

Christ Is the Rock

Exodus 17 & Numbers 20

Introduction

- Importance of water for human life
- Scale of Israel's wilderness need

Background: Exodus Context

Exodus 13 – God's Guidance

- Consecration of the firstborn
- Pillar of cloud and fire as God's presence

Exodus 14 – Redemption

- Pharaoh's pursuit
- Crossing the Red Sea
- God's protection and covenant faithfulness

Exodus 15 – Praise and Early Grumbling

- Song of Moses
- Bitter waters at Marah
- God's patient provision and testing

Exodus 16 – Provision in the Wilderness

- Manna and quail
- Daily dependence on God
- Sabbath instruction

Exodus 17:1–7 — Water from the Rock

I. Testing Between God and His People

A. God Testing His People (17:1)

B. God's People Illegitimately Testing God (17:2–3)

1. Trying to Control God

2. Trying to Judge God

3. Irrational Accusations

The Root Issue of Grumbling

- Unbelief
- Grumbling as evidence of a hardened heart
- Biblical warnings (Psalm 95; Hebrews 3)

II. God's Gracious Provision Despite Unbelief (17:4–6)

A. Moses' Proper Response

B. God's Clear and Gracious Instructions

III. Christ Revealed as the Rock

A. The Rock as a Type of Christ

B. Christ Provided the Living Water

IV. Living Water Fulfilled in Christ

- Christ as the source of living water
- Fulfillment in John's Gospel
 - Samaritan woman (John 4)
 - Feast of Tabernacles (John 7)
- Living water identified as the Holy Spirit

V. Old Testament Witness to the Rock

VI. Warning to Believers

Transition to Numbers 20 :1–13 — The Second Rock Incident

VII. Grumbling Repeated

VIII. Moses' Failure

IX. God's Holiness Upheld

Conclusion & Application

- Do not grumble—God is your provider
- Respond to trials with prayer, not anger
- Preach God's Word to yourself
- Trust God's goodness, wisdom, and sovereignty
- Christ is the Rock
- The Holy Spirit is the living water
- Walk by the Spirit
- Honor God's holiness
- Obey His Word