

Rescued
PEOPLE
in a Broken World



Exodus Raises Big Picture Questions

who is God?

what's this world like?

how do you live with this God in this world?

“Who is the Lord, that I should obey him and let Israel go? I do not know the Lord and I will not let Israel go.”

Exodus 5:1-2

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who is God?

what's this world like?

how do you live with this God in this world?

(why are you following him?)

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 fit to drink.

Exodus 15:22-25a

There the LORD issued a ruling and instruction for them and put them to the test. 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.”

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

Exodus 15:25b-27

Who is the Lord?

- is he Abusive?
 - no; he cares about you
- is he Santa Claus?
 - no; he leads you to difficult places

God Tests His People AND he Provides for Them

- he doesn't give rigged or unfair tests
- tests help people see why they're following him:
because they want him OR they want his benefits
- he gives you what you need—not always what
you want or how you wanted it

How Do You Know if You Pass the Test?

- are you grumbling against God or trusting him

“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.”

Exodus 15:26

But What if You Don't Pass the Test?

- even the best of us have grumbled
- ... except Jesus
 - 40 days in the wilderness ... without grumbling
 - 30+ years on earth ... without grumbling
 - died, thirsty, on the cross ... without grumbling
 - he has the power to turn bitter hearts, faithful (and he wants to!)

