

Exodus Lesson 26 - Typology of the Rock

Exodus 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.*

Exodus 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?

Exodus 17:3 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?

Exodus 17:4 And Moses cried unto the LORD, saying, What shall I do unto this people? they be almost ready to stone me.

Exodus 17:5 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.

Exodus 17:6 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.

Exodus 17:7 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?



We have been made aware of the unbelief on the part of the Israelites during the wilderness experience, as well as, we learned that their actions were written in the Bible as a typical example for us today, “whom the ends of the world has come” (I Corinthians 1-13). Now this unbelief was brought upon by their own carnal lust. They had been delivered out of the bondage of Egypt, tasted of the unleavened bread, passed through their first trial of faith at the Red Sea then sang the song of the redeemed and bitter water turned sweet by God at Marah. They had encamped at the 12 wells and 70 palms at Elim, and provided “bread to the fill” in the desert of sin.

It may seem hard to believe that the children of Israel could entertain unbelief after all this provision to them by God, but we do the same today. We, too, have been delivered from the slavery to which sin had us bound. (Romans 6:16) We too, face trials; and can be victorious and full of joy through it all, or:

I Corinthians 10:12 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

Yes, a Christian can fall, just exactly as our examples fell in the wilderness and did not make it into God’s rest. **But we today, have them as ensamples so that we do not “lust after evil things as they also lusted”.** (I Corinthians 10:6). Now just seeing them as ensamples is not going to free us from the bondage we cause ourselves by yielding to evil lust again as Romans 6 instructs. We need to take action. Notice that all Israel did was nothing but lust, and it bound them up. Lust lead to unbelief, unbelief led to murmuring, and in this chapter we see the murmuring led them to chiding with God. So today, if we yield ourselves to lust, we will go down the same path of destruction, departing from God, and in God’s wrath, we will not enter into His rest. (Hebrews 3:1-15) God’s admonition today is:

Hebrews 3:7 Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice,

Hebrews 3:8 **Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation,** in the day of temptation in the wilderness:

Hebrews 3:9 When your fathers **tempted** me, **proved** me, and **saw my works** forty years.

Hebrews 3:10 Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in *their* heart; and they have not known my ways.

Hebrews 3:11 So **I swear in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest.**)

Hebrews 3:12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you **an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.**

Hebrews 3:13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

Hebrews 3:14 For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end;

Hebrews 3:15 While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the **provocation.**

- From this type, Exodus chapter 17 leads us into some other types, which also makes God grieve in His heart, and caused Moses not to enter into the promised land
- A temptation of the LORD - Israel's murmuring against Moses was actually a temptation of the Lord. Israel is said to have tempted the Lord ten times in the wilderness. Tempting the Lord is the same as provoking God.

I. Israel's Chiding in the Wilderness – Murmuring has progressed into Chiding

Exodus 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.

Exodus 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?*

Exodus 17:3 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?*



Numbers 14:22 Because all those men which have seen my glory, and my miracles, which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, **and have tempted me now these ten times**, and have not hearkened to my voice;

- To tempt the Lord is to provoke Him
- Temptation and provocation many times appear in the same verse:

Psalms 78:41 Yea, they **turned back** and **tempted God**, and **limited** the Holy One of Israel.

Psalms 78:56 Yet they **tempted** and **provoked** the most high God, and **kept not his testimonies:**

- God's mercy has a limit - Provoked He often recompenses those that tempt Him:
- Israel provoked Him to give them flesh for their lusts and he gave it to them until it came out of their nostrils

Psalms 78:18 And they tempted God in their heart by asking meat for their lust.

Psalm 78:30 They were not estranged from their lust. But while their meat *was* yet in their mouths,

Psalm 78:31 The wrath of God came upon them, and slew the fattest of them, and smote down the chosen *men* of Israel.

Numbers 11:20 *But even a whole month, until it come out at your nostrils*, and it be loathsome unto you: because that ye have despised the LORD which *is* among you, and have wept before him, saying, Why came we forth out of Egypt?

Numbers 11:33 And while the flesh *was* yet between their teeth, ere it was chewed, the wrath of the LORD was kindled against the people, and the LORD smote the people with a very great plague.

- **Israel provoked him by loathing the manna so He sent serpents that killed many**

Numbers 21:5 And the people spake against God, and against Moses, Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? for *there is* no bread, neither *is there any* water; and our soul loatheth this light bread.

Numbers 21:6 And the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died.

I Corinthians 10:9 Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents.

- **Israel provoked him at Kadesh-Barnea and a whole generation's carcasses died in the wilderness**

Numbers 14:22 Because all those men which have seen my glory, and my miracles, which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have tempted me now these ten times, and have not hearkened to my voice;

Numbers 14:23 Surely they shall not see the land which I swear unto their fathers, neither shall any of them that provoked me see it:

- **The Pharisees sent Herodians to tempt the Lord wanting to trap Him with His own Words**

Matthew 22:18 But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites?

- **Ananias and Sapphira tempted the Lord when they lied to the Holy Ghost**

Acts 5:9 Then Peter said unto her, How is it that ye have agreed together *to tempt the Spirit of the Lord?* behold, the feet of them which have buried thy husband *are* at the door, and shall carry thee out.

- **We, today, also tempt the Lord just like Israel in the wilderness, departing and grieving the Lord just like Israel in the wilderness – It is from unbelief:**

Hebrews 3:7 Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice,

Hebrews 3:8 Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness:

Hebrews 3:9 When *your fathers tempted me*, proved me, and saw my works forty years.

Hebrews 3:10 Wherefore *I was grieved with that generation*, and said, They do alway err in *their* heart; and they have not known my ways.

Hebrews 3:11 So I swear in my wrath, *They shall not enter into my rest.*)

Hebrews 3:12 *Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.*

- **Satan is the inspiration for provoking God**

Matthew 4:7 Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.

II. The Striking of the Rock – The Rock unanimously is Jesus Christ

Exodus 17:4 And Moses cried unto the LORD, saying, What shall I do unto this people? they be almost ready to stone me.

Exodus 17:5 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.

Exodus 17:6 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.

Exodus 17:7 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?



I Corinthians 10:1 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea;

I Corinthians 10:2 And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;

I Corinthians 10:3 And did all eat the same spiritual meat;

Who is the Rock?

I Corinthians 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.

I Corinthians 10:5 But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

I Corinthians 10:6 Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.

Deuteronomy 32:4 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.

Deuteronomy 32:15 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.

Deuteronomy 32:18 Of the Rock that begat thee thou art unmindful, and hast forgotten God that formed thee.

Deuteronomy 32:30 How should one chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight, except their Rock had sold them, and the LORD had shut them up?

Deuteronomy 32:31 For their rock is not as our Rock, even our enemies themselves being judges.

Psalms 18:2 The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

Psalms 18:31 For who is God save the LORD? or who is a rock save our God?

Psalms 18:46 The LORD liveth; and blessed be my rock; and let the God of my salvation be exalted.

Psalms 42:9 I will say unto God my rock, Why hast thou forgotten me? why go I mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?

Psalms 62:2 He only is my rock and my salvation; he is my defence; I shall not be greatly moved.

Psalms 62:6 He only is my rock and my salvation: he is my defence; I shall not be moved.

Psalms 62:7 In God is my salvation and my glory: the rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God.

Psalms 71:3 Be thou my strong habitation, whereunto I may continually resort: thou hast given commandment to save me; for thou art my rock and my fortress.

Psalms 78:35 And they remembered that God was their rock, and the high God their redeemer.

Psalms 89:26 He shall cry unto me, Thou art my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.

Psalms 92:15 To shew that the LORD is upright: he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

Psalms 94:22 But the LORD is my defence; and my God is the rock of my refuge.

Psalms 95:1 O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

A. Daniel revealed Jesus Christ as the Smiting Stone:

Daniel 2:34 Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet *that were* of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces.

Daniel 2:35 Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.

B. Jesus Christ identified himself as the Stone which the builders rejected:

Matthew 21:42 Jesus saith unto them, *Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?*

C. Peter referred to Him as a Stone of stumbling and a Rock of offense

1 Peter 2:8 And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, *even to them* which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

D. If we know these things, we should have no trouble knowing the interpretation of Rock:

Matthew 16:18 *And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.*

E. The smitten Christ - Identifying the rock as the Type of the Lord Jesus Christ is going to provide a wonderful type of His death upon the cross and what happened following:

- Instructions were to use Moses' rod, the same rod used to smite the river (verse 5).
- The remembrance of the river here brings out the connection between the rod of Moses and the judgment of God (Exodus 7:17, also 4:3).
- The typology is of such tremendous importance that the LORD himself stands in to oversee its execution (verse 6).
- Moses was to take the rod and smite the rock, just as Christ was "smitten of God, and afflicted"

Isaiah 53:4 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

Isaiah 53:5 But he *was* wounded for our transgressions, *he was* bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace *was* upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

- It was the Israel's sin of chiding with Moses that led to the smiting of the rock, it was carried out by a rod of judgment, connected with a curse

Exodus 4:3 And he said, Cast it on the ground. And he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from before it.

- It was wielded by the law-giver Moses (John 1:17),

John 1:17 For the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

➤ **Carried out under the special direction of the LORD in the sight of Israel**

Isaiah 53:10 Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put *him* to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see *his* seed, he shall prolong *his* days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

II Corinthians 5:21 For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

➤ **All in the sight of the Nation of Israel:**

John 19:37 And again another scripture saith, They shall look on him whom they pierced.

III. The rivers of water - The result of this smitten rock was a flowing stream which Typifies the Holy Ghost

He clave the rocks in the wilderness, and gave them drink as out of the great depths. He brought streams also out of the rock, and caused waters to run down like rivers. Psalm 78:15-16

- The waters flowed from the rock like rivers even as the Holy Spirit proceeds from the believer like rivers of living water, but only after the Rock was smitten

John 7:37 In the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, **If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.**

John 7:38 **He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.**

- The giving of the water from the rock is connected to God's promise to Abraham:

Psalm 105:41 He opened the rock, and the waters gushed out; they ran in the dry places *like* a river.

Psalm 105:42 For he remembered his holy promise, *and* Abraham his servant.

- **Even as the promise is the way the Gentiles are made partakers of Abraham's blessing:**

Galatians 3:13 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed *is* every one that hangeth on a tree:

Galatians 3:14 That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

The rock smitten once. In Numbers 20, Moses broke the typology that the LORD gave in Exodus 17 and resulting in Moses not entering the Promised Land.

- **Moses was to take Aaron's priestly rod rather than the rod of judgment**

Numbers 17:10 And the LORD said unto Moses, Bring Aaron's rod again before the testimony, to be kept for a token against the rebels; and thou shalt quite take away their murmurings from me, that they die not.

Numbers 20:9 And Moses **took the rod from before the LORD, as he commanded him.**

- **Moses was supposed to "speak" to the rock, since it had already been smitten.**

Numbers 20:8 Take the rod, and gather thou the assembly together, thou, and Aaron thy brother, and speak ye unto the rock before their eyes; and it shall give forth his water, and thou shalt bring forth to them water out of the rock: so thou shalt give the congregation and their beasts drink.

➤ **Do you think Moses just did not quite hear God's command? – He herd alright!**

Numbers 20:10 And Moses and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock, and he said unto them, Hear now, ye rebels; must we fetch you water out of this rock?

➤ **Christ need only suffer and die once**

Romans 6:6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with *him*, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

Romans 6:7 For he that is dead is freed from sin.

Romans 6:8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him:

Romans 6:9 Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him.

Romans 6:10 For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.

Romans 6:11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 6:12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.

Romans 6:13 Neither yield ye your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness unto God.

Hebrews 9:24 For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, *which are* the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:

Hebrews 9:25 Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others;

Hebrews 9:26 For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.

Hebrews 9:27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

Hebrews 9:28 So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

Hebrews 10:9 Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.

Hebrews 10:10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once *for all*.



➤ **While earthly priests continually offer sacrifices, Jesus once and for all.**

Hebrews 10:11 And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins:

Hebrews 10:12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

Hebrews 10:13 From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.