

Communion Meditation – In the Wilderness

Numbers 20.1-13

Blame Shifting is Unbecoming

March 29th, 2015

First of Last Three Messages

- We've had 15 messages in this "In the Wilderness" series
- When we started last July 20th I didn't know total number – but now 18
- Three more messages – with application to our day and situation

Déjà Vu

- The people have been in this situation before
 - God made the bitter water sweet at Marah (Ex 15.22-27 Aug '14)
 - Rock was struck at Rephidim to produce water (Ex 17.1-7 Oct '14)
- Here Moses is instructed to "speak to the rock" (Read v7-11)
 - But Moses didn't speak to the rock ~ He struck the rock – twice
 - Yet "water came out abundantly" (v11)

God Hallowed Among People

- Read Num 20.13 ~ "This was the water .. He was hallowed among them."
 - But He was not hallowed by Moses ~ Read v12
 - Moses lacked faith ~ He didn't believe water would come at his word
- Yet God hallowed Himself in that Moses hadn't
 - But he punished Moses ~ "you shall not bring this assembly into the land"

Looking Back and Forward

- Moses was the most humble man on earth (Read Num 12.1-3)
 - He clearly sinned / he lacked faith / "Yet how did Moses view it?"
 - Read Deu 3.23-27 "Then I pleaded .. you shall not cross over this Jordan"
 - Read Deu 4.21 ~ "Furthermore the Lord was angry with me for your sakes"
- Moses blamed the people for his inability to enter the land

God had the water come out / Though Moses had not obeyed

We often fail to honor God / But God will always honor Himself

Our fallen character ~ despite its strengths ~ is never enough to satisfy God

We need Christ to take the first blow ~ And all other blows due to our sins

God may punish us for our obstinance in sin