

Exodus 17-18

November 20th, 2020

Study Guide

Pray: Ask God to help you see and hear His word rightly and ask Him to reveal himself to you as you read through the designated chapters this week.

Read through **Exodus 17-18**. Then, **reflect** upon what you read as you consider the study questions.

Exodus 17:1-7

1. After leaving the Desert of Sin, Israel had been on the move again. When they arrive at Rephidim, they are again faced with the problem of not having water. This time the Israelites not only complained. They “quarreled” with Moses. They even threatened to stone him. What did Moses do in response to the Israelites blaming him for their troublesome situation (**verse 2 and 4**)?
2. From Moses’ response in **verses 2 and 7**, the Israelites “tested the Lord”. In what way were the Israelites “testing” the Lord? What were their complaints and what were they questioning (**verses 2, 3, and 7**)?
3. God told Moses to strike the rock and when he did, water came out for the people to drink (**Exodus 17:6**). This event was later celebrated in a number of psalms. Read **Psalms 105:41-42**. How does the psalmist explain why God patiently provided for Israel in the wilderness?
4. God told Moses to go to the rock at Horeb, familiar territory to Moses (**Exodus 17:6**). What experience did Moses once have at Horeb (**Exodus 3:1-2**)?

Exodus 17:8-16

5. As the Israelites continued the journey in the desert, they were attacked by the Amalekites (**Deuteronomy 25:18**). In defeating the Amalekites, God worked through His people. What role did each of these play in the battle?

(question continued on the next page)

a. Moses (**verses 9–12**)

b. Some of the Israelite men (**verse 9**)

c. Joshua (**verses 10, 13**)

d. Aaron and Hur (**verses 10, 12**)

Good to Know

The Amalekites were descendants of Esau (Gen. 36:12), Jacob's brother. They were sworn enemies of Israel. This nomadic tribe roamed the Sinai desert and regarded it as their territory.

6. When the attack from the Amalekites occurred, how did victory come about? What does this teach you about the attacks that come against you?

Exodus 18:1-27

7. Moses told Jethro all that had happened to him and to the Israelites, especially "how the Lord had saved them" (**verse 8**). As a result of this meeting and listening to Moses' story, to whom did Jethro give the praise/glory (**verse 10**) and what did Jethro confess (**verse 11**)?

8. Moses did not accuse his father-in-law of meddling. He listened to Jethro's advice (verse 24). Read **James 1:19, 26** and **Galatians 6:1-5**. What can we learn from these verses and from Moses and Jethro's example as we consider how we give or receive advice?

9. Who is being hurt because Moses allowed himself to be overburdened (**verse 18**)?