

THE WATER THAT CAME FROM A ROCK

Exodus 17:1-16.

LESSON 26 — Primary Course

MEMORY VERSE: “If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink” (John 7:37).

TEXT

Exodus 17:1-16.

1 And all the congregation of the children of Israel journeyed from the wilderness of Sin, after their journeys, according to the commandment of the LORD, and pitched in Rephidim: and there was no water for the people to drink.

2 Wherefore the people did chide with Moses, and said, Give us water that we may drink. And Moses said unto them, Why chide ye with me? wherefore do ye tempt the LORD?

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

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

5 And the LORD said unto Moses, Go on before the people, and take with thee of the elders of Israel; and thy rod, wherewith thou smotest the river, take in thine hand, and go.

6 Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite 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.

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

8 Then came Amalek, and fought with Israel in Rephidim.

9 And Moses said unto Joshua, Choose us out men, and go out, fight with Amalek: to morrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in mine hand.

10 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 hill.

11 And it came to pass, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed: and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed.

12 But Moses' hands were heavy; and they took a stone, and put it under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur stayed 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.

13 And Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.

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

15 And Moses built an altar, and called the name of it Jehovahnissi:

16 For he said, Because the LORD hath sworn that the LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation.

NOTES

The People forgot God's goodness to Them

Although God had taken good care of the people with Moses while on their journey through that strange land, they seemed to forget it when they were in trouble again. God had gone before them by day in a cloud, and at night in a pillar of fire; and had showed them the best places to travel. When they found bitter water to drink, God told them how to make it sweet. When they needed food, God sent them the delicious manna and quails to eat.

Now they had no water to drink and they and their cattle were thirsty. They seemed to forget that God had given them water before and could do it again. They complained again. It was God they were really complaining against, because God had told them to leave their home in Egypt and go to another country.

When God told them to go through this country He knew that there would not always be water and food for them, but He intended to provide everything for them if they would trust Him to take care of them all the way. They said, “Is the LORD among us, or not?” That was very unkind, and they were very ungrateful to God.

God Had Mercy on Them

When they complained against God and against their leader, Moses, God might have punished them for it and might have permitted them to be without water. But God was kind and merciful again and told Moses what to do to get water for them.

The Water Came from the Rock

Moses had done wonderful things with his rod. Now God was going to give him power to do another miracle. God said that Moses should take three men with him and go to a rock He would show him. God would be there.

God told Moses to strike the rock with his rod. Moses did as God told him and water came out of the rock, and the people had plenty of good water to drink. God always gives the best of everything.

Only God could cause the water to come out of a rock, but there is nothing that God cannot do. They should have trusted God and not have complained. When they complained they complained against God Who had done many wonderful things for them. They should have been thankful to God and should have trusted Him because He had always helped them when they needed Him.

QUESTIONS

1. Why did the people murmur this time? Exodus 17:3.
2. Was the Lord pleased with their murmurings? Psalm 78:18-21.
3. What did the Lord tell Moses to do? Exodus 17: 5, 6.
4. Who brought the water out of the rock? Exodus 17:6; Psalm 78:16.
5. Who held up Moses' hands? Exodus 17:12.

LESSON RESOURCES

PICTURE



He Cannot Fail

WATCH AND PRAY 77



m`:- r`: d`: s:-: m: s:- l:- t:-: :

f`:- m`: r`: l:-: t: l:- s:- m`:-: :

m`:- r`: d`: s:-: m: s:- d`:- l:-: :

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He Cannot Fail

He cannot fail, for He is God

He cannot fail, He pledge His Word

He cannot fail, He'll see you through

He cannot fail, He'll answer you.