

### **An Unexpected Wilderness Experience Exodus 15:22-16:8**

#### **Israel's first stop leads to complaints about water. 15:22-27**

- Note that Israel's failures in the wilderness are something we need to be aware of and avoid, I Cor. 10:1-12, Heb. 3:7ff..
- Pattern of complaining: 16:2, 17:3, Num. 14:2,36, 16:11,41
- God reveals this bitter water was a test. Plus, God offers His policy of divine protection from any of the judgments He had brought upon the Egyptians if Israel loyally obeys Him.
- The second stop at water-rich Elim was without incident.

#### **Israel's third stop leads to complaints about food. 16:1-8**

- Complaints now worsen and become accusatory, as in 17:3.
- What wrong thinking very likely contributed to the Israelites' repeated complaining and terrible attitude whenever they faced a need? And in what ways can we do likewise?
- Again, God tells Moses He is testing His people. This food shortage was another test, as will be the gathering of food. Testing will occur throughout this trip, 20:20, Deut. 8:2-5,16. We can expect testing as well, Js. 1:2-4, I Pt. 1:6,7.
- How God truly dealt with Israel, Deut. 1:31, Neh. 9:20,21.



What helps us to avoid complaining like these Israelites?