and with all your soul."

### **B. Bitter trials can cause us to turn to God.**

Exodus 15:25a, "Then Moses cried out to the LORD."

Exodus 19:4, "You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself."

John 17:3, "Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent."

Deuteronomy 8:2-3a, "Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in the desert these forty years, to humble you and to test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands. He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your fathers had known."

Exodus 15:25b, "There the LORD made a decree and a law for them, and there he tested them."

Exodus 15:26b, "I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, who heals you."

Exodus 15:25b, "There he tested them."

### **III. WHEN WE FAITHFULLY PERSEVERE THROUGH OUR SEASONS OF TRIALS, GOD DEEPENS US AND DRAWS US CLOSER TO HIM.**

Psalms 30:5b, "Weeping may remain for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning."

Exodus 15:25a, "Then Moses cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a piece of wood. He threw it into the water, and the water became sweet."

1 Peter 2:24, "And He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed." {NASV}

Exodus 15:27, "Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve springs and seventy palm trees, and they camped there near the water."

Lamentations 3:21-23, "Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."