**Moses a man who heard from God – Ex. 17**

**Focal Truth: God provided water from a rock for Israel**

**Observations**

1. **Israel journeyed from the wilderness of Sin to barren Rephidim – 17:1**
2. They journeyed by stages according to the command of the Lord

They went from place to place from the wilderness of Sin to the place with no water Rephidim

They “journeyed by journeys” – lit.

Journey = traveling from place to place

1. Israel came to the place of no water – the place of thirst – Rephidim
2. Israel has now come to Rephidim – near Horeb the mountain of God

***Israel journeyed from place to place, obeying God’s command – in His presence & with His provision***

1. **Israel quarrels with Moses in thirst & unbelief – 17:2 – 3**
2. Israel quarreled = (cried out loudly, shouting with anger) with Moses
3. Israel demanded Moses to provide for them not God

**“Give us water that we may drink”**

1. Moses warned the people not to test = (put to the proof test) God - to judge them because of their unbelief

**“Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?”**

 **Israel demanded God to prove Himself to them in their desperate condition**

1. **Moses prays to the Lord for help – 17:4**
2. Moses cried out to the Lord as the people angrily shouted & demanded water to drink

**“what shall I do to this people? A little more and they will stone me”**

1. **God gives Moses the directions for the situation – 17:5 – 6**
2. God told Moses to pass before all the people with some of the elders with his staff that he used to part the Nile & go
3. God promises to stand before the rock at Horeb

Ex3:1 – Moses saw & heard from God at the burning bush at Mt. Horeb the mountain of God

1. God commands Moses to strike the rock
2. God promises that water will come out of the rock for the people to drink

Deut. 8:15 – He led you through the great and terrible wilderness, with its fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty ground where there was no water, He brought water for you out of the rock of flint

Neh. 9:14 -15 – You made known to them Your holy sabbath, and laid down for them commandments, statutes and law, through your servant Moses. You provided bread from heaven for their hunger, you brought forth water from a rock for them for their thirst

Ps. 78:13 – 16 – He divided the sea and caused them to pass through, and He made the waters stand up like a heap. Then He led them with the cloud by day and all the night with a light of fire. He split the rocks in the wilderness and gave them abundant drink like the ocean depths. He brought forth streams also from the rock and caused waters to run down like rivers

Ps. 104: 39 -41 – He spread a cloud for a covering, and fire to illumine by night. They asked, and He brought quail, and satisfied them with bread from heaven. He opened the rock and water flowed out, It ran in the dry places like a river.

Ps. 114:7 -8 – tremble, O earth, before the Lord, before the God of Jacob, who turned the rock into a pool of water, the flint into a fountain of water

1. **Moses obeys God’s direction – 17:6**
2. Moses obeyed God’s command in the sight of the elders of Israel
3. God provides water in barren Rephidim

1 Cor. 10: 1 – 4 – our fathers were all under the cloud and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they were drinking from a spiritual rock which followed them, and the rock was Christ

1. **Moses named the place: the place of test & quarrel – 17:7**
2. Israel tested & quarreled with God in the place of no water

**“Is the Lord among us, or not?”**

 Unbelief says: is God present to hear & help me?

 Unbelief says: if You are God then do something for me!

 Unbelief says: Does God care about me in my situation?

 Unbelief says: Can God help me in my circumstances & needs?

**Things to Remember**

1. Believers follow the Lord from place to place with His presence & provision
2. Unbelief is the sin of testing God
3. Human need creates dependence on God
4. Anger with God’s leaders reveals unwillingness to follow God’s leadership
5. God tests our faith we don’t test God’s grace & mercy
6. God provides great things for His people in the place of no water
7. God’s shows mercy in the place of questioning God & unbelief in Him

**Daily Use**

1. Are you living in the place of desperate need?
2. Are you trusting God?
3. Are you testing God & fighting with God in unbelief?
4. Remember God has provided all that we need through Jesus Christ the savior & Lord