

Relationships and Faith in the Desert

Exodus 17:1-16; Psalm 95

I. Introduction: The Problem with Children in the Wilderness (V.1)

1.) Marah 2). Sin/Zin 3). Rephidim 4). Amalekites

II. Interaction Number One (#3 above): Dealing with Attacks from Within! (Vv. 1-7)

A. The people... and how they respond to God and Moses – (Vv. 2-3 and 7)

Their GRUMBLING –

THEIR DEMANDS –

B. Moses... and how he responds to the people and God – (4, 6 and 7)

HE PLEADS WITH GOD –

HE FEARS THE PEOPLE –

C. God... and how He responds to Moses and the people – (Vv. 5-6)

GOD SHOWS UP FOR MOSES –

GOD SHOWS UP FOR THE PEOPLE –

II. Interaction Number Two (#4 above): Dealing with Outside Attacks (Vv. 8-16)

See Deuteronomy 25:17-18 - Enemies of God!

A. The people and how they respond to God and Moses – (Vv. 9, 10 and 13)

Participation in the will of God –

B. Moses... and how he responds to the people and God – (Vv. 11-12 and 15)

Good Godly Leadership skills –

C. God... and how He responds to Moses and the people – (Vv. 9-11 and 15-16)

“The Staff of God” –

“The Throne/Banner of God” –

GOD’S IMMANENCE (“CLOSENESS”)

GOD’S TRANSCENDENCE (“ABOVENESS”)

These accounts, laid out side by side, show us that God’s blessings are not dispensed by some formulaic principle that man comes up with to solve his problems. If God were to always work through miraculous interventions, then there would be no need for faith and no need for prayer!

III. The Interaction of Faith in the Story: (I Corinthians 10:3-4)

A. Where does Faith, or lack of it, show up in their Story

B. Where does Faith, or lack of it show up in our Story?

Jesus is the Rock of _____ and the Banner of our _____!