

Exodus 17

I. Water from the Rock. Vs. 1-7

A. They journeyed from the wilderness of Sin to Rephidim. Vs. 1

1. "And they took their journey out of the wilderness of Sin, and encamped in Dophkah."

Numbers 33:12

"And they took their journey out of the wilderness of Sin, and encamped in Dophkah."

2. "And they departed from Dophkah, and encamped in Alush.

Numbers 33:13

"And they departed from Dophkah, and encamped in Alush."

3. "And they removed from Alush, and encamped at Rephidim, where was no water for the people to drink.

Numbers 33:14

"And they removed from Alush, and encamped at Rephidim, where was no water for the people to drink."

B. There was no water to drink. Vs. 1

C. They murmured against Moses. Vs. 2-3

D. God told Moses to take the elders of Israel to Horeb meaning "desert". Vs. 4-6

E. God told Moses to smite the rock. Vs. 6

F. Moses hit the rock in Horeb with his rod and water came out. Vs. 6

G. Moses named the place Massah meaning “trial” and Meribah meaning “strife”. Vs. 7

II. The symbolic meaning of the rock.

A. The rock is Jesus.

1Corinthians 10:4

“And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.”

B. Jesus was smitten.

Isaiah 53:4

“Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.”

Romans 5:6 -10

“For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.

8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.”

III. The symbolic meaning of the water.

A. The water is everlasting life.

John 4:14

“But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.”

B. The water is the Holy Spirit.

John 7:37-39

“In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.

38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

39 (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)”

C. The water is baptism.

1. From the side of Jesus came blood and water.

John 19:34

“But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water.”

2. To become a member of a church, first you must be saved (blood) and second you must be baptized (water).

1 Corinthians 12:13

“For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.”

IV. War with Amalek. Vs. 8-16

A. Amalek fought with Israel in Rephidim. Vs. 8

B. Moses told Joshua to choose some men to fight against Amalek. Vs. 9

C. Moses would stand on a hill and hold up the rod of God. Vs. 9

D. Israel prevailed as long as Moses held up his hands. Vs. 10-11

E. As Moses sat on a stone, Aaron held up one hand and Hur held up the other hand of Moses. Vs. 12

F. Joshua defeated Amalek with the edge of the sword. Vs. 13

G. God promised Moses that He would put out the remembrance of Amalek from under Heaven. Vs. 14

1. This was to be put in a book for a memorial. Vs. 14

H. Moses built an altar. Vs. 15

1. Moses named the altar Jehovah-Nissi meaning "The Lord Is My Banner". Vs. 15

**I. There would be war with Amalek from generation to generation till God would remove them from the Earth. Vs. 16
Numbers 24:20**

“And when he looked on Amalek, he took up his parable, and said, Amalek was the first of the nations; but his latter end shall be that he perish for ever.”

J. King Saul was to destroy all the Amalekites, but didn't.

1 Samuel 15:2-3

“Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I remember that which Amalek did to Israel, how he laid wait for him in the way, when he came up from Egypt.

3 Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass.”

1 Samuel 15:7-8

“And Saul smote the Amalekites from Havilah until thou comest to Shur, that is over against Egypt.

8 And he took Agag the king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword.”

1. Saul had an Amalekite to kill him.

2 Samuel 1:8-15

“And he said unto me, Who art thou? And I answered him, I am an Amalekite.

9 He said unto me again, Stand, I pray thee, upon me, and slay me: for anguish is come upon me, because my life is yet whole in me.

10 So I stood upon him, and slew him, because I was sure that he could not live after that he was fallen: and I took the crown that was upon his head, and the bracelet that was on his arm, and have brought them hither unto my lord.

11 Then David took hold on his clothes, and rent them; and likewise all the men that were with him:

12 And they mourned, and wept, and fasted until even, for Saul, and for Jonathan his son, and for the people of the LORD, and for the house of Israel; because they were fallen by the sword.

13 And David said unto the young man that told him, Whence art thou? And he answered, I am the son of a stranger, an Amalekite.

14 And David said unto him, How wast thou not afraid to stretch forth thine hand to destroy the LORD'S anointed?

15 And David called one of the young men, and said, Go near, and fall upon him. And he smote him that he died.”

K. About 500 years later Haman an Agagite of the Amalekites tried to destroy all the Jews. Esther 3 - 9, Esther 3:1

“After these things did king Ahasuerus promote Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, and advanced him, and set his seat above all the princes that were with him.”

L. There is not a nation today that is a descendant of the Amalekites.

The Amalekites presumably would have been wiped out by Saul in 1 Samuel 15 if he had followed God's instructions. He did destroy the city of Amalek, but other raiding parties/nomadic bands of Amalekites survived. These were defeated by David in 1 Samuel 30 with the exception of a few hundred who escaped (30:17). The remnant of the Amalekites was finally destroyed by the Israelites many years later (1 Chronicles 4:43). Thus, while God did blot out the memory of Amalek by wiping out his descendents, he was at war with them for many generations.