

Theme: God's name Yahweh Raphe - the Lord the Healer - speaks of God's provision to heal and deliver His people from sin and all its effects in the curse.

I. Importance of Why Something Named

- A. Names often given due to history or circumstances
- B. True with these names of God
- C. We learn a lot by looking at background stories
- D. Certainly true today - Yahweh Raphe
- E. Our initial impressions may miss the point

II. Background - Deliverance from Egypt

- A. The people had been delivered from Egypt
- B. They had seen mighty plagues on the Egyptians
- C. God had delivered them by Passover Lamb
- D. God had guided them by pillar of fire & cloud
- E. God had brought them through Red Sea
- F. They had sung His praises (15:1-21)
- G. Now we come to this event - 15:22-27

III. God Tests His People

- A. This is a test of God's people (v25b)
- B. Part 1 of the test - no water (v22)
- C. Part 2 of the test - bad water (v23)

D. The response - grumbling (v24)

- 1. First time 'grumble' appears is here
- 2. Occurs 18x - 17 in wilderness wanderings
- 3. Major motif (Ex 16:2-4 [Ps 78; 106])
- 4. Really grumbling against LORD (Ex 16:7-8)
- 5. They are testing God in doing this!

E. The resolution - water healed (v25)

F. The decree for God's people (v25b)

G. The name - Yahweh Raphe (v26)

IV. Understanding The Name Yahweh Raphe

A. Raphe - healing/restoration

- 1. Healing sickness - Num 12:13; [2 Ki 20:5]
- 2. Cleanse mildew - Lev 14:48
- 3. Emotional healing - Psalm 147:3
- 4. Spiritual healing - Isaiah 6:10; [Hos 6:1]
- 5. Jesus heals both - Mt 4:23; [Mat 9:1-7]; 1Pet 2:24

B. Understanding God as Yahweh Raphe

- 1. Note the link with God's curse on Egypt (v26)
- 2. Note most of 'diseases' in Egypt not sickness
- 3. Under the curse - many facets in all life

4. Key issue - God treats His people differently
5. Tempted to think we are just like Egypt - wrong! (Naomi)
6. We are God's covenant children - He is our Healer!

V. Applying the Word

- A. Do we see that God will test our faith?
 1. Periods where we are not tested (infancy)
 2. But God does allow us to be tested
 3. This can include every area of life
 4. He does this for our good - not cursing us
- B. How do we respond to testing - grumble or faith?
 1. Israel consistently grumbled - do we?
 2. What if apparent provision fades - grumble?
 3. Are we thankful people for all God has done?
- C. Communion - Fed by the Lord Our Healer
 1. God has made provision for us to be healed
 2. God calls us to look to Him as the Healer
 3. Physically sick - go to Him - kingdom breaking in
 4. Have you gone to Him for ultimate healing?
 5. Do we see God's gracious provision in Christ?
 6. Come to the Table to receive

Yahweh Raphe - The Lord the Healer

Exodus 15:22-27
1 Peter 2:18-25
September 27, 2009
Communion
Romans 15:13

In the desert the whole community grumbled against Moses and Aaron. 3 The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the LORD's hand in Egypt! There we sat around pots of meat and ate all the food we wanted, but you have brought us out into this desert to starve this entire assembly to death." 4 Then the LORD said to Moses, "I will rain down bread from heaven for you. The people are to go out each day and gather enough for that day. In this way I will test them and see whether they will follow my instructions.

Exodus 16:2-4

In the morning you will see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your grumbling against him. Who are we, that you should grumble against us?" 8 Moses also said, "You will know that it was the LORD when he gives you meat to eat in the evening and all the bread you want in the morning, because he has heard your grumbling against him. Who are we? You are not grumbling against us, but against the LORD."

Exodus 16:7-8

So Moses cried out to the LORD, "O God, please heal her!"

Numbers 12:13

But if the priest comes to examine it and the mildew has not spread after the house has been plastered, he shall pronounce the house clean, because the mildew is gone.

Leviticus 14:48

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Psalms 147:3

Make the heart of this people calloused; make their ears dull and close their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed.

Isaiah 6:10

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.

Matthew 4:23

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

1 Peter 2:24