

1 Cor. 10:4 And did **all** drink the same spiritual drink:
for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed
them: and **that Rock was Christ.**

Last week, we began looking at the typology of
Moses, the Exodus, the Red Sea, and how it revealed
the Lord Jesus Christ as “the Rock” in 1 Cor. 10:1-5.
This evening, we will look at the passage in Ex. 17,
taking a closer look at the “Smitten Rock.”

Ex. 17:1 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?

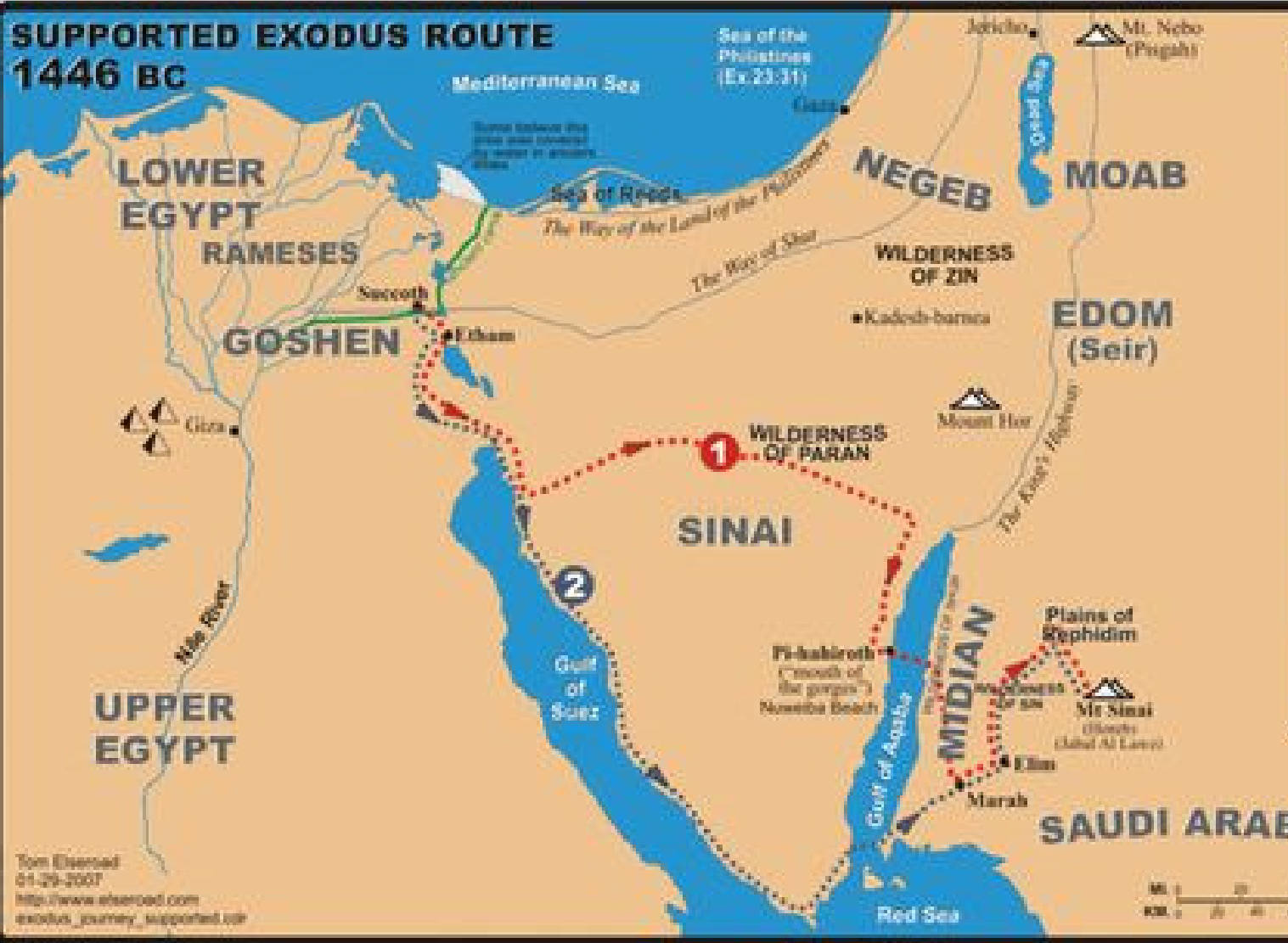
The incident that the Holy Spirit moved the Apostle Paul to write to the church in Corinth is found in our text. The “big picture” allows us to see a good overview of “life” from God’s perspective. He knows everything that is in a person’s heart, the reason behind circumstances, and in the Bible, He reveals His role during certain incidents and events. The “smiting of the Rock” is one such event in which many factors are involved. We begin by observing “adversity.”

I. THE PATH OF LIFE SUFFERS ADVERSITY, 17:1

A. Life is an Adventure with Varied Experiences –

“...the children of Israel journeyed... after their journeys... and pitched in Rephidim:”

SUPPORTED EXODUS ROUTE 1446 BC



- 1446 BC — (Ex.13-Nu.14)**
- 1 Goshen to Succoth (Ex. 13:18)
 - 2 Succoth to Etham (encamped in the edge of the wilderness, Ex. 13:20). The Lord went before the people in a pillar of a cloud by day, and a pillar of fire by night (Ex. 13:21-22).
 - 3 Turn and encamp before Pi-hahiroth (between Migdol and the sea) over against the Baal-zephon (Ex. 14:1-2). This place "shut them in" (Ex. 14:3).
 - 4 **CROSSING:** God told Moses, "Lift thou up thy rod" and divide the sea (Ex. 14:16).
 - 5 Into the Wilderness of Shur and went 3 days and found no water (Ex. 15:22).
 - 6 Came to Marah, but could not drink because the waters were bitter (Ex. 15:23). The Lord showed Moses a tree to cast into the waters to make them sweet (Ex. 15:25).
 - 7 Came to Elim which had 12 wells of water and 70 Palm trees (Ex. 15:27).
 - 8 From Elim to Wilderness of Sin (2nd month, 15th day) (Ex. 16:1). Israel murmured about food. The Lord provided "manna" (Ex. 16).
 - 9 From Wilderness of Sin to Rephidim (Ex. 17:1).
 - 10 Rephidim to Wilderness (desert) of Sinai (in the 3rd month). Israel camped before mount Sinai (Ex. 19:1-2). Sinai to Kadesh-barnea (Nu. 10-12)

1 Most supported route of Exodus

2 Alternate route of Exodus

Tom Eberoad
01-29-2007
http://www.eberoad.com
exodus_journey_supported.asp



<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/423408802445193015/>

Exodus Route



www.bible.ca

Steve Rudd 2006

Image courtesy of NASA

❖ Life's journey includes experiencing many twists and turns, both good and bad.

"The whole secret of a successful life is to find out what is one's destiny to do, and then do it." – **Henry Ford**

"Life is a succession of lessons which must be lived to be understood." — **Helen Keller**

"The two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why." – **Mark Twain**

"Life's tough, but it's tougher when you're stupid." – **John Wayne**

<https://parade.com/937586/parade/life-quotes/>

❖ Life is given to mankind to glorify the Creator:

Isa. 43:7 “...for **I have created him for my glory**, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.”

Jn. 10:10b “...I am come that they might **have life**, and that they might **have it more abundantly**.”

Phil. 1:21 For **to me to live is Christ**, and to die *is* gain.

❖ All of life's decisions should be based upon the will of God, for His glory.

B. Life is According to Victorious Edicts –

“...**according to the commandment of the LORD...**”

- ❖ When a person follows the path that God has ordered, obedience should be the focus in order to live a fruitful life.

Prov. 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and **he shall direct thy paths.**

Psa. 37:23 **The steps of a *good* man are ordered by the LORD:** and he delighteth in his way.

Psa. 16:11 **Thou wilt shew me the path of life:** in thy presence *is* fulness of joy; at thy right hand *there are* pleasures for evermore.

Psa 23:3 He restoreth my soul: **he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.**

- ❖ Every obstacle encountered upon Israel's journey was an opportunity for them to see God's intervention, deliverance, and display of His glory!

II. THE PROBLEMS OF LIFE STIMULATE ACCUSATIONS, 17:2-3

A. Life is an Attitude with Vocal Emotions –
“...the people did chide...”

- ❖ Stressful circumstances reveal impatient understanding of God’s plan and purpose.
- ❖ Disillusionment produces frustrating reactions that are an affront to God, tempting Him.

Original Word: רִיב; **Transliteration:** rib or rub

Definition: to strive, contend (chide, quarrel)

<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/7378.htm>

❖ When life has ups and downs, be careful not to tempt God.

Deut. 6:16 Ye shall not tempt the LORD your God, **as ye tempted *him* in Massah.**

Deut. 33:8 And of Levi he said, *Let thy Thummim and thy Urim be with thy holy one, whom thou didst prove at Massah, and with whom thou didst strive at the waters of Meribah;*

❖ The chiding with Moses was an indirect griping at God.

B. Life is an Accusation that will be Vigorously Expressed – “...the people murmured...”

- ❖ The lack of water was the impetus for the murmuring against Moses.
- ❖ Disappointments exaggerate the magnitude of the challenge.
- ❖ The accusation was “...to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?”

Original Word: לִוַן; **Transliteration:** luwn

Definition: to lodge, pass the night, abide; (to grumble, complain, murmur)

<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/3885.htm>

(<https://www.blueletterbible.org/lexicon/h3885/kjv/wlc/0-1/>)

❖ The great offense to God was that the accusations were a “froward” demonstration of the heart.

froward (adv.)

12c., *froward*, *fraward* "turned against, perverse, disobedient; peevish, petulant; adverse, difficult," as a preposition, "away from." <https://www.etymonline.com/search?q=froward>

Prov. 4:24 Put away from thee **a froward mouth**, and perverse lips put far from thee.

Prov. 6:12 A naughty person, a wicked man, **walketh with a froward mouth**.

Prov. 8:13 The fear of the LORD *is* to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and **the froward mouth, do I hate**.

Prov. 10:14 Wise *men* lay up knowledge: but **the mouth of the foolish *is* near destruction. ...**

32 The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable: but **the mouth of the wicked *speaketh* frowardness**.

❖ The chiding and murmuring exposes the froward hearts of Israel who had forgotten the previous miracles of deliverance for Israel.

Deut. 31:21 And it shall come to pass, **when many evils and troubles are befallen them**, that this song shall testify against them as a witness; for it shall not be forgotten out of the mouths of their seed: for I know their imagination which they go about, even now, before I have brought them into the land which I swear.

Mt. 15:18 But **those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart**; and they defile the man.

19 For **out of the heart** proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:

III. THE PROGRESS IN LIFE SEARCHES FOR ANSWERS,
17:4

A. Life is Asking for Vital Explanations –
“...What shall I do unto this people...”

Conclusion

Deut. 8:14 Then **thine heart be lifted up, and thou forget the LORD thy God**, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage;

15 Who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness, *wherein were* fiery serpents, and scorpions, and drought, where *there was* no water; **who brought thee forth water out of the rock of flint;**

16 Who fed thee in the wilderness with manna, which thy fathers knew not, that he might humble thee, and **that he might prove thee, to do thee good at thy latter end;**

17 And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of *mine* hand hath gotten me this wealth.

18 But thou shalt **remember the LORD thy God**: for *it is* he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as *it is* this day.

Phil. 2:14 Do all things without murmurings and disputings:

15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;

16 Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.