

## Challenges in the Desert

### Lesson #14

#### Exodus 17:1 - 18:27

The LORD was training Israel to become His people, a nation that would let the world know that the LORD alone is God. Everything Israel needed while they were in the desert was provided by the LORD. But the LORD continued to test His people as a way to prepare them for what was ahead.

#### **Water in the Desert - Exodus 17:1-7**

1. As the LORD led them through the desert, what was a constant problem? (Exodus 17:1)
  - The Israelites took their frustration out on Moses. What was Moses' warning to them? (Exodus 17:2)
  
  - Who did the people blame for this situation? (Exodus 17:3)
  
2. Moses took their concern to the LORD, seeking His answer to their problem. What did Moses say about "these people"? (Exodus 17:4)
  
3. What were the LORD's instructions to Moses? (Exodus 17:5, 6)
  - Walk
  
  - Take
  
  - Take
  
  - And
  
  - I will

- Strike
  
  - Water
  
  - the people
4. Moses named this place Massah (testing) and Meribah (quarreling). (Exodus 17:7)
    - What were the Israelites doing with their quarreling?
  
    - What did they question?

**The Amalekites - Exodus 17:8-15**

5. Who were the Amalekites descended from? (Genesis 36:9, 12 and Genesis 25:19-26)
  
6. What did they do? (Exodus 17:8)
  
7. Joshua, Moses' assistant, was mentioned for the first time. What did Moses ask Joshua to do? (Exodus 17:9a)
  
8. While Joshua was doing this, what would Moses be doing? (Exodus 17:9b)
  
9. Joshua did as Moses had instructed. How did the battle go? (Exodus 17:11, 12)
  
10. How was this situation resolved? (Exodus 17:12)

11. Was Joshua successful? (Exodus 17:13)
  
12. Following this battle, what was Moses' instructions from the LORD and His reason? (Exodus 17:14)
  
13. To remember this first battle, what: (Exodus 17:15, 16)
  - Did Moses do?
  
  - Did Moses call it?
  
  - Was the LORD's judgment?

**Moses' Family - Exodus 18:1-27**

14. When Moses was heading to Egypt to meet with Pharaoh, the LORD met him on the way and was ready to kill Moses for his lack of obedience in circumcising his sons. (Exodus 4:24-26) As a result, Moses' wife and sons had returned home to Midian. With Israel safely in the desert, who had heard what God had done for Moses and Israel? (Exodus 18:1)
  
15. What did he do? (Exodus 18:5, 6)
  
16. How did Moses greet him? (Exodus 18:7)
  
17. After Moses recounted all the LORD had done, what was Jethro's response? (Exodus 18:8-11)
  
18. What had Jethro brought with him? (Exodus 18:12a)

19. Aaron and the elders joined Moses and Jethro. What did they all do? (Exodus 18:12b)
  
20. What was Moses' daily routine? (Exodus 18:13)
  
21. What did Jethro think about this? (Exodus 18:14)
  
22. Moses explained his reason but Jethro insisted. What did Jethro say about his concerns? (Exodus 18:17, 18)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
23. As one who loved and cared for Moses, what was Jethro's advice? (Exodus 18:19, 20)
  - You be
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - Teach
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - Show
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
24. After giving his advice, what did Jethro suggest Moses do? (Exodus 18:21)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
25. Using Exodus 18:22:
  - What were these men to do?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - What if it was too difficult?

- How would this help Moses?

26. Who did Jethro say would decide if this was the right way? (Exodus 18:23)

27. Did Moses follow Jethro's advice? (Exodus 18:24-26)

*"Then Jethro returned to his own country."* Exodus 18:27