



Way Point Chronicles

Traveling through the Old Testament by Chronological Stories

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for their first opportunity to enter the land promised to Abraham and his descendants. God is leading them along by the hand of Moses.

With all these people the supply of food and water was enormous. May I say also that the murmuring was great as well? Notice with me our story in the Bible account.

I- Murmuring Children:

Exodus 16:1-3 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.

They are singing the same song that they had before about having it better in Egypt and wanting to be back there. They blamed Moses and Aaron for their predicament.

II- Promise and Provision of Manna:

Exodus 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.

God gives instruction to Moses to relay to the people about gathering the provision He was going to supply them with. They are instructed to gather two times as much on Friday to supply them on the Sabbath. God never intended for them to starve but wanted them to learn to trust Him and not themselves.

Let's let the Bible advance the story for us at this point.

Exodus 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. 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,



Coordinates:

Exodus 16:1-22; 31-36; 14:1-7

Sights to See:

- 1- God wants us to learn to trust Him as we journey through life.
- 2- God's provision still is provided by His hand day by day.
- 3- The natural man has a tendency to complain no matter the situation.
- 4- Jesus is the Bread of Life that supplies our spiritual needs and nourishment.
- 5- The water from the rock was a supernatural event that provided for Israel.
- 6- Christ is the Rock of our salvation, our hope and our anchor.
- 7- The greatest need of humanity is pictured for us in the bread and water provided for Israel in the wilderness that graphically portrays Christ.
- 8- Thank God for the Bread and Water of Life.



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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. 11 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 12 I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel: speak unto them, saying, At even ye shall eat flesh, and in the morning ye shall be filled with bread; and ye shall know that I am the LORD your God. 13 And it came to pass, that at even the quails came up, and covered the camp: and in the morning the dew lay round about the host. 14 And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness there lay a small round thing, as small as the hoar frost on the ground. 15 And when the children of Israel saw it, they said one to another, It is manna: for they wist not what it was. And Moses said unto them, This is the bread which the LORD hath given you to eat. 16 This is the thing which the LORD hath commanded, Gather of it every man according to his eating, an omer for every man, according to the number of your persons; take ye every man for them which are in his tents. 17 And the children of Israel did so, and gathered, some more, some less.

The provision of God lay about them each day as they awoke. They were charged with gathering what they needed. This reminds us that God's provision is from day to day. They had to learn to trust Him each day.

Exodus 16:18 And when they did mete it with an omer, he that gathered much had nothing over, and he that gathered little had no lack; they gathered every man according to his eating.

The provision was enough for all to have and lack nothing. Notice however, they did not trust Moses when he told them to not try to save some of it.

Exodus 16:19 And Moses said, Let no man leave of it till the morning. 20 Notwithstanding they hearkened not unto Moses; but some of them left of it until the morning, and it bred worms, and stank: and Moses was wroth with them. 21 And they gathered it every morning, every man according to his eating: and when the sun waxed hot, it melted. 22 And it came to pass, that on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for one man: and all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses.

God put in place a mechanism that forced them to trust Him each day. If they tried to horde it up it spoiled and was wormy. Beside why have rotten bread when you can have a fresh loaf each day. The provision of the Sabbath day was preparation for the giving of the Sabbath to Israel for a day to keep.

III- Bread of Life:

The fleshing out of the purpose and picture of the bread in the wilderness if wrapped up in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life. **John 6:32-35** Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. 33 For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world. 34 Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread. 35 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.



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IV- Water from the Rock:

Notice what Jesus said in the last part of these verses... *and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.* This brings us into the second part of the story of God's provision in the wilderness, the provision of water.

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. Now this can be quite a problem quickly.

As they are so prone to do they again murmur and blame Moses. *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? 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?*

Moses could not do anything about the thirst and lack of water but he took it to the one who could. Beside that he had began to fear for his life. *Exodus 17:4 And Moses cried unto the LORD, saying, What shall I do unto this people? they be almost ready to stone me.*

God's provision would come to them at the tip of the rod. *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.*

Moses was to go and stand on the rock at Horeb. God tells him He would be stand there beside him. *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.* Moses was instructed to strike the rod against the rock and water would come out to supply their needs.

Exodus 17:6b ...And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel. 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?

Moses would strike the rock again almost 40 years later out of God's will but this time it was God's provision. He did it in front of the leaders to insure that the people would know that the provision was from God.

V- The Rock was Christ:

The Holy Spirit in the New Testament gives us a greater understanding of this Rock being the Lord Jesus in *1 Corinthians 10:1-4 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; 2 And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; 3 And did all eat the same spiritual meat; 4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.*

So, as we see the landscape of the place we have stopped at this Way Point we see that Christ was the picture of the Manna and that He is also the water of life for a dry soul wandering in the wilderness of life.