

Exodus

Lessons to be Collected

I. Defining Themes

A. Grumbling/Ingratitude

Exodus 16:1-3 (NIV)

¹ The whole Israelite community set out from Elim and came to the Desert of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had come out of Egypt. ² In the desert the whole community grumbled against Moses and Aaron. ³ The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the Lord's hand in Egypt! There we sat around pots of meat and ate all the food we wanted, but you have brought us out into this desert to starve this entire assembly to death."

B. God's Care

Exodus 16:4-5 (NIV)

⁴ Then the Lord said to Moses, "I will rain down bread from heaven for you. The people are to go out each day and gather enough for that day. In this way I will test them and see whether they will follow my instructions. ⁵ On the sixth day they are to prepare what they bring in, and that is to be twice as much as they gather on the other days."

Exodus 16:19-28 (NIV)

¹⁹ Then Moses said to them, "No one is to keep any of it until morning." ²⁰ However, some of them paid no attention to Moses; they kept part of it until morning, but it was full of maggots and began to smell. So Moses was angry with them. ²¹ Each morning everyone gathered as much as he needed, and when the sun grew hot, it melted away. ²² On the sixth day, they gathered twice as much--two omers for each person--and the leaders of the community came and reported this to Moses. ²³ He said to them, "This is what the Lord commanded: 'Tomorrow is to be a day of rest, a holy Sabbath to the Lord. So bake what you want to bake and boil what you want to boil. Save whatever is left and keep it until morning.'" ²⁴ So they saved it until morning, as Moses commanded, and it did not stink or get maggots in it. ²⁵ "Eat it today," Moses said, "because today is a Sabbath to the Lord. You will not find any of it on the ground today. ²⁶ Six days you are to gather it, but on the seventh day, the Sabbath, there will not be any." ²⁷ Nevertheless, some of the people went out on the seventh day to gather it, but they found none. ²⁸ Then the Lord said to Moses, "How long will you refuse to keep my commands and my instructions?"

II. Jesus' Application

Matthew 6:9-13 (NASB)

⁹ "Pray, then, in this way: 'Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.

¹⁰ 'Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.

¹¹ 'Give us this day our daily bread.

¹² 'And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³ 'And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.'

Matthew 4:1-4 (NIV)

¹ Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. ² After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³ The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." ⁴ Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Deuteronomy 8:2-5 (NIV)

² Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the desert these forty years, to humble you and to test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands. ³ He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your fathers had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord. ⁴ Your clothes did not wear out and your feet did not swell during these forty years. ⁵ Know then in your heart that as a man disciplines his son, so the Lord your God disciplines you.

III. Heed the Warning

1 Corinthians 10:10-12 (NIV)

¹⁰ And **do not grumble**, as some of them did--and were killed by the destroying angel. ¹¹ These things happened to them **as examples and were written down as warnings for us**, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come. ¹² So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!

A. A Case Study, Korah & Crew

Numbers 16:16-17 (NIV)

¹⁶ Moses said to Korah, "You and all your followers are to appear before the Lord tomorrow--you and they and Aaron. ¹⁷ Each man is to take his censer and put incense in it--250 censers in all--and present it before the Lord. You and Aaron are to present your censers also."

Numbers 16:28-34 (NIV)

²⁸ Then Moses said, "This is how you will know that the Lord has sent me to do all these things and that it was not my idea: ²⁹ If these men die a natural death and experience only what usually happens to men, then the Lord has not sent me. ³⁰ But if the Lord brings about something totally new, and the earth opens its mouth and swallows them, with everything that belongs to them, and they go down alive into the grave, then you will know that these men have treated the Lord with contempt." ³¹ As soon as he finished saying all this, the ground under them split apart ³² and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them, with their households and all Korah's men and all their possessions. ³³ **They went down alive into the grave, with everything they owned; the earth closed over them, and they perished and were gone from the community.** ³⁴ At their cries, all the Israelites around them fled, shouting, "The earth is going to swallow us too!"

Numbers 16:41-50 (NIV)

⁴¹ The next day the whole Israelite community grumbled against Moses and Aaron. "You have killed the Lord's people," they said. ⁴² But when the assembly gathered in opposition to Moses and Aaron and turned toward the Tent of Meeting, suddenly the cloud covered it and the glory of the Lord appeared. ⁴³ Then Moses and Aaron went to the front of the Tent of Meeting, ⁴⁴ and the Lord said to Moses, ⁴⁵ "Get away from this assembly so I can put an end to them at once." And they fell facedown. ⁴⁶ Then Moses said to Aaron, "Take your censer and put incense in it, along with fire from the altar, and hurry to the assembly to make atonement for them. Wrath has come out from the Lord; the plague has started." ⁴⁷ So Aaron did as Moses said, and ran into the midst of the assembly. The plague had already started among the people, but Aaron offered the incense and made atonement for them. ⁴⁸ He stood between the living and the dead, and the plague stopped. ⁴⁹ **But 14,700 people died from the plague, in addition to those who had died because of Korah.** ⁵⁰ Then Aaron returned to Moses at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting, for the plague had stopped.

B. "How to" --- Be Peaceful

Philippians 4:4-9 (NIV)

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸ Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable--if anything is excellent or praiseworthy--think about such things. ⁹ Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me--put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

1. Rejoice, v.4
2. Do not be anxious, 6
3. Present requests: prayer, petition, thanksgiving, v. 6
4. Peace of God guards our hearts & minds, v.7
5. Think on this: excellent or praiseworthy v. 8
6. Practice obedience, v.9
7. God with you, v.9

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for your grace and mercy in my life. Forgive me for my ingratitude and complaining. I recognize your provision and care for me. Today I choose to rejoice and to fill my mind with the goodness of God. May your peace fill my heart and direct my thoughts. In Jesus' name, amen.