

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. How did the people react to God's blessings? (Psalm 106:13, 21)
2. Besides physical sustenance, what was God's purpose in providing water, manna and meat each day? And why twice as much on the sixth day?
3. Should we ever be concerned about God's temporal provision for us? (Matthew 6:25-31).
4. How does God demonstrate His divine provision to us?
5. When we complain (murmur), who do we really complain against?
6. Will unthankfulness be an attribute of those living in the last days? (2 Timothy 3:1-12)
7. Why should we be thankful? How can we be more thankful?

SUMMARY:

As the Children of Israel went through the wilderness they were confronted with various obstacles to "prove them". It is indeed sad to note that in the examples of proving in this lesson, they always murmured against God. Yet despite their murmuring, God made wonderful provision of water, bread and meat for their needs. Is the same sad commentary being recorded today? Does it seem that many so-called Christians fail to see God's testing of their lives in the adversities which He permits to overtake them? Despite this, He still blesses each one. May we heed Jesus' warning, "Murmur not!" (John 6:43)

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #5

May 1, 2022

Second Quarter

DIVINE PROVISION

LESSON TEXT: *Exodus 15:22-27; 16:1-13*

LESSON SETTING: The nation of Israel was now on its journey to the Promised Land. They thanked God for sparing them from destruction by the Egyptian army.

TIME: About 1491 B.C.

I. PROVISION OF WATER. Exodus 15:22-27

- A. The People Murmur
 1. Against Moses (vs. 24)
 2. Against God (Exodus 16:8)
- B. The People Tested (vs. 25) Deuteronomy 8:2; John 6:5-6; James 1:2-3
- C. Obedience Demanded (vs. 26) Deuteronomy 26:16; 1 Samuel 15:22; Matthew 7:21

II. PROVISION OF MANNA. Exodus 16:1-7

- A. The People Murmur Again.
 1. Against Moses (vs. 2)
 2. Against God (vs. 7)
- B. Supplies from God (vs. 4-5) 2 Kings 7:8; Matthew 14:20; Ephesians 3:19
- C. Testing of Lives (vs. 4) Psalm 17:3; Luke 6:48; 1 Corinthians 3:13

III. PROVISION OF MEAT. Exodus 16:8-13

- A. Murmuring Heard (vs. 9) Proverbs 19:3
- B. Desires Granted (vs. 13) Numbers 11:31-34; Psalm 106:15
- C. Murmuring Condemned. John 6:43; 1 Corinthians 10:10

GOLDEN TEXT: . . . YE SHALL BE FILLED WITH BREAD; AND YE SHALL KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD YOUR GOD.

Exodus 16:12

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Exodus 17:1-16

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Psalm 60:4; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13;
1 Timothy 5:17

QUARTERLY THEME: Journeys of Israel

TOPIC: VICTORY DEPENDENT ON GOD

INTRODUCTION:

The Lord, after delivering the Children of Israel from bondage in Egypt, “proved” them many times to see if they would faithfully walk with Him. On this occasion He had for a second time tested them with a lack of water to drink. How soon they forgot the way God had sweetened the waters at Marah. How they failed to trust that He who was supplying their daily manna would also surely supply their drinking water.

God mercifully overlooked their murmuring and gave instructions to Moses how to obtain this water. This became a “type” of the water of life which comes from Christ. We read in 1 Corinthians 10:4 “for they drank of that Spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.”

They also again experienced God’s help when an enemy, Amalek, sought to overcome them. God gave the command to send men against Amalek and while Moses’ arms were raised, the Israelites were victorious, and when his arms were lowered, they lost ground. Aaron’s and Hur’s sensitivity to Moses’ needs was shown by their help in holding up Moses’ arms when they saw he had become too tired to do so. This teaches us a lesson that even as Moses needed support, so we today need to be sensitive to one another’s needs and to support each other-in prayer or otherwise. God will then also give us victory in our battles.

CENTRAL TRUTH: God is the giver of every good and perfect gift.

GOLDEN TEXT: *I AM THE ALMIGHTY GOD; WALK BEFORE ME, AND BE THOU PERFECT.*
Genesis 17:1

This was God’s command and promise made to Abraham when he was reassured concerning the promise of a son, Isaac. This perfection which God promised was based upon Abraham’s walking before God, that is, in nearness to Him.

The same type of promise was made to Solomon when he was found pleasing to God. God said: “**If thou wilt walk in my ways**, to keep My statutes and My commandments, as thy father David did walk, then I will lengthen thy days”. (1 Kings 3:14, also see 1 Kings 9:4-9)

Enoch was translated that he should not see death because he walked with God and pleased Him. (Genesis 5:23-24; Hebrews 11:5)

Thus, for each one of us, if we are to see the glory and the salvation of God, we must walk before Him in ways which He has ordained and commands that we walk in them. We cannot be perfect until we do walk in these ways, and God commands that we **be perfect**. In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus said, “Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.” (Matthew 5:48) Can we say “this does not apply to us,” as some would say? No, we “**better believe it**” and then seek to attain this perfection **now** by putting on the righteousness of Christ.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF May 2 – 8

- M. *Victory Dependent on God. Exodus 17:1-16
- T. Noah Saves the Human Race. Genesis 6:8-22
- W. Job Wins Through Suffering. Job 42:7-17
- T. Caleb Leads in Judah. Joshua 14:6-14
- F. Gideon’s Victorious Army. Judges 7:19-24
- S. Hezekiah Leads in Revival. 2 Chronicles 30:20-27
- S. Esther’s Dedication. Esther 4:9 through 5:4

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