

**Trust God in the Bitter Places!**  
**GPS: God's Powerful Story! Pt.4**  
**Exodus 15**

Sunday, June 21, 2026

**Proverbs 3:5**, Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; **6** in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

**Exodus 15:22**, 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. **23** When they came to Marah, they could not drink its water because it was bitter. (That is why the place is called Marah.) **24** So the people grumbled against Moses, saying, "What are we to drink?"

**Hebrews 12:15**, See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

**Four Biblical Truths About Bitter Places:**

**1. Bitter Places Often Follow God's Greatest BLESSINGS**

**Exodus 15:22**, 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. **23** When they came to Marah, they could not drink its water because it was bitter. (That is why the place is called Marah.)

**1 Peter 1:6**, In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. **7** These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

**James 1:2**, Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, **3** because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. **4** Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

**2. Bitter Places Reveal What's Really INSIDE US**

**Exodus 15:24**, So the people grumbled against Moses, saying, "What are we to drink?"

**Luke 6:45**, A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

**Proverbs 4:23**, Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

**3. God Can Turn Bitter Into BETTER**

**Exodus 15:25**, 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 fit to drink...

**Romans 8:28**, And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

**Genesis 50:20**, You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.

**4. Beyond Marah Is an OASIS**

**Exodus 15:26**, He said, "If you listen carefully to 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." **27** Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve springs and seventy palm trees, and they camped there near the water.

**Psalm 30:5**, For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime; weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.

**2 Corinthians 4:17**, For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.