

Gratitude: Intro: Miracles: (1) Marah, (2) Manna, Exodus 16:2-4, 10-15

Separated from the first husband, the Jews now enjoy current positional truth. Unfailing gratitude for such profound and eternal acts should be forthcoming. It is not.

The Lord leads these Jews through the Sinai's Jornada in an effort to teach them faith and reliance upon Him even when the world is trying to kill them. Arrival at Marah is the first test. After three days of no water, the water found there is bitter. The Jews grumble to Moses rather than place their faith in the Lord to provide. (Again, the Jews have their eyes on the problem, not the solution.)

The tree thrown into the water is a type for the cross. Its eternal impact removes bitterness from life even though the world offers opportunity for the believer to let its venom into his soul. It is a lack of gratitude for God's grace that allows the venom of bitterness to poison the soul.

After the waters are made sweet by yet another miracle, the Lord then issues a conditional covenant to His client nation in verse 26. In a nutshell this is what the covenant says, "If (this is the protasis of a third-class conditional sentence) you do your duty by facilitating your neural network with wheel-tracks of righteousness, then I will keep you healthy."

Exodus 15:26 - And the Lord said, "If you will give earnest heed to the voice of the Lord your God [positive volition toward Bible doctrine], and do what is right in His sight [develop wheel-tracks of righteousness in the norms and standards of the conscience], and give ear to His commandments [orientation and adjustment to the imperative moods] and keep His statutes [develop behavior patterns based on doctrine], I will put none of the diseases on you which I have put on the Egyptians; for I the Lord am your healer."

What the Lord promises is, if the Jews will simply do their duty as revealed in the Word of God, then He will protect them from disease and heal them if they get sick.

This promise was applicable to the Jewish people throughout the Age of Israel, during the Incarnation, and in the early, pre-canon years of the Church Age. It explains much of the healing which takes place in the Gospels and the first nine chapters of Acts.

This covenant of healing to the Jews was a constant sign of the presence of the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Therefore, those who did their duty by keeping the Lord's commandments had a divine guarantee of good health.

Those who did not execute the mandates had no gratitude. As a result of a lame and diseased soul, they became susceptible to a lame and diseased body. After learning a principle from testing, God then blesses the believer.

Exodus 15:27 - Then they came to Elim where there were twelve springs of water and seventy date palms and they camped there beside the waters.

2. Next came the test of no food at the Wilderness of Sin which resulted in the miracle of the manna.

Exodus 16:2 - The whole congregation of Israelites grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the Jornada.

Exodus 16:3 - And the Israelites said to them, "Would that we had died by the Lord's hand in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat, when we ate

bread to the full; for you have brought us out into this Jornada to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Exodus 16:4 - Then the Lord said to Moses, “Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a day’s portion every day, that I may test them, whether or not they will walk in My instruction.”

Exodus 16:10 - And it came about as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of Israelites that they looked toward the Jornada and behold, the Shekinah Glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud.

Exodus 16:11 - And the Lord spoke to Moses saying,

Exodus 16:12 – “I have heard the grumblings of the Israelites; speak to them saying, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat and in the morning you shall be filled with bread and you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

Exodus 16:13 - So it came about at evening that the quails came up and covered the camp and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp.

Exodus 16:14 - When the layer of dew evaporated, behold, on the surface of the Jornada there was a fine flake-like thing, fine as the frost on the ground.

Exodus 16:15 - When the Israelites saw it they said to one another, “*Man hu*. What is it?” For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, “It is the bread which the Lord has given you to eat.”

Again, the adult generation of the Exodus fails yet another test. If the Lord provides water then He will also prepare food. Their desire was to return to the cuisine of Egypt when they were well fed as slaves.

Principle: When governments become so concerned with the welfare of “*the people*” that they justify stealing from the haves to benefit the have-nots, the hidden agenda is to insure the health of the masses for the purpose of slave labor.

Pharaoh cared nothing for the Israelites, he only wanted them to be healthy enough to provide a cost-free labor force to carry out his building projects in Ramses.