Jesus: Water From The Rock

Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday November 21st, 2021

Text: I Corinthians 10:1-4

### Intro

1. The O.T. is full of physical events that parallel spiritual things in the N.T.
2. The Israelites shortly after leaving Egypt and crossing the Red Sea:
	1. *Ex. 15:1-21:* The Israelites sang a song of deliverance for saving them from Egyptians.
	2. *Ex. 15:23-24:* Shortly after that the people grumbled against Moses and God that they couldn’t drink the waters at Marah because the water was bitter (thus, the name!)
	3. *Ex. 15:25:* Following instructions from God, Moses threw a tree in the water and it became sweet to drink!
3. Ex. 15:26: God told the people He would be their “Healer” and keep them from the plagues (diseases) on Egypt if they would:
	1. **Give heed to His voice**
	2. **Do what is right in His sight**
	3. **Give ear to His commands**
	4. **Keep all His statutes**
4. We can see the same blessings regarding healing mankind of sin if men and women follow Jesus!

#### Jesus the Great Physician (Healer)

* 1. Jesus is the “Healer” of the world & saves from sin! *(Lk. 5:29-32; Rom. 5:8-9; Eph. 1:7)*
		1. **Give heed to His voice** – John 5:24 *(Mt. 11:28-30: “Learn from Me)*
		2. **Do what is right in His sight** – Acts 10:34-35 *(I Pet. 2:20; 3:17; 4:12-19: Suffer for doing what is right = glorify God in the name Christian)*
		3. **Give ear to His commands** – Luke 8:20-21 *(John 14:15: “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments”)*
		4. **Keep all His statutes** – I John 2:17 *(Lk. 8:21: Hear the word of God & do it!)*
	2. Jesus is our hope of eternal life in Heaven if we but Hear and Obey Him!

#### Water From A Rock

* 1. Water from a Rock
		1. *Ex. 17:1-7:* After the waters of Marah, the Israelites came to Rephidim and found no water to drink and grumbled against Moses and God (17:2, 7)
			1. The place was called “Massah” *(H4531: a testing, of men or of God)* and “Meribah” *(H4808: a quarrel, fight or strife)* because the people tested God! – 17:7
			2. God had Moses strike the rock at Horeb and provided water for them.
		2. *Num. 20:1-13:* At Kadesh after Miriam’s death the people grumbled against Moses and God because there was no water (20:1-5)
			1. This place also became known as “Meribah” *(H4808: a quarrel, fight or strife)* because the people contended (fought) with God!
			2. Moses was told to speak to a rock and God would provide water (20:8)
			3. Moses took his rod, with Aaron, and struck the rock twice in the assembly and said, “Listen now, you rebels; shall we bring forth water for you out of this rock?” (The “we” being Moses and Aaron) – 20:10
			4. For their disobedience in not treating God as holy (for striking rock and taking glory, or credit, that belonged to God alone) they would not enter the Promised Land & would lose their lives *(Aaron immediately – 20:24; Moses later at the border of Canaan, on Mt. Pisgah – Deut. 3:23-26; 32:49-50; 34:4)*
			5. Despite their disobedience, God provided water “abundantly” like the very “ocean depths” and the water flowed “like rivers” (Ps. 78:15-16).
	2. The wonderful patience and love of God can be seen in His willingness to provide water for His people even when they acted disobediently!

#### Jesus: Water From The Rock

* 1. The people were rebels (Num. 20:10) and even Moses and Aaron rebelled (Num. 20:24) against God and yet…*God provided the water anyway!*
	2. ***Have you ever wondered why?***
	3. I Corinthians 10:1-4: Jesus is the Spiritual Rock (10:4) that nourished the Israelites, and He is the source of salvation to saints as well!
		1. *John 4:13-14: Source of eternal water*
		2. *Hebrews 5:9: Source of salvation to those who obey Him*
		3. *Hebrews 12:2: Source (“Author”) of our faith*
	4. There is a beautiful parallel to the eternal water of Jesus (John 4:13-14)
		1. John 4:13-14: Jesus answered and said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again; but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life.”

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| **Rock at Meribah (Num. 20)** | **Jesus, The Rock (I Cor. 10:4)** | **Scriptures** |
| Struck | Struck (Down) | Is. 53:3-8; Acts 2:36; I Pet. 3:18 *(Jn. 19:34; I Jn. 5:6)* |
| From Disobedience (Rebels) | From Disobedience (Rebels) | Acts 2:22-23, 36; 3:13-21; 4:10-11; 5:30; 7:51-53 |
| Blessings from God Flowed (Water) | Blessings from God Flowed (Salvation to all men) | Acts 3:22-26; 4:8-12; 5:30-31; Rom. 5:8-9; Gal. 3:13-14, 26-29; Eph. 1:7; 2:4-9 |

* 1. The point is, neither the Israelites nor we deserved it because of disobedience and rebellion, but God was rich in mercy towards mankind *(Eph. 2:4-9)!*
		1. *Titus 2:11-14:* “For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men!” (2:11) – It is by the grace of God we are redeemed and saved!
	2. Jesus is the Rock that nourished and saved the Israelites, and He is the Rock from Whom all blessings flow, granting salvation to all those who obey Him *(Heb. 5:9)!*

## Conclusion

1. As God provided life-giving blessings from the rock at Meribah from disobedience, so has God provided soul-cleansing blessings from Jesus the Rock out of the disobedience of those who put Him to death!
2. We show our gratitude, our thanksgiving, to God for the sacrifice of His Son when we obey the gospel & live faithful lives! (Colossians 3:17)
3. By obeying the gospel in baptism (no longer rebels but part of the family of God – Rom. 8:14-17) we have our sins washed away in the blood of the Lamb of God (Jn. 1:29) – Acts 2:38; 22:16
4. If you obey the gospel you have the hope of eternal life *(Jn. 5:24; I Jn. 2:25)* and can take of “the water of life without cost” (Rev. 7:16-17; 21:6; 22:1-2, 17)
5. Are you thirsty for the waters of eternal life *(Jn. 4:13-14; Rev. 21:6; 22:17)?*
6. If so, turn to the only source for eternal life: Jesus, our Rock – Give heed to His voice, Do what is right in His sight, Give ear to His commands, and Keep all His statutes!
7. If you are not a Christian, you need to be. Repent and be baptized into His name!
8. If a Christian in error, don’t wait till it’s eternally too late. Repent and be renewed!
9. Whatever your requests, let them be made known ***NOW*** while we stand & sing!