

Streams in the Desert: EXODUS SERIES PART 24

Text: Exodus 17:1-7

Big Idea: God still brings life from impossible places, through Jesus Christ.

Point 1: God Orchestrates Emptiness to Display His Sufficiency

Exodus 17:1-3; 2 Corinthians 12:9-10; John 15:5; Romans 8:28; Isaiah 55:8-9

"The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, traveling from place to place **as the LORD commanded.**" **Ex. 17:1¹ (NIV)**

"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness... Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me." **2 Corinthians 12:9 (NIV)**

The Biblical Pattern of Divine Emptying:

The Theological Foundation: Why Emptiness Precedes Filling

"Apart from me you can do nothing" **John 15:5 (NIV)**

"He must become greater; I must become less." **John 3:30 (NIV)**

Application: If you're in a season of lack, don't curse it or waste it. Ask questions:

1. What is God wanting to reveal about my true condition?
2. What false securities am I still clinging to more than Him?
3. How might He be preparing me to see His power in a new way?

"We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." **Romans 8:28 (NIV)**

Point 2: God Transforms the Impossible into Inexhaustible Supply

Exodus 17:4-6; 1 Corinthians 10:4; John 19:34; Romans 8:32; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

"Take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go... Strike the rock." **Ex 17:5-6 (NIV)**

¹ All scripture is NIV unless otherwise noted.

"...the rock was Christ." **1 Corinthians 10:4 (NIV)**

Application: The more impossible the situation the more living water God will pour into your life.

Point 3: God's Grace Flows as Long as Your Journey Lasts

Numbers 20:7-11; Isaiah 41:17-20; John 4:14; Philippians 1:6; Hebrews 13:5; 2 Corinthians 9:8

His supply matches the length of your journey, not just the urgency of your crisis.

"The poor and needy search for water, but there is none; their tongues are parched with thirst. But I the LORD will answer them; I, the God of Israel, will not forsake them. I will make rivers flow on barren heights, and springs within the valleys. I will put in the desert the cedar and the acacia, the myrtle and the olive. I will set junipers in the wasteland, the fir and the cypress together, so that people may see and know, acknowledge and understand, that the hand of the LORD has done this." **Isaiah 41:17-20 (NIV)**

The Pattern of Sustained Grace Throughout Scripture:

Application: Three Practical Steps for Accessing Daily Grace

1. **Remember His Past Faithfulness**
2. **Expect His Present Power**
3. **Trust His Future Plans**

Closing Challenge

1. **Identify your rock**—that impossible situation where you need God to show up
2. **"Strike it" with prayer**—not human an effort, but a heartfelt plea for divine intervention. Not just asking God to change it, but asking Him to show His power through it
3. **Drink deeply**—Immerse yourself in God's presence (worship, prayer, Word, etc.)
4. **Keep moving**—don't give up or in, walk in the light you have as you wait on God.