

## INTRODUCTION:

**Exodus 16:23-36** **23**But, Moses said whatever the Lord has commanded for *Tomorrow is a solemn rest, a Holy Sabbath* unto Jehovah whereby they must refrain from doing daily tasks. So, they were to bake and boil as much as they needed for the day and what they saved, they will see that what's left over will remain for the next morning. **24**They did what Moses said and laid it up till the morning, and it did not stink, neither were there any worms in it. **25**Moses told them to *"Eat that to day; for to day is a sabbath unto the Lord: to day ye shall not find it in the field."* **26**Six days gather it; but on the seventh day, it's the Sabbath, in it (field) there shall be none. **27**Would you believe it, there went out some of the people on the seventh day going out to gather, and found none. **28**The Lord said unto Moses, *"How long will they refuse to keep my commandments and my laws?"* **29**They did not seem to know that He is the LORD. The Sabbath was a gift from Him to them. It was for their benefit. Jesus said, *'God made the Sabbath for people. He did not make people for the Sabbath'* (Mk. 2:27). *"On the sixth day the bread of two days; abide ye every man in his place, let no man go out of his place on the seventh day"*(NIV). **30**So the people rested on the seventh day. **31**And the house of Israel called the name thereof Manna: and it was like coriander seed, white; and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey. **32**And Moses tells the people: This is the thing which the Lord commanded, *"Keep an omer (about two litres or 3.5 pints) of manna for all the people to see in the future. Then people can see the bread that I gave to you. In that way you had food to eat in the desert. I gave it to you when I brought you away from Egypt."* **33***"And Moses said unto Aaron, Take a pot, and put an omer full of manna therein, and lay it up before the Lord, to be kept for your generations."* **34***"As the Lord commanded Moses, Aaron laid it up before the Testimony, to be kept."* **35***"And the children of Israel did eat manna forty years, until they came to an inhabited land; ate manna until they came to the borders of the land of Canaan."* **36***"Now an omer is the tenth part of an ephah."*

## LESSON

### I. THE TESTS EXODUS 17:1-3

**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.** The Lord commands, all the children of Israel to leave the Wilderness of Sin and they journey to Rephidim and pitched their tents. *"Rephidim"* means rests or i.e. resting places. However, no water is found there.

**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?**— And the people quarreled and complained with Moses saying *"Give us water that we may drink."* Moses asks *"why quarrel with me, and why do you test the Lord and try His patience?"*

**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**

# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE



**with thirst?**— So, we are back to water. Didn't they understand the last time? They murmured against Moses because they were thirsty, asking why bring them out of Egypt to kill their children and cattle with thirst.

## II. THE RESPONSES EXODUS 17:4-6

**17:4 And Moses cried unto the Lord, saying, What shall I do unto this people? they be almost ready to stone me.** Moses knew only one thing to do and that was to cry unto the Lord for *"this"* people. He didn't even call them God's people, for he thought they were about to stone him. They seemed out of control.

**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.** God instructs Moses to go ahead of the people and positions him like the leader he should be, and take the elders of Israel, along with his rod; the same rod he had struck the (Nile) river with. Take it in his hand and go lead the people.

**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.** Since there is no water in Rephidim, God tells Moses that he will meet him in Horeb. Horeb was not a long way from Rephidim. The Lord said that He will stand before him and upon the rock in Horeb. There he is told to strike the rock and water shall come out of it so the people can drink. The *"Rock"* is a symbol or type of Jesus Christ that when He is smitten or struck, out of Him comes living water. 1Corinthians 10:4 says *"And all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ."* Moses did as the Lord commanded in the sight of the elders.

## III. THE REBUKE EXODUS 17:7

**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?**— The name of the place was call *"Massah"* (*testing*) and *"Meribah"* (*quarreling*), because of the quarreling of the children of Israel, and because of their testing of the Lord, saying, *"Is the Lord among us, or not?"* They want to know if God is with them. God is the one taking them from place to place for He leads them by *"the pillar of cloud by day"* and *"the pillar of fire by night."* So, wherever the cloud stops, this is where God has taken them.

### SUMMARY:

**1**The Lord commands all the children of Israel to leave the Wilderness of Sin and journey to and pitch their tents in Rephidim. *"Rephidim"* means rests or i.e. resting places. **2**The people began to quarrel and complain with Moses saying *"Give us water that we may drink."* Moses asks *"why quarrel with me, and why do you test the Lord and His patience?"* **3**They murmured against Moses because they were thirsty, asking *"why bring us out of Egypt to kill our children and cattle with thirst."* **4**Moses knew only one thing to do and that was to cry out unto the Lord for *"this"* people. He didn't even call them God's people, for he thought they were about to stone him. **5**God instructs Moses to go ahead of the people and position himself like the leader he is, and take the elders of Israel, along with his rod; the same rod he had struck the (Nile) river with. Take it in his hand and go lead the people. **6**Since there was no water in Rephidim, God tells Moses that he will meet him in Horeb. Horeb was not a long ways from Rephidim, and there the Lord would stand before him and upon the rock in Horeb. There he is to strike the rock, and water will come out of it so the people can drink. Moses did as the Lord commanded in the sight of the elders. **7**The name of the place was called *"Massah"* (*testing*) and *"Meribah"* (*quarreling*), because of the quarreling of the children of Israel, and because of their testing of the Lord, saying, *"Is the Lord among us, or not?"*

