

JESUS – NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES "Jesus is the Smitten Rock"

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

Two weeks ago, 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 <u>1 Cor. 10:1-5</u>. Last week, we began with...

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

A. Life is an Adventure with Varied ExperiencesB. Life is According to Victorious Edicts

II. <u>THE PROBLEMS OF LIFE STIMULATE ACCUSATIONS</u>, 17:2-3

- A. Life is an Attitude with Vocal Emotions
- B. Life is an Accusation that will be Vigorously Expressed

This evening, we will continue looking at the passage in <u>Ex. 17</u>, taking a closer look at the "Smitten Rock."



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Life is a journey of varied experiences, varied emotions, and varied reactions. The Israelites saw many wondrous miracles during their Exodus from Egypt, and confronted many arduous challenges. In <u>Ex. 17:1-7</u>, the Israelites expressed their grief with Moses and his leadership, which, in essence, was a temptation to God.

Ex. 17:2 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**?

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

<u>Deut. 33:8</u> 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**;

Facing such an emotional crowd of discontentment, Moses sought wisdom from God.

III. <u>THE PROGRESS IN LIFE SEARCHES FOR ANSWERS</u>, 17:4

Ex. 17:4 And Moses cried unto the LORD, saying, What shall I do unto this people? they be almost ready to stone me. A wise believer stays in constant fellowship with the Lord, praying without ceasing.

<u>1 Thess. 5:17</u> Pray without ceasing.

<u>Isa. 26:3</u> Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

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

There are times in a believer's life when problems arise with no apparent answers.

- <u>2 Chron. 20:5</u> And Jehoshaphat stood in the
- **congregation** of Judah and Jerusalem, **in the house of the LORD**, before the new court,
- <u>6</u> And said, O LORD God of our fathers, *art* not thou God in heaven? and rulest *not* thou over all the kingdoms of the heathen? and in thine hand *is there not* power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee? ...
- <u>12</u> O our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; **neither know we what to do: but our eyes** *are* **upon thee**.
- When searching for answers, go to the house of God and pray!

B. Life is Admitting the Vexing Extent – "...they be almost ready to stone me."

For progress in life, face the challenges, admit truth, and stay close to the Lord.

<u>1 Sam. 30:6</u> And **David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him**, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: **but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God**. <u>2 Chron. 7:14</u> If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

Mt. 11:28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

IV. <u>THE PROPOSAL FOR LIFE'S SOLUTIONS ARE</u> <u>AMAZING</u>, 17:5-7

 A. Life is an Advantage yet to be Visually Exposed
– "Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock..."



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Untapped and unknown, water was made available through the smitten Rock.

<u>Isa. 53:4</u> Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, **smitten of God**, and afflicted.

"Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up."– **Thomas A. Edison**

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

<u>Acts 17:27</u> That **they should seek the Lord**, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, **though he be not far from every one of us**: B. Life is an Answer about to be Valuably Enjoyed – "...and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink..."

- Water, the desire of the complainers, was within their reach, waiting to be enjoyed.
- Eph. 3:20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

In spite of the Israelite's chiding and murmuring, God was gracious is providing the "Smitten Rock."

<u>Rom. 5:8</u> But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

C. Life is an Awareness of the Vicious Encounter – "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..."

The victorious refreshing of Israel did NOT wash away their insolent behavior toward God and His servant, Moses.

- Original Word: מַסָּה Transliteration: Massah; Definition: a place in the desert where Israelites rebelled = "temptation" https://biblehub.com/hebrew/4532.htm
- Original Word: מְרִיבָה Transliteration: Meribah; Definition: "place of strife" or "contention," two places in the desert https://biblehub.com/hebrew/4809.htm

<u>Summary</u>

- The journey became very challenging, people were disappointed and frustrated, there was apparently no hope, and then the Israelites expressed a vicious and accusing attitude toward God and His servant, Moses.
- The answer, the "Smitten Rock," was available in spite of Israel's attitude.
- Moses sought the Lord and His guidance in order to provide the remedy to their dilemma.
- In spite of the froward hearts of the Israelites, the "Smitten Rock" provided the need.

Conclusion

<u>Deut. 32:4</u> *He is* the Rock, his work *is* perfect: for all his ways *are* judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right *is* he. ...

15 But Jeshurun waxed fat, and kicked: thou art waxen fat, thou art grown thick, thou art covered with fatness; then he forsook God which made him, and lightly esteemed the Rock of his salvation... 18 Of the Rock that begat thee thou art unmindful, and hast forgotten God that formed thee. . 31 For their rock is not as our Rock, even our enemies themselves *being* judges.

<u>1 Sam. 2:2</u> *There is* none holy as the LORD: for *there is* none beside thee: **neither** *is there* **any** *rock like* **our God**.

<u>2 Sam. 22:2</u> And he said, **The LORD** *is* **my rock**, and my fortress, and my deliverer;

<u>3</u> The God of my rock; in him will I trust: *he is* my

- shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour; thou savest me from violence. ...
- 32 For who *is* God, save the LORD? **and who** *is* **a rock, save our God**? ...

<u>47</u> The LORD liveth; and **blessed** *be* **my rock**; and exalted be the God of the rock of my salvation.