

Bittersweet Memories

Exodus 15: 22 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?”

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. There the Lord issued a ruling and instruction for them and **put them to the test**. 26 He said, “If you listen carefully to the Lord your God and do what is right in his eyes,

Exodus 15: 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.

Hebrew “Luwn” –to murmur or
complain

Common Use – –Expression of
disloyalty

The Hebrews allowed outward
struggles
determine inward faith.

God tests us

to “know” us better.

Deuteronomy 8: 2 Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order **to know what was in your heart...**

ya'da-to know

God wants to know you
experientially

Genesis 22: 12 “Do not lay a hand on the boy,” he said. “Do not do anything to him. **Now I know** that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son.”

God tests us

to heal us.

Exodus 15: 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.

We need to be cured of the
sickness of doubting God's love.

1 John 4: 9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. **10** This is love: not that we loved God, **but that he loved us** and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

God tests us

to fulfill us.

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

Matthew 9: 7 Then the man got up and went home.

1 Corinthians 13: 12 For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; **then** we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; **then** I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

The one thing God looks for in
times of testing:

The one thing God looks for in
times of testing:

Our obedience.

Exodus 15: 26 If you pay attention to his
commands and **keep all his decrees**

1 John 5: 3 Loving God means keeping His
commands.

When God doesn't make sense

His greatest desire is your
obedience.

Deuteronomy 8: 2 Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order **to know what was in your heart...**

Deuteronomy 8: 2 Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would **keep his commands.**

Your obedience is your choice to
love God
and forsake all others.

John 14: 15 “If you love me, keep my
commands.

When God doesn't make sense,
His greatest desire is your
obedience.

Do not be deceived, Wormwood. Our cause is never more in danger, than when a human, no longer desiring, but intending, to do our Enemy's (God's) will, looks round upon a universe from which every trace of Him seems to have vanished, and asks why he has been forsaken, and still obeys.

CS Lewis

still obeys.

Where do you need
to obey?

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