

## EXODUS BIBLE STUDY AND GUIDE

### LESSON 28 EXODUS 16:2-16:1

As starting in Ex 15:22, Israel began to suffer in their march from a lack of readily available water, now their store of food has begun to wane or is gone. The military threat of Egypt is in the rear mirror. However, the immediate need for food makes their past life in Egypt, at least in part, look rosier in light of their present struggle. Life in the wilderness is no picnic. Their hunger is real. Israel has seen God's protection. They are just starting to learn what it means to trust God for their daily provision. We get to see how real and present struggles can cloud perception in a life with God. This chapter, while telling us more about the nature of this people whom God has chosen, is also a story of God's supply and purpose.

As you read, you may notice that there is some repetition, as in previous accounts. Keep in mind that God often has authors use repetition for emphasis. Also note that God has purpose in what He does, often multiple purposes. This should be displayed for that current generation but also for future generations, including us.

1. Ex 16:1 has told us that Israel has been on the march for about a month. Vv2-3 give the situation. V2 gives the summary and v3 more details. In v2, note the who, what, and where. Although obvious, this will help us to see the significance, which we may be pointed out again.
  - Who did...
  - What...
  - Where...?
  - In v3, to whom do the children of Israel speak?
  - What was their professed desire?
  - What was their nostalgic memory?
  - What was their charge?
  - What were the problems with each of the previous three questions/answers in reality?
2. V4-5 address the response from Jehovah. Note the speaker and hearer at this point. What does this perhaps tell us about Moses in relationship to Jehovah and His people?

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- What is it that Jehovah primarily addresses in these two verses?
  - What are the two ways in which Israel shall gather?
  - What is the purpose that Jehovah has in this/these particular ways of gathering?
3. Vv6-10 are mostly conversations between Moses and/or Aaron with the children of Israel. Along with the promise and fulfillment, one particular theme runs through this section (also in v12). It is repeated three times through these verses and again in v12. What is it?
- In vv6-7, what are the two parts of the promise?
  - What are the children of Israel to recognize in v6 and what has Jehovah revealed to them that He recognized?
  - Following up this last question, in vv7-8, how does Moses address the complaint in v2?
  - Building upon these last two questions, what should this repetition have been driving home?
  - What is the command Aaron is to give in v9?
  - What is the promise even in the rebuke?
  - It is difficult to know if v10 is a fulfillment of v7, or just another grace given. What gracious thing does Jehovah do?

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4. Vv 11-12 give the account of Jehovah speaking to Moses, to speak to the children of Israel. What is the familiar purpose given in these miracles?

### **CONTEMPLATION**

5. Two different words are used for murmur, grumble or complain in this passage. The first word in v2 comes from a word meaning to lodge or abide also leading to the idea of obstinate. The other word is a derivative of the first. Based upon this, what would seem to be the difference between acknowledging your circumstance and murmuring or complaining?

- Based upon this passage, what might be some of the things that we do, which cause us to have a wrong perception of our problems and God in relation to them?

- What are some New Testament passages that might help you in dealing with this problem? Here are a couple; how would they help? 2 Cor 12:7-10, Phil 4:4-13. Others?

6. We may address this in v4, but what is the law mentioned there?