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## WILDERNESS (PART 6)

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### REPEAT:

## MAN'S ANGER/DOES NOT PRODUCE/THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD

<sup>1</sup> And the people of Israel, the whole congregation, came into the wilderness of Zin in the first month, and the people stayed in Kadesh. And Miriam died there and was buried there.

Numbers 20:1 (ESV)

FIRST MONTH = FIRST MOON. THIS COULD HAVE BEEN THE 40<sup>TH</sup> YEAR (SEE NUMBERS 33) OR THE 3<sup>RD</sup> YEAR (SEE DEUT. 1-2). YHWH HAS FAITHFULLY BROUGHT ISRAEL THROUGH THE WILDERNESS INTACT.

<sup>2</sup> Now there was no water for the congregation. And they assembled themselves together against Moses and against Aaron. <sup>3</sup> And the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Would that we had perished when our brothers perished before the LORD! <sup>4</sup> Why have you brought the assembly of the LORD into this wilderness, that we should die here, both we and our cattle? <sup>5</sup> And why have you made us come up out of Egypt to bring us to this evil place? It is no place for grain or figs or vines or pomegranates, and there is no water to drink."

Numbers 20:2-5 (ESV)

THOUGH THEY ARE GRUMBLING IT IS A LEGITIMATE COMPLAINT: THEY ARE DYING OF THIRST.

<sup>6</sup> Then Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly to the entrance of the tent of meeting and fell on their faces. And the glory of the LORD appeared to them, <sup>7</sup> and the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>8</sup> "Take the staff, and assemble the congregation, you and Aaron your brother, and tell the rock before their eyes to yield its water. So you shall bring water out of the rock for them and give drink to the congregation and their cattle." <sup>9</sup> And Moses took the staff from before the LORD, as he commanded him.

Numbers 20:6-9 (ESV)

GOD IS SO CLEAR HERE. HE GIVES VERY SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS.

<sup>10</sup> Then Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock, and he said to them, “Hear now, you rebels: **shall we** bring water for you out of this rock?”

<sup>11</sup> And Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock with his staff twice, and water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their livestock.

<sup>12</sup> And the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, “Because you did not believe in me, to uphold me as holy in the eyes of the people of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land that I have given them.” <sup>13</sup> These are the waters of Meribah, where the people of Israel quarreled with the LORD, and through them he showed himself holy.

Numbers 20:10–13 (ESV)

ANGER IS DEADLY EVEN IF IT LOOKS LIKE RIGHTEOUS ANGER. MOSES’ ANGER TOOK HIS EYES OFF OF GOD AND ONTO HIMSELF LEADING HIM TO TAKE THE CREDIT FOR GOD’S WORK.

<sup>26</sup> Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, <sup>27</sup> and give no opportunity to the devil.

Ephesians 4:26–27 (ESV)

<sup>7</sup> Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices!

<sup>8</sup> Refrain from anger and forsake wrath! Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil.

Psalms 37:7–8 (ESV)

<sup>32</sup> Whoever is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.

Proverbs 16:32 (ESV)

<sup>28</sup> A man without self-control is like a city broken into and left without walls.

Proverbs 25:28 (ESV)

<sup>19</sup> Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup> for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

James 1:19–20 (ESV)

<sup>30</sup> And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup> Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. <sup>32</sup> Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Ephesians 4:30–32 (ESV)