

Homework - Week 5

Jehovah Rapha (Rophe) *The Lord Your Healer*

Observe It

Jehovah Rapha is found once in the Bible, and it is in Exodus 15:26. Read Exodus 15:22-27, and record your observations about the passage. Don't just skim through the verses, but take time to read and discover what it says.

Who:

What:

When:

Where:

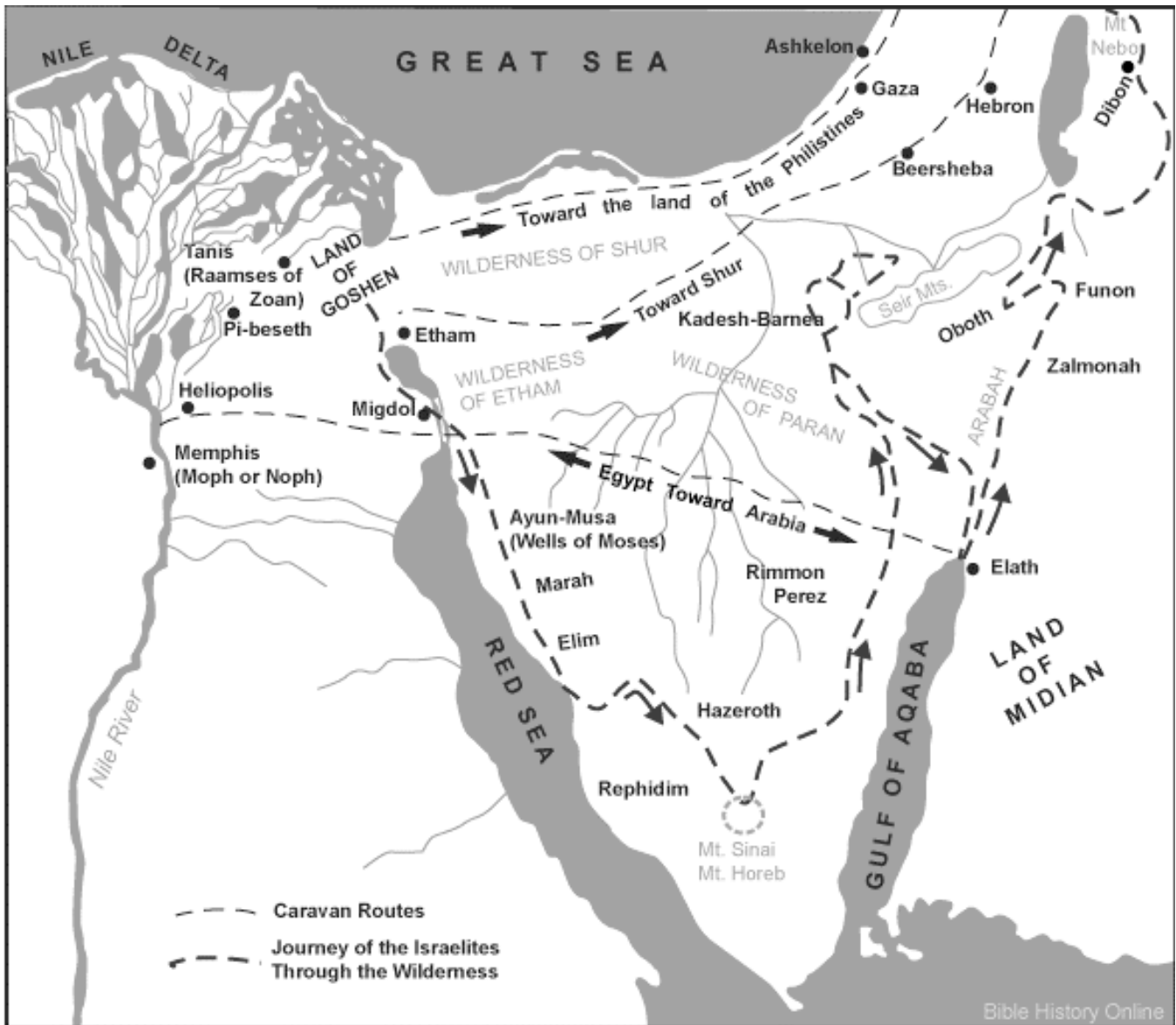
Why:

What were the "conditions" that God gave Israel in verse 26 in order to receive His blessings? This is just one of several "if/then" blessings that God made with His people, demonstrating that His blessings are often dependent on our obedience.

What happened right before this experience at Marah? (See Exodus 14)

Look at the map on the next page and find the locations mentioned in these verses.

Map of the Exodus from Egypt



Some of the locations are speculation, but most scholars agree to the approximations.

Locate:

1. **Raamses** (where the Pharaoh lived)
2. **Land of Goshen** (Where the Israelites lived – descendents of Jacob and Joseph)
3. **Wilderness or Desert of Shur/Etham – Exodus 15:22** (Shur and Etham both mean *fortress* or *wall* and are used interchangeably in Scripture.)
4. **The Red Sea Crossing – Exodus 15:19 (Exodus 14)**
5. **Marah – Exodus 15:23**
6. **Elim – Exodus 15:27**

** The most direct route to the Promised land from the Land of Goshen would follow the Caravan Route labeled "Toward the land of the Philistines."

While the specific name Jehovah Rapha is only mentioned once in the Old Testament, we see numerous references to God and Jesus being our healer throughout the Bible. Read at least three of the following Scriptures and record what they say about healing:

II Chronicles 7:14

Psalms 41:4

Psalms 103:1-3

Isaiah 53:5

Jeremiah 3:22

Matthew 9:12-13

I Peter 2:24

Revelation 22:1-2

Experience It

In Exodus 15, how did the Israelites experience God as Jehovah Rapha?

This story of the bitter water occurred shortly after the Israelites had experienced great victory and had seen God do a mighty work on their behalf (parting of the Red Sea-Exodus 14). Exodus 15 begins with the Israelites singing a song of praise to God for all that He had done, yet days later they find themselves in a place of desperation with their faith being tested. Have you experienced a time when God has done something powerful in your life, only to be followed by a time of testing or even spiritual drought? Describe it below.

The Hebrew word "Rapha" occurs more than 60 times in the Old Testament, and it means to restore, heal, or cure. While it often is used in reference to physical healing, it also relates to moral and spiritual healing. The tree in Exodus 15 that Moses throws in the water is symbolic of the tree that Jesus Christ died on to redeem us from the grip of sin. Read I Peter 2:24 and note below what it says about the tree and healing:

Jesus died on a tree so that we could experience water that is sweet, saving, and satisfying. He turns the bitter taste of sin into a sweet encounter with grace. All we have to do is believe, and that belief gives us access to the living water (see John 4:10, John 7:38 and Rev. 22:1).

Can you think of a time in your life when you experienced God as Jehovah Rapha? What did that look like? (It could be physical, mental, emotional, or spiritual healing.)

Is there a specific area/circumstance in your life right now where you need to experience God as Jehovah Rapha? Explain.

Express It

What are one or two personal applications you can make in your life based on the Scriptures you have read about Jehovah Rapha? Be specific:

God is the ultimate Healer and Great Physician. Yet, as His children, we are also called to bring healing to the people around us. Read Isaiah 61:1-3. What are some practical ways that you can express these verses to the people in your life? Don't give generic answers, but list one or two specific things that you can do...and then do them this week!

Pray It

Spend some time praying about what you learned in your study of Jehovah Rapha. Ask God to increase your understanding and experience of this part of His character.

El Roi *The God Who Sees*

Have you ever felt all alone, rejected, or cast aside? Have you been convinced that no one knows, cares or understands? Have you been misunderstood, mistreated, or suffered unjustly at the hands of someone else? Have you ever felt used, abused, not wanted, or not loved? If any of these ring true for you, then the name *El Roi* is one that will bring comfort and encouragement to you. It is the name that reminds us that God not only sees us, but He knows, understands, and meets us right in the middle of our suffering.

Observe It

The name El Roi is found once in the Bible, in Genesis 16:13. Read Genesis 16 and record your observations below:

Who:

What:

When:

Where:

Why:

While the specific name El Roi is only mentioned once, there are numerous Scriptures that reference God as the one who see us. Read the following verses and record your observations:

II Chronicles 16:9

Psalms 121:3, 5-8

Proverbs 15:3

Matthew 6:3-4

During Hagar's encounter with God, He instructs her to return to Sarai even though that is the place where she has been mistreated. He also gives her a glimpse into the future life of trouble that her son Ishmael will lead. Her circumstances don't change and God doesn't miraculously "fix" her troubles, yet her encounter with the God who sees transforms her heart and strengthens her to return. She is able

to trust that God will take care of her, even if her circumstances remain difficult. Running away often seems like a tempting solution, but the truth is that the safest place to be is in the center of God's will.

Experience It

In Genesis 16, how did Hagar personally experience God as El Roi?

It was in Hagar's most painful trial that she had an intimate and personal encounter with God. Isn't this so often the case with us? Can you think of a time in your life when you experienced God as El Roi? In what specific ways did He see you and how did that bring comfort?

Sometimes we go through seasons where we wonder if God has forgotten about us. It doesn't feel like He is paying attention, and it can be easy to believe the lies of the enemy that God doesn't care about us. Are you going through a situation like this? How do you need to experience God as El Roi in your life right now?

Express It

What are one or two personal applications you can make in your life based on the Scriptures you have read about El Roi? Be specific!

There are people all around us who are hurting and feel alone. In fact, recent studies have shown that loneliness has become an epidemic in our country. God made us for relationship with Him and each other, it is how we are wired! Who can you "see" this week? Is there someone you can reach out to and love on this week, so that they feel seen and known? Write their name(s) below and then take that step to meet them where they are.

Pray It

Spend some time praying about what you learned in your study of El Roi. Ask God to increase your understanding and experience of this part of His character, and pray that He would give you wisdom to know how to express it to those around you.