

Message Notes

Is the LORD with us or not?

Happy Father's Day!

The Gospel According to Moses:
Exodus 17:1-7

The setting
Exodus 17:1

Who is leading this trip?

"They protested against Moses"
Exodus 17:2-3

The big question

"Moses cried out to the LORD"
Exodus 17:4

"They LORD answered"
Exodus 17:5-6

Quarreling and Testing
Exodus 17:7

The big question

The Gospel according to Moses
Hebrews 3:7-19 (See also: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13)

The example of Jesus

Questions to consider and discuss

- Do you/we put the LORD to the test in the macro and micro occurrences of our lives?
- Will you/we trust him -- not hardening our hearts, but exhibiting Exodus-sized confidence in God's working in our lives?

Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

Exodus 17:1-7 (NIV)

1 The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, traveling from place to place as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. 2 So they quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink."

Moses replied, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the LORD to the test?" 3 But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?" 4 Then Moses cried out to the LORD, "What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me." 5 The LORD answered Moses, "Go out in front of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. 6 I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink." So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. 7 And he called the place Massah and Meribah because the Israelites quarreled and because they tested the LORD saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Luke 4:9-12 (NIV)

9 The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down from here. 10 For it is written: " 'He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; 11 they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'" 12 Jesus answered, "It is said: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

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HAPPY



Father's

DAY

Son: Daddy, can you
put on my shoes?

I can try, but
I don't think
they'll fit!



Waiter: Do you want a box
for your leftovers?

No. But I'll
wrestle you
for them!



What did the
pirate say
on his 80th
birthday?

Aye matey!



How did Anakin know what
gift Obi-Wan was going
to give him?

He felt his
presents.



The page is framed by a wide, ornate border of floral and foliate motifs in gold, blue, and red. The central text is enclosed in a simple gold rectangular border.

The Gospel
According to
Moses
a study of exodus

Today's Message:
Is the LORD with us or not?
Exodus 17:1-7

The longest camping trip ever

Exodus 17:1 (NIV)

¹ The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, traveling from place to place as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink.

Exodus 15:22-27 (NIV)

²² Then Moses led Israel from the Red Sea and they went into the Desert of Shur. For three days they traveled in the desert without finding water. ²³ When they came to Marah, they could not drink its water because it was bitter. (That is why the place is called Marah.) ²⁴ So the people grumbled against Moses, saying, “What are we to drink?”

²⁵ Then Moses cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a piece of wood. He threw it into the water, and the water became fit to drink.

Exodus 15:22-27 (NIV)

There the LORD issued a ruling and instruction for them and put them to the test. ²⁶ He said, “If you listen carefully to the LORD your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, who heals you.”

²⁷ Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve springs and seventy palm trees, and they camped there near the water.

They protested against Moses

Exodus 17:2-3 (NIV)

² So they quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.”
Moses replied, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put
the LORD to the test?”

³ But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled
against Moses. They said, “Why did you bring us up out of Egypt
to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?”

The big question

Moses cried out to the LORD

Exodus 17:4 (NIV)

⁴ Then Moses cried out to the LORD, “What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me.”

The LORD answered

Exodus 17:5-6 (NIV)

⁵ The LORD answered Moses, “Go out in front of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶ I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink.” So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel.

Quarreling and Testing

Exodus 17:7 (NIV)

⁷ And he called the place Massah and Meribah because the Israelites quarreled and because they tested the LORD saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

The big question

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The Gospel
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Hebrews 3:7-19 (NIV)

⁷ So, as the Holy Spirit says:

“Today, if you hear his voice,

⁸ do not harden your hearts

as you did in the rebellion,

during the time of testing in the wilderness,

⁹ where your ancestors tested and tried me,

though for forty years they saw what I did.

¹⁰ That is why I was angry with that generation;

I said, ‘Their hearts are always going astray,

and they have not known my ways.’

¹¹ So I declared on oath in my anger,

‘They shall never enter my rest.’ ”

Hebrews 3:7-19 (NIV)

¹² See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. ¹³ But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called “Today,” so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness. ¹⁴ We have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original conviction firmly to the very end. ¹⁵ As has just been said:

“Today, if you hear his voice,
do not harden your hearts
as you did in the rebellion.”

Hebrews 3:7-19 (NIV)

¹⁶ Who were they who heard and rebelled? Were they not all those Moses led out of Egypt? ¹⁷ And with whom was he angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies perished in the wilderness? ¹⁸ And to whom did God swear that they would never enter his rest if not to those who disobeyed? ¹⁹ So we see that they were not able to enter, because of their unbelief.

Amidst the wilderness
(where the Israelites are being tested by the Lord),
the Israelites put the Lord to the test asking,
“Is the LORD among us or not?”

The desert posed

NO BARRIER

to God's working on behalf of his people.

Amidst our own wilderness
(where we are being tested by the Lord),
are we putting the Lord to the test asking,
“Is the LORD among us or not?”

The “deserts” within our lives pose

NO BARRIER

to God’s working on our behalf.

SHARE
YOUR
STORY

A black leather sofa is positioned against a wall with vertical wood paneling. The text "SHARE YOUR STORY" is displayed in large, white, 3D block letters, appearing to be placed on the sofa. The lighting is soft, and the overall atmosphere is clean and modern.

Question to consider and discuss:

Will you/we trust him –
not hardening our hearts,
but exhibiting Exodus-sized confidence
in God's working in our lives?