

SPIRITUAL TASK – BITTER WATER AT MARAH (Exodus 15)

by the Rev. David Roth at the New Church of Boulder Valley

Story After the children of Israel departed from the Red Sea they traveled in the wilderness for three days without any water. When they finally were led to water in Marah the water was too bitter to drink. They complained and the Lord instructed Moses to cast a tree into the water. The water was made sweet.

Meaning This story illustrates the second type of temptation experienced when we begin to grow spiritually. We feel we don't have any answers; we are confused—in the dark. The truth we are then led to seems too harsh and difficult for us. The Lord says if we will look for the good that that truth will lead to then our perception of the truth will change from bitter to sweet.

Task This week we have two tasks. 1: Become an expert. If you have a problem (addiction, fear, codependency, marriage trouble, etc.), read a book about it. The book may not radically change your life, but it will begin to give you a much-needed perspective. And 2: Ask yourself, “What bitter truths in my life do I find hard to swallow? How will accepting them work to heal me?” Begin a new action or thought process that will help you accept this truth and begin the healing that needs to take place.