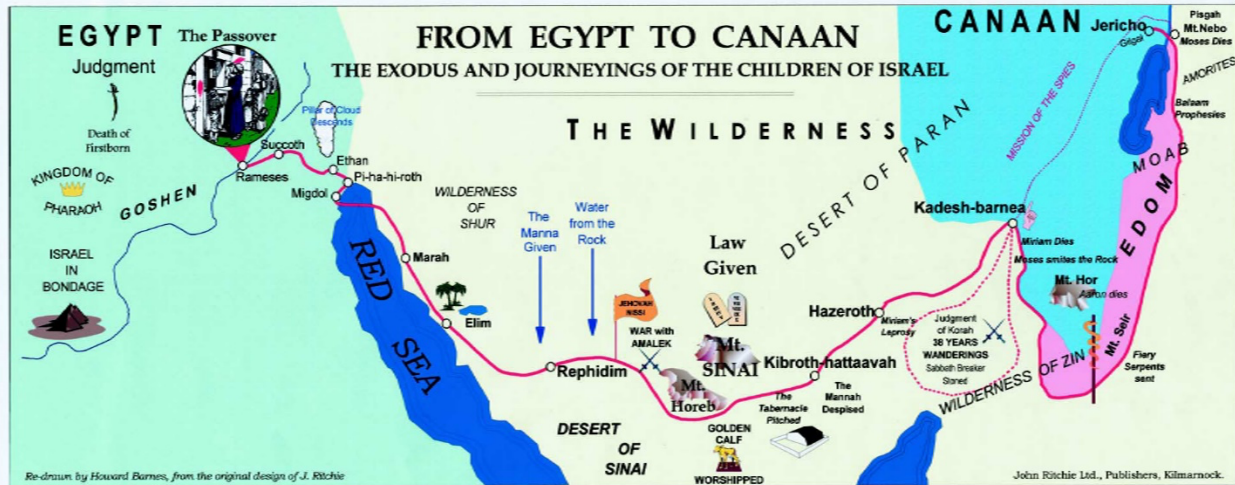


# THIS IS A TEST!



## GRUMBLING BUT GRACE MURMURING BUT MIRACLES COMPLAINING AND CONSEQUENCES DESERT BUT DELIGHT

In between Egypt and enslavement with its seductive pleasures and the Promised Land is the **DESERT**.

We are sometimes called to go through desert places. God guides every step.

| TEST NUMBER ONE              |   |   |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| Event: Bitter Water at Marah | Their response: Grumbling and complaining | God's provision   |
|                              | Moses response: Cries out to the Lord     | Moses throws the log into the water, and it becomes sweet.<br>They are led to the Oasis of Elim |
| Deuteronomy 8:2              |   |   |

| TEST NUMBER TWO          |   |                 |
|--------------------------|---|-----------------|
| Event: Wilderness of Sin | Their response: Whole congregation grumbled | God's provision |
| No food                  | The Lord speaks to Moses                    | Quail and Manna |
|                          | Exodus 16:2 & 3                             | Exodus 16:4     |
|                          | Psalm 78:23 - 29                            |                 |

| TEST NUMBER THREE |  |  |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Event: Rephidim   | Their response: Grumbled & murmuring; about to stone Moses   | God's provision                                    |
| No water          | Moses names the places Massah "testing" Meribah "quarreling" | Water from the rock at Mt. Horeb; water gushes out |
|                   | Exodus 17:2 - 4  |  |

### Some practical applications

1. "The difficulties of life are intended to make us \_\_\_\_\_ not \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Christ takes us through the desert.
3. We need to trust God to supply our needs (Matthew 6: 26, 31 – 33).

### How do these trials and God's provision point us to Jesus Christ?

1. The provision of manna is a picture of Christ, the true \_\_\_\_\_.  
John 6: 32 - 35
2. The provision of water points us to Christ, the \_\_\_\_\_.  
John 4: 13 – 15; John 6: 37 -38
3. The rock at Mt. Horeb is a picture of Jesus. Christ is the Rock that was struck for us.  
I Corinthian 10: 1 – 4  
Isaiah 53: 4 -6
4. Jesus was tempted 40 days in the wilderness.  
The first temptation was for bread. Jesus quotes Moses from Deuteronomy when he says: "Man does not live by bread alone."

## Two more suggestions

1. Practice an attitude of gratitude. Choose gratitude
2. Pray for our spiritual leaders.

## Point to Ponder:

In what way are grumbling and anxiety symptoms of ingratitude and weak faith? How did God respond to the grumbling and anxiety of Israel?

## Resources:

Guzik, David. *Exodus*

Merida, Tony. *Christ-Centered Exposition: Exalting Jesus in Exodus*

Wiersbe, Warren. *Be Delivered: Finding Freedom by Following God*

IMH

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