

# SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

## AN OVERVIEW OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

JN. 5:39



Jn. 5:39 “**Search the scriptures....they are they which testify of me.**”

Jn. 5:46 For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for **he wrote of me.**

Rom. 15:4 For whatsoever things were **written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.**

Luke 24:44 And he said unto them, These *are* the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, **which were written in the law of Moses, and *in* the prophets, and *in* the psalms, concerning me.**

45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might **understand the scriptures,**

Finishing the “song of Moses” in Ex.15, an admonition to obedience, with a quick reminder of the plagues in Egypt, is given in 15:26-27:

Ex. 15:26 And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I *am* the LORD that healeth thee.

27 And they came to Elim, where *were* twelve wells of water, and threescore and ten palm trees: and they encamped there by the waters.

- ❖ The children of Israel began murmuring and complaining about the lack of water after arriving in Marah and tasting the bitter water.
- ❖ The LORD showed Moses a tree (a type of the Lord Jesus and the cross) to provide the remedy, turning the bitter waters sweet.
- ❖ Just five miles north was Elim, a place of twelve wells of water and seventy palm trees.

**Original Word:** אֵילִם Transliteration: Elim

**Definition:** "terebinths", a place in the desert

<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/362.htm>

# The Exodus From Egypt

Nuweiba Beach Crossing -- Sinai at Jabal al-Lawz



Num. 33:9 And they removed from Marah, and came unto Elim: and in Elim *were* twelve fountains of water, and threescore and ten palm trees; and they pitched there.

Tonight, we begin chapter 16 and see the introduction of “manna.”

## I. THE RETURN TO GRUMBLING, 16:1-3

Ex. 16:1 And they took their journey from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came unto the wilderness of Sin, which *is* between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after their departing out of the land of Egypt.

2 And **the whole congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness:**

3 And the children of Israel said unto them, Would to God we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh pots, *and* when we did eat bread to the full; for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger.

- ❖ After the bitter experience at Marah and enjoying God's provision, once again the children of Israel "murmured against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness:"
- ❖ The children of Israel were "wilderness weaklings."

**Original Word:** יָצָן  
**Transliteration:** Ciyn = Sin =  
"thorn" or "clay"

<https://www.blueletterbible.org/lexicon/h5512/kjv/wlc/0-1/>



- ❖ They greatly overexaggerated their comfort in Egypt, 16:3.
- ❖ The complaint was “we sat by the flesh pots, *and* when we did eat bread to the full.”
- ❖ The previous desire was thirst, now the complaint was hunger.
- ❖ Why so much complaining?

(1) Grumbling is a problem with pain or problems.

(2) Grumbling is a problem of perception.

(3) Grumbling is a problem of submission.

(4) Grumbling is a sin of the tongue, which is closely related to disobedience.

(5) Grumbling is a communicable disease.

(6) Grumbling is the result of a failure in our faith.

## II. THE RESPONSE OF GRACE, 16:4

- ❖ First, He revealed His glory to the Israelites by some special manifestation of Himself in the cloud by which He had been leading them (16:10).
- ❖ Second, God provided His people with quail and with manna (16:11-14).

16:4 Then said the LORD unto Moses, **Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you**; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that **I may prove them**, whether they will walk in my law, or no.

5 And it shall come to pass, that on the sixth day they shall prepare *that* which they bring in; and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily.

❖ The LORD graciously provided “bread from heaven” for the children of Israel.

16:6 And Moses and Aaron said unto all the children of Israel, At even, **then ye shall know that the LORD hath brought you out from the land of Egypt:**

7 And **in the morning, then ye shall see the glory of the LORD;** for that he heareth your **murmurings against the LORD:** and what *are* we, that ye murmur against us?

8 And Moses said, *This shall be*, when the LORD shall give you in the evening flesh to eat, and in the morning bread to the full; for that the LORD heareth your murmurings which **ye murmur against him:** and what *are* we? your murmurings *are* not against us, but against the LORD.

- ❖ The intervention of God was to “prove” Israel and verify God’s deliverance.
- ❖ Moses emphasized that God knew about the murmurings of Israel against the LORD.

16:9 And Moses spake unto Aaron, Say unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, Come near before the LORD: for **he hath heard your murmurings.**

10 And it came to pass, as Aaron spake unto the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and, **behold, the glory of the LORD appeared** in the cloud.

## Summary

1 Tim. 6:17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;

18 That they do good, that they **be rich in good works**, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;

19 Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

## Conclusion

Psa. 106:12 Then believed they his words; they sang his praise.

13 They soon forgat his works; they waited not for his counsel:

14 But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness, and tempted God in the desert.

15 And he gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul.