

Roadblocks to the Promised Land

I Am Moses - Week 11

Numbers 20:1-13 “In the first month the whole Israelite community arrived at the Desert of Zin, and they stayed at Kadesh. There Miriam died and was buried. ² Now there was no water for the community, and the people gathered in opposition to Moses and Aaron. ³ They quarreled with Moses and said, “If only we had died when our brothers fell dead before the Lord! ⁴ Why did you bring the Lord’s community into this wilderness, that we and our livestock should die here? ⁵ Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to this terrible place? It has no grain or figs, grapevines or pomegranates. And there is no water to drink!”

⁶ Moses and Aaron went from the assembly to the entrance to the tent of meeting and fell facedown, and the glory of the Lord appeared to them. ⁷ The Lord said to Moses, ⁸ “Take the staff, and you and your brother Aaron gather the assembly together. Speak to that rock before their eyes and it will pour out its water. You will bring water out of the rock for the community so they and their livestock can drink.”

⁹ So Moses took the staff from the Lord’s presence, just as he commanded him. ¹⁰ He and Aaron gathered the assembly together in front of the rock and Moses said to them, “Listen, you rebels, must we bring you water out of this rock?” ¹¹ Then Moses raised his arm and struck the rock twice with his staff. Water gushed out, and the community and their livestock drank.

¹² But the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, “Because you did not trust in me enough **to honor me** as holy in the sight of the Israelites, you will not bring this community into the land I give them.”

¹³ These were the waters of Meribah, where the Israelites quarreled with the Lord and where he was proved holy among them.

Why was God so severe with Moses and Aaron?

I. Moses _____ his authority and power.

A. The rod was given to deliver Israel.

v.8 You and Aaron must take the staff and assemble the entire community. As the people watch, speak to the rock over there, and it will pour out its water.

B. Instead the rod was used to discipline Israel.

C. Authority and power are given to _____ God’s _____, not our own.

II. Moses took _____ for providing the water.

A. He redirected God’s glory to himself.

v.10b “Listen, you rebels!” he shouted. “Must **we** bring you water from this rock?”

B. God is unwilling to _____ His glory.

Isaiah 42:8 “I am the Lord; that is my name! I will not yield my glory to another or my praise to idols.”

III. Moses _____ while calling the Israelites rebels.

A. Hypocritical leadership demoralizes.

B. We _____ our actions of rebellion

C. We _____ others by actions but ourselves by intentions.

Romans 2:1 (TPT) “No matter who you are, before you judge the wickedness of others, you had better remember this: you are also without excuse, for you too are guilty of the same kind of things! When you judge others, and then do the same things they do, you condemn yourself.

IV. Moses misrepresented God to Israel.

A. Moses _____ God as one looking to punish mistakes.

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1. God does not look for reasons to _____ us.

2. God's _____ was taken out on Jesus.

Romans 5:17 "For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!"

Ephesians 2:13 "But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ."

Romans 9:22-24a "What if God, although choosing to show his wrath and make his power known, bore with great patience the objects of his wrath—prepared for destruction? ²³ What if he did this to make the riches of his glory known to the objects of his mercy, whom he prepared in advance for glory— ²⁴ even us, whom he also called.

B. God's response to sin is _____.

Romans 5:20 But where sin increased, grace increased all the more

C. The rock (a supernatural rock) was a symbol of grace.

1 Corinthians 10:1-4 "I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. ² They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. ³ They all ate the same spiritual food ⁴ and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ."

1. We have a rock with us _____ gracious pouring out life.

2. God doesn't just provide for us when we deserve it, He provides when we need it and don't deserve it.

3. You will enjoy God's _____ for your life

(your promised land) when you _____ how

your life reflects upon God.