

Raining Bread (16:1-12)

- In the wilderness of sin, the people grumble.
- They again doubt that God can provide for them.
- God will provide bread daily as a test.
- Aaron is still speaking for Moses.
- God will provide meat and bread.

Quail and Manna (16:13-21)

- God provides quail in the evenings and bread in the morning.
- Everyone can gather what they need to eat and it is always enough.
- They are not to try and keep leftovers for tomorrow.
- It always fades and new bread comes tomorrow.
- This is why we pray for our daily bread.
- Each day is a chance to trust God will provide again.

Sabbath (16:22-36)

- They can gather extra before the Sabbath.
- This is not just about rest and renewal, but about trusting God.
- Not working is a choice to actively turn down more money and trust God's provision.
- Some people refuse to trust and try to gather anyway.
- God miraculously sustains some manna as a remembrance.
- God provides daily manna 14,560 times until they come to the promised land.

Mineral Water (17:1-7)

- They are moving from wilderness of sin in stages.
- They grumble and demand for water.
- Moses is complaining about how he is treated instead of how God is treated.
- Some of the elders are to go with Moses to get water.
- The same God who destroyed the Nile can bring water from rocks.

Amalek (17:8-16)

- Amalek tries to destroy Israel because he sees weak refugees (Deut. 28:17-19).
- He attacks the weakest in the back first.
- Joshua is chosen to lead the army while Moses prays.
- Faith takes active effort, which often hurts and requires help from others.
- The raised staff is a banner and physical reminder of God's hand and protection.
- Moses makes the sign of the cross raised up on a hill.
- God promises that he will destroy and judge Amalek for his wickedness.
- They build an altar in worship for God's deliverance.
- God's promise is fulfilled against Haman in the book of Esther.

Jethro's Wisdom (18:1-27)

- Jethro meets Moses in the wilderness with his wife and two sons.
- Jethro hears the story of God's salvation, praises God, believes it, and makes sacrifices to God.
- Moses is the only leader and he is by himself.
- The primary quality for elders is character not beliefs or ability.
- Moses focuses on the major needs and the elders help share the burden.
- Leadership in the Bible is meant to be shared and based on character.

Making the Covenant (19:1-15)

- Israel comes to the wilderness and Mt. Sinai.
- Israel can be God's treasured nation if they obey God's voice and keep His covenant.
- They will be a holy nation of priests, serving as priests to the other nations.
- The people respond that they accept the terms of the covenant.
- God will come so they can hear His words.
- The people must consecrate themselves and wash (baptism).
- Only Moses is allowed to touch the mountain.
- They must be ready for the miracle on the third day.

God Descends (19:16-25)

- God comes on the morning of the third day with thunder, clouds, and trumpets.
- The mountain is covered in smoke and the whole mountain shakes.
- God descends to the top of the mountain and Moses goes up.
- Moses warns the people that they cannot come to look.
- They are to limit freedom around the mountain for their protection and good.
- Aaron is allowed to come up the mountain to hear from God.
- The law is not an empty list of rules, it comes from the revelation of God.
- The law comes as a part of the story after grace and salvation.

Application

- The miracle of the incarnation is God coming down the mountain to us.
- We must daily trust God to provide for us without hoarding or grumbling.
- The covenant commands of God are given in response to salvation and revelation.