

# EXODUS – LESSON SEVEN

## I. ISRAEL'S JOURNEY FROM ELIM IN WILDERNESS OF SIN TO SINAI (Chapters 17-19)

- A. At Rephidim God provides water from the rock (17:1-7).
  - 1. The people quarrel with Moses- Moses cries unto the Lord.
  - 2. Moses at God's command strikes the rock.
  - 3. Place names "Massah" and "Meribah"
    - a. "Massah" – "test" – "Is the Lord among us, or not?"
    - b. "Meribah"- "quarrel" – "Give us water that we may drink."
- B. At Rephidim God delivers Israel from Amalek (17:8-16).
  - 1. Joshua chooses men to fight Amalek.
  - 2. Moses holds up rod on top of the hill – Israel prevails.
  - 3. Moses' heavy hands lowers rod – Amalek prevails (cf. Deut. 25:17-18).
  - 4. Aaron and Hur holds up Moses' hands till the setting of the sun – Israel prevails with edge of sword.
  - 5. Moses to write of battle for a memorial – Amalek and future generations not to be favorably remembered by God.
  - 6. Moses builds altar – "Jehovahnissi" – "the Lord is my banner".
- C. At Rephidim Jethro meets Moses (18:1-27).
  - 1. Jethro brings Moses' wife (Zipporah) and two sons (Gershom, Eliezer).
  - 2. Jethro worships God with Moses, Aaron and elders.
  - 3. Jethro offers counsel to Moses to lift burden of making all the judgments among the people – counsel heeded.
    - a. Moses to take the causes to God – teach people of God's way.
    - b. Moses to choose qualified men to hear people's causes – divide men over thousands hundreds, fifties and tens.
    - c. Moses to judge hard matters – others to judge small matters.
- D. At Sinai God prepares Moses and Israel for God's covenant (19:1-20).
  - 1. Third month after departing Egypt.
  - 2. Moses goes up into the mount to hear God's conditions and covenant.
    - a. Moses returns to tell people – people vow to do "all that the Lord has spoken".
    - b. Moses goes again to the mount to report the word of the people.
  - 3. God commands Moses to sanctify the people.
    - a. For three days – garments washed, no sexual relations.
    - b. The people are not to go up into the mount or touch it – boundary set.

4. Moses brings people to meet God on the third day – thunders, lightnings, voice of loud trumpet, thick cloud appear– people tremble.
5. Moses commanded to come to God in the mount.
  - a. Moses instructed to tell the people and priests to not come up into the mount.
  - b. Moses instructed to go down and bring Aaron with him into the mount.
6. Moses goes down and tells the people of his instructions from God.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Of what did the people complain in Rephidim?
2. Of what was Moses fearful?
3. What did God command Moses to do to solve the complaining problem?
4. Were the people justified in their complaint?
  - a. Take the side of the people and give their best argument.
  - b. Take the side of God and give His perspective of their complaint.
5. Who is Amalek?
6. Describe how Amalek prevailed at times in his battle with Israel?
7. Who is Israel's field general?
8. Israel prevailed against Amalek when Moses' arms were supported with a stone held in place by Aaron and Hur. (T) (F).
9. In Scripture, who is "HUR"?
10. What did Moses do after Amalek was defeated that showed how the battle was won?

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11. In chapter 17, what occurs for the first time in the Bible?
12. How many sons did Moses have, and what were their names?
13. Where was Moses' wife and children during the early part of Israel's sojourning from Egypt?
14. What was Moses doing for the people that needed changing?  
Why?
15. What did Jethro command Moses to do?
16. Was Jethro's counsel human judgment or divine judgment?
17. What were the qualifications of the "able men"?
18. How long was it after leaving Egypt did Israel encamp at Sinai?
19. What were the conditions for Israel being a "peculiar people"?
20. Who are God's "peculiar people" today?
21. How is God not being "politically correct" here according to our society's popular thinking?
22. What important concept concerning God is stressed before the giving of the Law in chapter 20?  
Why is this important?