



Sowing the Word

יְהוָה נְסִי

“And Moses built an altar and called its name, ‘The-LORD-Is-My-Banner’”

Exodus 17:15

Exodus 16-18
August 6th-12th, 2009

So they read distinctly from the book, in the Law of God; and they gave the sense, and helped *them* to understand the reading.

(Nehemiah 8:8)

Table of Contents

Outline.....3

Daily Reading.....4-14

With the Word Commentary.....15-17

Helpful Study Resource:

Explore the Book by J. Sidlow Baxter

Commentary:

The commentary used with permission throughout
this booklet is:

With the Word Bible Commentary
by Warren W. Wiersbe.
ISBN 0-8407-9108-9

Outline

Theme: God saves His people that they might be His and know His presence with them

I. Salvation: The Lord Delivers His People—1–18

"I am the Lord; I will bring you out ... I will rescue you ... I will redeem you." (Ex 6:6)

1. Israel's Bondage (1)
2. The Lord calls a leader (2-4)
3. The Lord's confronts Pharaoh (5-7)
4. The Lord Plagues Egypt [9 plagues] (7-10)
5. The Lord's Passover deliverance (11-12)
6. The Lord's Red Sea rescue (13-15)
7. The Lord Provides for His people (16-18).

II. Covenant: The Lord Claims His People—19–24

"I will take you as My people" (Ex 6:7)

1. Preparation for Revelation (19)
2. The Ten Commandments (20)
3. Laws governing living (21-23)
4. The Covenant Ratified – blood & God's glory (24)

III. Worship: The Lord Dwells with His People—25–40

"I will be your God. Then you shall know that I am the Lord your God." (Ex 6:7)

1. Instructions about the Tabernacle—(25-27)
2. The Priesthood (28-29)
3. More instructions for the Tabernacle (30-31)
4. The Golden Calf idolatry (32)
5. Moses intercession and intervention (33-34)
6. Construction of the tabernacle (35–39)
7. God's glory enters the tabernacle (40)

With the Word Bible Commentary

Exodus 16

The redeemed Jews were acting like unsaved Gentiles, for they asked, "What shall we eat? What shall we drink?" (Matt. 6:25–34). God did not rescue them from bondage in order to kill them with hunger! (See Rom. 8:31–32.) Their real problem was that they still had the old appetite and needed to learn to enjoy the new food God had for them.

The manna is a picture of Jesus Christ (John 6:30ff.). The manna came only to Israel, and all it could do was sustain physical life. But the Savior came for the whole world, and He gives spiritual life. If the Jews did not appropriate the manna, they died. Sinners must believe on Jesus Christ to receive life.

Feeding on the manna is also a picture of your daily appropriation of Christ through the Word of God. Just as your food becomes a part of your very being, so the Word strengthens your inner person when you read it, meditate on it, and obey it. Just as the Jews could not live on yesterday's manna, so you cannot live on yesterday's spiritual diet. Begin each day with the Lord, and He will give you what you need for facing the burdens and battles ahead.

Spiritual Food: *God's Word is food for the inner person. It is milk (1 Pet. 2:2), bread (Matt. 4:4), meat (1 Cor. 3:1–2; Heb. 5:11–14), and honey (Ps. 119:103). Feeding on the Word should bring joy to our hearts (Jer. 15:16), and we should desire spiritual food more than physical food (Job 23:12; Luke 10:38–42).*

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). With the word Bible commentary (Ex 16:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

With the Word Bible Commentary

Exodus 17

Another test (1–7). You never solve your problems by blaming other people. Israel's real problem was unbelief and a desire to go back to the old life. Every difficulty you meet is an opportunity for testing yourself and trusting your Lord, for going forward or going backward. The rock pictures Jesus Christ who was smitten for us (1 Cor. 10:4) that we might have the living water of the Holy Spirit within (John 7:37–39).

Another enemy (8–13). The Egyptian army had been drowned, but the Amalekites were very much alive and did not want Israel in their territory. It was Esau fighting Jacob again (Gen. 36:12). It takes intercession on the mountain as well as intervention in the valley for God's people to win the victory. Israel watched God defeat Egypt, but now they had to enter the battle themselves and trust God for victory. Our High Priest intercedes in heaven for us (Heb. 4:14–16). This is the first mention of Joshua in Scripture. Little did he know that one day he would take Moses' place as leader of God's people.

Another assurance (14–16). Each test can tell you something new about yourself and about the Lord (Gen. 22:14; Exod. 15:26). When you face the battles of life, remember that He is your banner and can give you victory (John 16:33; 1 John 5:4–5).

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). *With the word Bible commentary* (Ex 17:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

With the Word Bible Commentary

Exodus 18

Balance. Moses experienced some exciting things after leaving Egypt, but now he returns to the everyday duties of life. God balances our lives and gives us enough burdens to keep us humble and enough blessings to keep us happy. Moses returned to his family, told them all that God had done, and then worshiped the Lord with them.

Counsel. Sometimes an outsider can see things more clearly than those who are doing the work, and we must always be open to counsel (Prov. 12:15; 13:10). Moses was trying to do all the work himself, and he was not making a distinction between major matters and minor problems. He needed assistants, and he needed priorities. Note that Jethro expected Moses to seek God's will in the matter (v. 23). What seems like good counsel from men might be bad counsel in God's sight, so we must always ask for God's directions (Acts 27:9–14).

Leadership. Verse 21 describes the kind of leaders God needs, people characterized by ability, the fear of God, honesty, and a hatred for covetousness. (See Acts 6:3 for additional leadership qualities.) Moses was a great man, but he could not do the job alone. God may not call you to be a leader, but He may want you to help a leader do a better job.

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). With the word Bible commentary (Ex 18:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.