



Lesson 29 – From the Red Sea to Sinai

Based on Exodus 15:22 - Exodus 18

The Children of Israel had just been delivered in a mighty way from the Egyptians. They saw miracle after miracle and now were on their way to the Promised Land.

- 1) How did the first few days go?

Exodus 15:22-23 So Moses brought Israel from the Red sea, and they went out into the wilderness of Shur; and they went three days in the wilderness, and found no _____. And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were _____: therefore the name of it was called Marah.

The supply which they had taken with them was exhausted. There was nothing to quench their burning thirst as they dragged wearily over the sun-burnt plains. Moses, who was familiar with this region, knew what the others did not, that at Marah, the nearest station where springs were to be found, the water was unfit for use. With intense anxiety he watched the guiding cloud.

- 2) What did the multitude say to Moses?

Exodus 15:24 And the people _____ against Moses, saying, What shall we drink?

- 3) What did Moses do?

Exodus 15:25 And he _____ unto the LORD; and the LORD shewed him a tree, which when he had cast into the waters, the waters were made sweet: there he made for them a statute and an ordinance, and there he proved them,

- 4) What covenant did he present to the people?

Exodus 15:26 And said, If thou wilt diligently _____ to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee.

- 5) Where did they go next?

Exodus 15:27 And they came to _____, where were twelve wells of water, and threescore and ten palm trees: and they encamped there by the waters.

When they had been a month absent from Egypt, they made their first encampment in the wilderness. Their store of provisions had now begun to fail. There was scanty herbage in the wilderness, and their flocks were diminishing. How was food to be supplied for these vast multitudes? Doubts filled their hearts, and again they murmured. Even the rulers and elders of the people joined in complaining against the leaders of God's appointment.

- 6) What question did they lay out before Moses?

Exodus 16:3 And the children of Israel said unto them, Would to God we had _____ by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh pots, and when we did eat bread to the full; for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger.

They had not as yet suffered from hunger; their present wants were supplied, but they feared for the future. They could not understand how these vast multitudes were to subsist in their travels through the wilderness, and in imagination they saw their children famishing.

It was necessary for them to encounter difficulties and to endure privations. God was bringing them from a state of degradation and fitting them to occupy an honorable place among the nations and to receive important and sacred trusts. Had they possessed faith in Him, in view of all that He had wrought for them, they would cheerfully have borne inconvenience, privation, and even real suffering; but they were unwilling to trust the Lord any further than they could witness the continual evidences of His power.



- 7) What should ever be on our lips?

Psalms 126:3 The LORD hath done _____ things for us; whereof we are glad.

The history of the wilderness life of Israel was chronicled for the benefit of the Israel of God to the close of time. The record of God's dealings with the wanderers of the desert in all their marchings to and fro, in their exposure to hunger, thirst, and weariness, and in the striking manifestations of His power for their relief, is fraught with warning and instruction for His people in all ages. The varied experience of the Hebrews was a school of preparation for their promised home in Canaan. God would have His people in these days review with a humble heart and teachable spirit the trials through which ancient Israel passed, that they may be instructed in their preparation for the heavenly Canaan.

- 8) What did Jesus tell us?

Matthew 11:28-29 Come unto me, all ye that _____ and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find _____ unto your souls.

- 9) And Peter?

1 Peter 5:7 Casting all your care upon him; for he _____ for you.

- 10) Paul?

Hebrews 3:12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in _____ from the living God.

- 11) The Psalmist?

Psalms 103:1-2 Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and _____ all his benefits:

- 12) Was God mindful of the Children of Israel's needs?

Exodus 16:4-5 Then said the LORD unto Moses, Behold, I will rain _____ from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no. And it shall come to pass, that on the sixth day they shall prepare that which they bring in; and it shall be _____ as much as they gather daily.

- 13) Did God forget about their faithlessness in the face of so many miracles?

Exodus 16:9-10 And Moses spake unto Aaron, Say unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, Come _____ before the LORD: for he hath heard your murmurings. And it came to pass, as Aaron spake unto the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and, behold, the _____ of the LORD appeared in the cloud.

Exodus 16:11-13 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel: speak unto them, saying, At even ye shall eat flesh, and in the morning ye shall be filled with _____; and ye shall know that I am the LORD your God. And it came to pass, that at even the _____ came up, and covered the camp: and in the morning the dew lay round about the host.

- 14) In the morning, what was there when the dew dried?

Exodus 16:14-15 And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness there lay a small _____ thing, as small as the hoar frost on the ground. And when the children of Israel saw it, they said one to another, It is _____: for they wist not what it was. And Moses said unto them, This is the bread which the LORD hath given you to eat.

- 15) What did Moses record for us in Numbers?

Numbers 11:7-8 And the manna was as _____ seed, and the colour thereof as the colour of bdellium. And the people went about, and gathered it, and ground it in mills, or beat it in a mortar, and baked it in pans, and made cakes of it: and the taste of it was as the taste of fresh _____.

Bdellium is an aromatic tree resin that comes in pale brown, yellowish, or honey-colored semi-transparent pieces. When found in the wild, it closely resembles the color and appearance of myrrh and varies from a dark brown to a glistening, yellowish-white.



16) What did the baked manna taste like?

Exodus 16:31 And the house of Israel called the name thereof Manna: and it was like coriander seed, white; and the taste of it was like wafers made with _____.

17) Did Everyone get enough?

Exodus 16:18 And when they did mete it with an omer, he that gathered much had nothing over, and he that gathered little had _____; they gathered every man according to his eating.

18) They were not to save any of it for the next day, except when?

Exodus 16:22-23 And it came to pass, that on the sixth day they gathered _____ as much bread, two omers for one man: and all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses. And he said unto them, This is that which the LORD hath said, To morrow is the rest of the holy _____ unto the LORD: bake that which ye will bake to day, and seethe that ye will seethe; and that which remaineth over lay up for you to be kept until the morning.

God requires that His holy day be as sacredly observed now as in the time of Israel. The command given to the Hebrews should be regarded by all Christians as an injunction from Jehovah to them. The day before the Sabbath should be made a day of preparation, that everything may be in readiness for its sacred hours. In no case should our own business be allowed to encroach upon holy time. God has directed that the sick and suffering be cared for; the labor required to make them comfortable is a work of mercy, and no violation of the Sabbath; but all unnecessary work should be avoided.

19) How long did they eat the manna?

Exodus 16:35 And the children of Israel did eat manna forty years, until they came to a land inhabited; they did eat manna, until they came unto the borders of the land of Canaan.

Psalms 78:24-25 And had rained down _____ upon them to eat, and had given them of the corn of heaven. Man did eat _____ food: he sent them meat to the full.

20) What did Jesus tell us?

John 6:48-51 I am that bread of _____. Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. I am the _____ bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the _____ of the world.

21) What will Jesus give to the overcomers?

Revelation 2:17 ...To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden _____...

22) After a bit, they moved on, what happened when they got to Rephadim?

Exodus 17:3 And the people thirsted there for _____; and the people murmured against Moses, and said, Wherefore is this that thou hast brought us up out of Egypt, to _____ us and our children and our cattle with thirst?

They had been so abundantly supplied with food, they remembered with shame their unbelief and murmurings, and promised to trust the Lord in the future; but they soon forgot their promise and failed at the first trial of their faith. The pillar of cloud that was leading them seemed to veil a fearful mystery. And Moses, who was he? they questioned, and what could be his object in bringing them from Egypt? Suspicion and distrust filled their hearts, and they boldly accused him of designing to kill them and their children by privations and hardships that he might enrich himself with their possessions. In the tumult of rage and indignation they were about to stone him.

23) What did Moses do?

Exodus 17:4 And Moses _____ unto the LORD, saying, What shall I do unto this people? they be almost ready to stone me.



24) And God said:

Exodus 17:5-6 And the LORD said unto Moses, Go on before the people, and take with thee of the elders of Israel; and thy _____, wherewith thou smotest the river, take in thine hand, and go. Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt _____ the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.

He obeyed, and the waters burst forth in a living stream that abundantly supplied the encampment. Instead of commanding Moses to lift up his rod and call down some terrible plague, like those on Egypt, upon the leaders in this wicked murmuring, the Lord in His great mercy made the rod His instrument to work their deliverance.

25) What did the Psalmist say about it?

Psalms 78:15-16 He _____ the rocks in the wilderness, and gave them drink as out of the great depths. He brought streams also out of the rock, and caused waters to run down like _____.

Moses smote the rock, but it was the Son of God who, veiled in the cloudy pillar, stood beside Moses, and caused the life-giving water to flow. Not only Moses and the elders, but all the congregation who stood at a distance, beheld the glory of the Lord; but had the cloud been removed, they would have been slain by the terrible brightness of Him who abode therein.

26) What did Moses name the place as a memorial of their sin?

Exodus 17:7 And he called the name of the place Massah, and _____, because of the chiding of the children of Israel, and because they tempted the LORD, saying, Is the LORD among us, or not?

A new danger now threatened them. Because of their murmuring against Him, the Lord suffered them to be attacked by their enemies. The Amalekites, a fierce, warlike tribe inhabiting that region, came out against them and smote those who, faint and weary, had fallen into the rear.

27) What transpired?

Exodus 17:9-10 And Moses said unto Joshua, Choose us out men, and go out, _____ with Amalek: to morrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in mine hand. So Joshua did as Moses had said to him, and fought with Amalek: and Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the _____.

Exodus 17:11-12 And it came to pass, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel _____: and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. But Moses' hands were heavy; and they took a stone, and put it under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur _____ up his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun.

As Aaron and Hur supported the hands of Moses, they showed the people their duty to sustain him in his arduous work while he should receive the word from God to speak to them. And the act of Moses also was significant, showing that God held their destiny in His hands; while they made Him their trust, He would fight for them and subdue their enemies; but when they should let go their hold upon Him, and trust in their own power, they would be even weaker than those who had not the knowledge of God, and their foes would prevail against them.

28) What did were they commanded to do after they got the victory?

Exodus 17:14 And the LORD said unto Moses, Write this for a _____ in a book, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua: for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven.



The Amalekites were not ignorant of God's character or of His sovereignty, but instead of fearing before Him, they had set themselves to defy His power. The wonders wrought by Moses before the Egyptians were made a subject of mockery by the people of Amalek, and the fears of surrounding nations were ridiculed. They had taken oath by their gods that they would destroy the Hebrews, so that not one should escape, and they boasted that Israel's God would be powerless to resist them. They had not been injured or threatened by the Israelites. Their assault was wholly unprovoked. It was to manifest their hatred and defiance of God that they sought to destroy His people.

29) Who came to the camp to visit after things calmed down?

Exodus 18:5 And _____, Moses' father in law, came with his sons and his wife unto Moses into the wilderness, where he encamped at the mount of God:

30) What did Jethro see while he was visiting?

Exodus 18:13 And it came to pass on the morrow, that Moses sat to judge the people: and the people stood by Moses from the morning unto the _____.

To maintain order and discipline among that vast, ignorant, and untrained multitude was indeed a stupendous task. Moses was their recognized leader and magistrate, and not only the general interests and duties of the people, but the controversies that arose among them, were referred to him. He had permitted this, for it gave him an opportunity to instruct them.

31) Jethro gave Moses some advice:

Exodus 18:17-18 And Moses' father in law said unto him, The thing that thou doest is _____. Thou wilt surely wear away, both thou, and this people that is with thee: for this thing is too _____ for thee; thou art not able to perform it thyself alone.

Exodus 18:19-20 Hearken now unto my voice, I will give thee counsel, and God shall be with thee: Be thou for the people to _____, that thou mayest bring the causes unto God: And thou shalt teach them ordinances and laws, and shalt shew them the way wherein they must walk, and the work that they must _____.

Exodus 18:21-22 Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people _____ men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens: And let _____ judge the people at all seasons: and it shall be, that every great matter they shall bring unto thee, but every small matter they shall judge: so shall it be easier for thyself, and they shall bear the burden with thee.

The Lord had greatly honored Moses and had wrought wonders by his hand; but the fact that he had been chosen to instruct others did not lead him to conclude that he himself needed no instruction. The chosen leader of Israel listened gladly to the suggestions of the godly priest of Midian and adopted his plan as a wise arrangement.

From Rephidim the people continued their journey, following the movement of the cloudy pillar until before them in solemn majesty Mount Sinai lifted its massive front. The cloudy pillar rested upon its summit, and the people spread their tents upon the plain beneath. Here was to be their home for nearly a year. At night the pillar of fire assured them of the Divine protection, and while they were locked in slumber, the bread of heaven fell gently upon the encampment.

The dawn gilded the dark ridges of the mountains, and the sun's golden rays pierced the deep gorges, seeming to these weary travelers like beams of mercy from the throne of God. Here Israel was to receive the most wonderful revelation ever made by God to men. Here the Lord had gathered His people that He might impress upon them the sacredness of His requirements by declaring with His own voice His holy law.

Can you see that God can give us what we need?

Would you like to be full of faith?

When is it time to be thankful?