

A photograph of a desert landscape featuring rolling sand dunes. The sun is high in the sky, creating a bright glow and casting long shadows across the dunes. The sky is a clear, deep blue. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

BITTER WATER
MADE SWEET
EXODUS 15:22-27

[22] Then Moses made Israel set out from the Red Sea, and they went into the wilderness of Shur. They went three days in the wilderness and found no water. [23] When they came to Marah, they could not drink the water of Marah because it was bitter; therefore it was named Marah.

[24] And the people grumbled against Moses, saying, “What shall we drink?” [25] And he cried to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a log, and he threw it into the water, and the water became sweet. There the LORD made for them a statute and a rule, and there he tested them, [26] saying, “If you will diligently listen to the voice of the LORD your God, and do that which is right in his eyes, and give ear to his commandments and keep all his statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you that I put on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, your healer.” [27] Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve springs of water and seventy palm trees, and they encamped there by the water.

Exodus 15:22-27

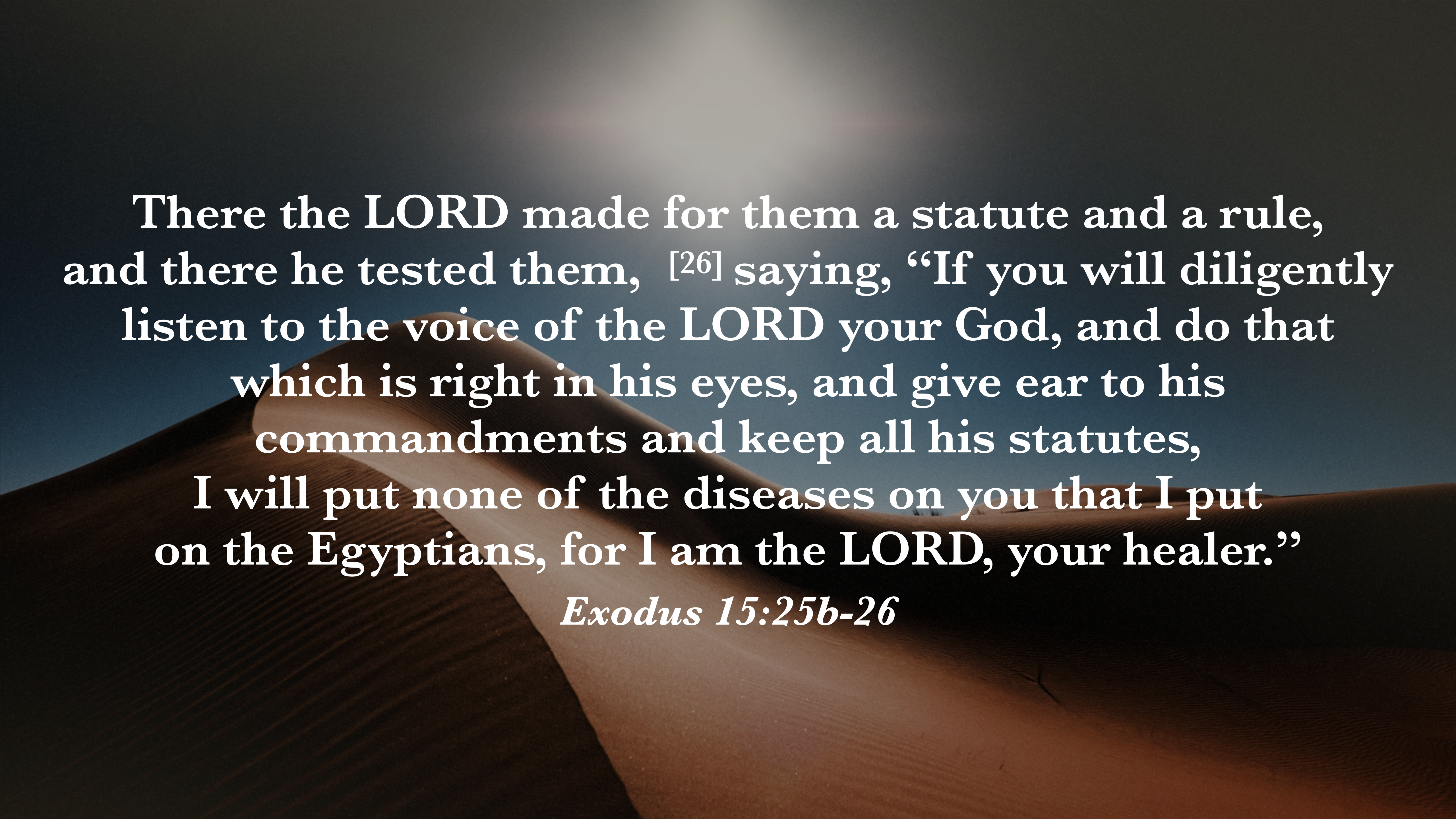
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Exodus 15:22-25

A close-up photograph of a hand holding an open book. The hand is positioned on the left side of the frame, with fingers gripping the edges of the pages. The book is open, and the pages are visible, showing some texture and color variations. The background is a soft, out-of-focus blue and white gradient, suggesting a bright light source. The text is overlaid in the center of the image in a bold, white, serif font.

**God will transform our bitter,
fearful hearts into sweet,
trusting hearts if we cry out to Him.**



There the LORD made for them a statute and a rule,
and there he tested them, ^[26] saying, “If you will diligently
listen to the voice of the LORD your God, and do that
which is right in his eyes, and give ear to his
commandments and keep all his statutes,
I will put none of the diseases on you that I put
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Exodus 15:25b-26

A photograph of a desert landscape featuring rolling sand dunes. The dunes are illuminated by warm, golden light, likely from a low sun, creating soft shadows and highlighting the texture of the sand. The sky is a clear, deep blue. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

**Under the Old Covenant,
both God's compassion and
commands were conditional.**

Matthew 28:18-20

[¹⁸] And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. [¹⁹] Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, [²⁰] teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Galatians 5:13-15

[¹³] For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. [¹⁴] For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” [¹⁵] But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.



Under the New Covenant, neither of Christ's commands nor His compassion are conditional.

A photograph of a desert landscape featuring rolling sand dunes. The dunes are illuminated by bright sunlight, creating strong shadows and highlights that emphasize their texture and curves. The sky is a clear, pale blue. The overall scene is serene and vast.

[27] Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve springs of water and seventy palm trees, and they encamped there by the water.

Exodus 15:27



A photograph of a desert landscape featuring rolling sand dunes. The dunes are illuminated from the side, creating soft shadows and highlighting the texture of the sand. The sky is a clear, deep blue, suggesting a bright but slightly hazy day. The overall mood is serene and expansive.

Mark 5:36

[³⁶] But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the ruler of the synagogue, “Do not fear, only believe.”

A photograph of a desert landscape featuring rolling sand dunes. The dunes are illuminated by a bright sun, creating a strong lens flare effect in the upper center of the frame. The sky is a clear, pale blue. The overall mood is serene and expansive.

**God has chosen to quit our fears
through the promises of Jesus.**



Hebrews 9:15

[15] Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant.

Like It or Not-isms

- **Like it or not, The Spirit is transforming the hearts of God's children. Will you cry out for Him or grumble at the process?**
- **Like it or not, the Father's love for you (or others) is not conditional upon how righteous you (or they) are. Will you accept and share His grace, or reject it?**
- **Like it or not, Christ's commands are not suggestions, but new realities into which His children now live. Will you humbly submit or haphazardly subvert?**
- **Like it or not, Christ's promises are what binds Him, not our desires. Will your desires be conformed to His promises?**
- **Like it or not, the Father's will for your life is bound up in the New Covenant of Jesus Christ. Will you enter into this Covenant? If you have entered into it, will you remember it and fear no more?**

The New Covenant

How to Enter: Believe that Jesus is God and, by dying on the cross, transferred our sins to Him, granting us kinship with The Father, The Son, The Holy Spirit.

The New Covenant

What is Expected: We will forever be, even though we still struggle with sin, following the example of our big brother, Jesus.

The New Covenant

**What is Promised: We will forever
be, regardless of any future sin,
God's beloved children.**