

# Lesson 2: Israel's Desert Experiences- Part 2

---

## Central Point: God exerts Himself as supreme over Satan

Overall the Hebrews put the Lord to the test 10 times: since leaving Egypt till they reached the Promise Land for the first time according to Numbers 14:20-23. The consequences were severe and in the end it cost that generation- all but a few died in the desert.

### Water from the Rock

Water is essential to sustain life, God knows this, and one could reason that if God delivered them from Egypt, surely He will not let them die from thirst.

- **Please Read: Exodus 17:1-7**
- Moses striking the rock was a type and shadow of Jesus being stuck at Calvary
- There was a second instance where water came from rock- Moses was to speak to it
- **Please Read: Numbers 20:1-13**
- **Question:** "Why do you think God had instructed Moses to Speak to the rock this time?"
- The rock was a type of Jesus Christ- He would only be crucified "struck" once
- Hebrews 9:28, *"So Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people."*

### 1 Corinthians 10:3-4

They all ate the same spiritual food and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ.

Notice the response Moses gave in Exodus 17:2, *"Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the LORD to the test?"* Interesting, so complaining and grumbling about things is a lack of faith. Basically, a lack of trusting in God, giving into fear, worrying about the bad things that could happen- doubting God's ability to take care of us!

- Faith can be measured by the amount of God's Word we have abiding in our heart
- Many times in the gospels Jesus referred to the respondent's faith as the key to receive
- According to your faith: Mt. 8:13; 9:29; 14:36; 15:28; Mk. 10:52; Lk. 7:50; 17:19
- Little faith: Mt. 6:30; 8:24; 14:27; 16:18; 17:19-20
- Lack of Faith: Mk. 6:6; 16:14
- There are numerous Scriptures on God's provision for our lives
- **Please Read: Psalms 37:25**

**Isaiah 48:21**, "They did not thirst when he led them through the deserts; he made water flow for them from the rock; he split the rock and water gushed out."

## Amalekites Defeated

When Israel was vulnerable, the Amalekites attacked them- obviously used by Satan to exploit the people of God. However, God worked through Moses and Joshua in a mighty way.

- **Please Read: Exodus 17:8-16 and payback in 1 Samuel 15:1-6**
- **Question:** “Does the Lord fight our battles today, in this age we live in?”
- The battle is the Lord’s according to **1 Samuel 17:47**
- Consider the book of acts and what happened to Herod- **Acts 12:1-5, 21-24**
- It was fortunate for Saul (who became Paul) that he repented- **Acts 26:14**

## Deuteronomy 32:35

“It is mine to avenge; I will repay. In due time their foot will slip; their day of disaster is near and their doom rushes upon them.”

Notice that while Moses had his hands upraised with the rod of God in his hand, the Israelites were winning the battle, but when his hands grew tired and were lowered they begin to lose.

## The Golden Calf

What was sad about the Israelites is that for most of them, even though God got them out of Egypt, it seemed impossible to get Egypt out of them. This event is probably one of the most famous in the Old Covenant. It represents supreme betrayal and rebellion. After all that God had done for them. All the miracles, mighty deliverances and supernatural provision.

- Leading up to the receiving of the 10 commandments, the fear of God was put in them
- **Please Read: Exodus 24:12-18; Hebrews 12:18-21, 25-29**
- To fear the Lord is to hate evil according to **Proverbs 8:13**
- **Please Read: Acts 7:37-43**
- **Question:** “What is it about idol worship that makes it so detestable before God?”
- Notice verse 42, “...gave them over to the worship of the heavenly bodies.”
- Idol worship is demon worship- **Dt. 32:15-21; Ps. 106:37; 1 Cor. 10:19-22**

**Exodus 31:18**, “When the Lord finished speaking to Moses on Mount Sinai, he gave him the two tablets of the Testimony, the tablets of stone inscribed by the finger of God.”

After Moses had been on the mountain for 40 days and 40 nights, the natives had gotten restless in a bad way. They proclaimed in Exodus 32:4, “*These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt.*” No words can describe the level of such wicked treachery.

- **Please Read: Exodus chapter 32**