

Grumbling/Kvetching/Oy Vey! (What Has God Done For Me Lately?)

7.5.25 OHO Message

1. Patriotic image.
2. Show funny signs emailed self on 6.15 and saved on desktop
3. Next time says the Bible and Christianity are **irrelevant in 2025**, ask them 2,025 years since what?
4. When people say they prefer socialism to capitalism. Ask them which side people ran to when the **Berlin Wall** came down.

PRAY!!

Numbers 20:3-6

The people quarreled with Moses saying, **“IF ONLY WE HAD DIED when our brothers died** before Adonai! Now why have you brought the community of Adonai into this wilderness, for us and our livestock **to die here? (No faith even after witnessing miracles before and during the Exodus) Why have you brought us from Egypt (FROM SLAVERY!) to bring us to this evil place**—a place without grain, fig, grapevine or pomegranate—and there’s no water to drink!” **So Moses and Aaron went from before the assembly to the entrance of the Tent of Meeting and FELL ON THEIR FACES. (They trusted God!)**

A. Overview/Background

1. God **DELIVERED THEM FROM SLAVERY, SENT DOWN 10 PLAGUES ON EGYPT, PARTED THE RED SEA, PROVIDED THEM WITH MANNA IN THE DESERT, A PILLAR OF FIRE BY NIGHT, AND CLOUD BY DAY** and they complained about their situation and did not trust God and instead preferred to die.
 - a. They felt deprived of even more divine mercy. AS IF TO SAY, WE WANT MORE AND WE WANT IT NOW! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE FOR ME LATELY?
 - b. **Are we as Believers really any different today?** We are **saved by the grace of God and yet often kvetch to friends and family (and sometimes to God) when something happens** that we don’t like.
 - c. THIS TYPE OF ATTITUDE, WHEN LEFT UNCHECKED, CAN CAUSE PEOPLE TO FALL AWAY FROM THE LOVE, MERCY, AND SALVATION THEY HAVE BEEN BLESSED TO RECEIVE FROM GOD.

d. That they had had such long and constant experience of God's goodness to them, and of tenderness and faithfulness of Moses and Aaron. Yet they struggled with trusting God! **We all fall victim to the same lack of trust at times and if it continues it can lead some to back-sliding--#1 reason for lack of faith in God is evil we perceive and thinking God is not good.**

2. ****NO ONE MADE THEM ESCAPE SLAVERY!!** They could have stayed and probably could have turned back.

3. **Identical complaint to a generation prior in Exodus 17:3,** YET STILL ALIVE despite their believed mistreatment by God.

a. Exodus 17:3: "But, the people thirsted for water there, and they complained against Moses and said, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt? To kill us with thirst, along with our children and cattle."

4. IF YOU FIND YOURSELF SLIPPING FROM HIS ARMS, JUST **RECALL THE MIRACLES** HE HAS DONE IN YOUR LIFE AND THE LIVES OF OTHERS.

B. LET'S TAKE A DEEPER DIVE

1. There is **no mention in this passage of anything Moses and Aaron SAID in response to the grumbling**; they knew that God had heard the murmurings of the people, and before Him they humbly prostrate themselves, making **intercessions with groanings** that cannot be uttered. **There they lay waiting for orders from the One in whom they trust.** Speak, Lord, for thy servants hear.

2. This is an **EXAMPLE** of what we should do:

- a. Moses and Aaron **did not respond.**
- b. They went to the Tent of Meeting and **fell on their faces**
- c. **Spiritual Warfare 101**

3. **This posture of humility and seeking God's wisdom is a powerful lesson in leadership and for all of us.** It demonstrates the importance of seeking God's guidance and weapons of warfare in times of crisis and relying on His strength **rather than acting out of frustration or anger.**

4. **The Famous Rod of Moses:** God responds and tells Mosse to take the rod, presumably that famous rod with which he **summoned the 10 plagues** of Egypt, and parted the Red

Sea, that, having that in his hand, both he and **the people might be reminded of the great things God had formerly done for them**, and might be encouraged to trust in Him now.

5. **God tells Moses to SPEAK to the rock** to presumably to **CONVICT the people**. **Their hearts were now harder than this rock**, not so tender, not so yielding, not so obedient, not so trusting.

a. God promises that the rock should give forth water (v. 8), and it did so in abundance (v. 11) (BUT NOT TIL AFTER MOSES' FAMOUS DISOBEDIENCE BY STRIKING IT TWICE.9: The water came out abundantly, **just like the manna from heaven came** each morning in the desert.

b. **Moses' disobedience was on full display. There had to be consequences.**

6. **Moses struck the rock not once but twice as he vented his anger and frustration** over this ever-rebellious lot.

a. As in previous circumstances of this kind, the abundant water from A ROCK, NOT A RIVER OR CLOUD !!! was a symbol of God's mercy and benevolence.

b. But **striking the rock was in a sense a striking out against God**.

i. Moses' striking was a sign of even him not trusting God.

ii. His actions, by a leader, were a **slap in the face of God**.

iii. **Moses, a trusted servant, had fallen into the same trap as the many rebellious people he had complained about to God**

iv. Moses' actions were an act of **insubordination**.

7. As Moses struck the rock in disobedience to the Lord's command to speak to it, he said to the grumbling crowd (Num. 20:10:, "Listen now, you rebels; must **WE** bring forth water for you out of this rock?"

a. The implication of that question was that Moses and Aaron, NOT GOD were able to bring water from the rock. But we know: **Anyone who claims power to himself (or herself) and desires the glory, denies God's power and blessing (repeat).**

8. **Consequence of Moses' Disobedience:** God told Moses that he would not enter the Promised Land because **he did not uphold God as holy before the people—he was grabbing the glory**.

8. Faith leads us to obey even when it doesn't quite make sense—speaking to a rock?!? Blood on the doorposts, snake on a pole, etc.

9. But things of God are often counterintuitive. That's how we know God is involved.

a. Love your enemies (yikes)

b. The last shall be first (huh?),

c. The *meek* shall inherit the earth (really),

d. The more you give, the more you receive (how does that work, but it does?),

e. When we surrender, we are set free (salvation!),

f. Mt 5:11 Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account (blessed!);

10. Human logic is an imperfect tool. Why? Because we have a finite brain and worm's eye view.

a. Examples: snake on pole for healing (Numbers 21:8-9), blood on the doorposts protecting so the angel of death on Passover, and here, not striking the rock.

11. ALWAYS, ALWAYS, ALWAYS trust God and give God the glory for everything He uses us to accomplish.

a. Your **keen mind and amazing athletic ability** are gifts from God.

b. So is workmanship **Ephesians 2:8-9: "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not from yourselves—it is the GIFT OF GOD. It is not based on deeds, SO THAT NO ONE MAY BOAST."**

12. Furthermore, the rock from which water flowed serves as a powerful symbol in the Bible. Paul refers to the rock as representing Messiah, the ultimate source of living water in **1 Corinthians 10:4: "...for they were drinking from a spiritual rock that followed them, and the Rock was Messiah."**

a. ****Just as the rock provided physical sustenance to the Israelites in the wilderness, Messiah provides spiritual nourishment to all who believe AND TRUST in Him.**

13. Numbers 20:6-13 teaches us about the importance of obedience, faith, and trust in God's provision. It also reminds us of the need to honor God in all our actions and words. **Let us learn from Moses' mistake and strive to follow God wholeheartedly, trusting in Him**

14. As they had done **in the past**, Moses and Aaron then turned to the tabernacle, to ask for the help of the Lord; and the glory of the Lord immediately appeared (see **Numbers 14:9-10: "ADONAI IS WITH US! DO NOT FEAR THEM."** But the whole assembly talked about violently stoning them. **THEN THE GLORY OF ADONAI APPEARED AT THE TENT OF MEETING to all Bnei-Yisrael.**")

15. **There was no water for the Israelites: The need was real**, but the response of Israel was filled with **unbelief and bad attitude — which always go together! When you find a bad attitude, you will also frequently find a lack of simple, secure trust in God.**

a. **who can relate with the unbelief and doubt?**

16. **God is ALWAYS ready to intervene on behalf of His people if they trust and seek Him wholeheartedly** (Example: ISRAEL today as some are seeking Him.)

17. **Suffering produces strength and trust..and ultimately spiritual growth IF we persevere and trust.**

18. Interestingly, God brought the water gushing from the rock in spite of Moses' disobedience. Sometimes in His grace God grants results in ministry or career in spite of our disobedience.

a. But results do not necessarily indicate faithfulness on the part of the one seeing the results! Some of the largest churches in America today are pastored by heretics, whereas some of the smallest churches are pastored by Godly men who faithfully preach the Word and depend upon God in prayer.

19. The Rav Shaul/Rabbi Saul of Tarsus/a/k/aPaul was always careful to give God the credit for any fruit that he saw in his ministry. **Let us model Rav Shaul!**

a. When the Corinthians were boasting about whether they followed Paul or Apollos, Paul wrote (**1 Cor. 3:6: "I planted, Apollos watered, but GOD GAVE THE INCREASE."**)

b. Later, Paul explained (**1 Cor. 15:10: "BUT BY THE GRACE OF GOD, I AM WHAT I AM."**)

c. Concerning his ministry, Paul explained (Rom. 15:18: “For I will not dare to speak of anything except what MESSIAH ACCOMPLISHED through me.”)

iv. Or, again (2 Cor. 3:5: “Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as coming from ourselves, but OUR ADEQUACY IS FROM GOD.”)

v. To finish well, believe God and treat Him as holy.

C. Unbelief

1. The Israelites were frustrated by not yet having reached the Promised Land and directed their frustrations and unbelief against Moses and Aaron. **It says they “quarreled with Moses.” It says, “why have YOU brought us from Egypt.”**

2. **They were looking to Moses as the one who had not yet brought them into the Land,** and were not looking to God who would bring them to the Promised Land (it’s called the Promised Land because God PROMISED to bring them there. (Num. 20:4-5).

3. The point is, when we look at people rather than the LORD, we’re sure to grow frustrated, because **people will always fall short in some way.** Even a gifted leader like Moses had a lot of critics.

4. Similarly, Moses may have been trusting more in his rod than in the LORD. God had used Moses’ rod to turn the Nile to blood (among other plagues) and to part the Red Sea.

****When we’ve seen a method that works, our tendency is to rely on the method for results and not on the LORD.**

5. **We have to be on guard against the sin of unbelief in God, which always means that we’re trusting in ourselves. Faith looks to the LORD and His promises.**

6. The LORD’s other indictment of Moses and Aaron was that they had not treated Him as holy in the sight of the sons of Israel. The Lord repeats this charge when He reminds Moses in Numbers 27:14: “For in the wilderness of Zin during the strife of the community, you both **REBELLED AGAINST MY WORD INSTEAD OF HONORING ME as holy at the waters before their eyes.”**

D. Trust God

1. When we look to the execution stake, we see God's heart.

2. Scripture: Joshua 1:9: “Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.”

3. Isaiah 43:1: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.

4. **Put our faith and trust** in the Immovable Unchanging God who is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

5. Garment of Praise, Isaiah 61:3 : ..to console those who mourn in Zion, to give them beauty for ashes (quite the exchange), the oil of joy for mourning (another great exchange), the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness (what we may be experiencing), that they might be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of Adonai, that He may be glorified.

6. **Vicki Kline:** An umbrella cannot stop the rain but it allows us to stand in the rain. (He is our umbrella of protection). **Faith in God may not remove our trials but it gives us strength to overcome them.**

7 Charles Spurgeon "**The devil wants you to pay attention to your feelings. Jesus want you to pay attention to His truth.**"

8. **Be present!** Sometimes the most productive thing you can do is rest in God's presence or spend quality time with those you love and "do life" with.

90. We are going through a shaking. Israel certainly is.

a. May it be a refiners fire.

10. **Hyde's** (By Alister Heath, British journalist for the Daily Telegraph. A nation as small as Israel should not be this strong. Unless you believe in something beyond the math.

a. It's **not normal**.

b. It's **not political**.

c. **BUT It's biblical**.

d. **The Jewish people are not just a people... but a testimony.**

E, How Are We to Deal with Adversity?

1. **Who has ever kvetched to someone else? Who has ever kvetched to God? (Who has ever lied by not raising their hand?)**

2. Trust God! **If I only love God when He is treating me the way I want, I am not loving God, I am loving myself.**

3. David strengthened himself in the LORD. 1 Samuel 30:6: "So David was in a serious bind, for **the troops were calling for his stoning**, for all the troops were bitter of

soul, every man for his sons and his daughters. **But David strengthened himself in Adonai his God.**")

4. Turn and focus on the cross or EXECUTION STAKE the resurrection is the greatest sign ever given and the heart of our faith.
5. May we have a fellowship not just with Yeshua's glory but also with Yeshua's suffering.
6. **Greg Laurie recalls a private moment with the late Billy Graham** — whom he calls "one of the greatest, if not the greatest evangelist in human history, apart from the Apostles" — when the two had lunch together some time before Graham passed away in 2018. Laurie asked the older evangelist for his wisdom: "If an older Billy could speak to a younger Billy, what would you say to yourself?" "I would remind myself to preach more on the cross of Christ and the blood of Christ because **that is where the power is**," replied Graham. "I have never forgotten that," Laurie reflects)
7. MAYBE SKIP: If you are starting to doubt the goodness of God or even the Resurrection itself, which is the heart of our faith, perhaps simply think of these things in addition to a ton of other evidence for the resurrection.
 - a. Sir Lionel Luckhoo **IMAGE**, greatest defense attorney who ever lived. 245 murder trials acquittals IN A ROW. Guinness book of world records and knighted twice by Queen Elizabeth and In Sup Ct. Someone said have you ever looked into the evidence for resurrection: and he said no and then he did. "I say unequivocally the evidence for the resurrection of Jesus Christ is so overwhelming that it compels acceptance by proof which LEAVES NO ROOM FOR DOUBT."
 - b. Smartest man alive, Young Hoon Kim with IQ of 286 believe Jesus is God: **IMAGE**
 - c. Louis Pasteur, Founder of Microbiology and Immunology: "A little knowledge of science makes you an atheist, in depth knowledge of science makes you a Believer in God."
8. "It is a sad thing, that after all of Christ's love to us, we should repay it with lukewarm love to Him." Charles Spurgeon
9. Most common reason for unbelief: suffering. So Lee Stroebel says he used to try to explain it away with 5 point sermon. Now I ask "why" Usually a reason—death of a loved one, loved one suffering from cancer. etc. Now realizes they don't need that AT THAT POINT And he just hugs them like Jesus would. Console them, related to them, love them, show them Jesus by hugging etc 90% of the time, that is what they are looking for. **Most powerful apologetic is to love people the way Jesus would. "No one cares how much you know, til they know how much your care."**

- a. 1 Pet 3:15: "Always be ready to give an answer to anyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you..."
 - b. BUT many leave off 1 Pet 3:16... yet with humility and reverence!
10. Remember there but for the grace of God, go I. (1 Cor 15:10 paraphrase)
11. We must have mercy and compassion (not condemnation) for the not yet Believer. That love will draw them as it drew me. As they often do not recognize their need for a Savior as they think they are a good person. "Forgive them father, they know not what they do." (Luke 23:34)
- i. ***A young man mockingly said to a preacher, "You say that unsaved people carry a great weight of sin. Frankly, I feel nothing. How heavy is sin? Ten pounds? Fifty pounds? Eighty pounds? A hundred pounds?" The preacher thought for a moment and gently replied, "If you laid a four hundred-pound weight on a corpse, would it feel the load?" The young man was quick to say, "Of course not; it's dead." The preacher replied, "The person who doesn't know Christ is equally dead. And though the load is great, he feels none of it.")
12. My concern is not whether God is on our side (He is); my greatest concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right.
13. Back to how to respond to adversity: Anyone ever glad they lost their temper as they reflect on it? CERT training of not barging in but carefully surveying the situation. Acting impulsively in the flesh can have long lasting consequences. Impulses are frequently not from the Lord but rather from the flesh. That is the problem with email, FB, and other social media. **DON'T LET YOUR FLESH RULE.**

F. Conclusion

- 1 . Who is a broken vessel in need of a Savior?
2. He really made it quite simple. And the rewards of walking in freedom and deliverance are out of this world.
3. **2 Greatest Commandments.** That's all: Love God and love our neighbors. It's our flesh that gets in the way and us playing God and thinking we know best, we know better.
4. Moses trusted God when he got on his face. That is what we are called to do. TRUST the giver of life, and OBEY His instructions!
5. And give Him the glory. You can't lose!

6. Are we fragrant to Adonai: Numbers 28:6. Are we separated from the world? That is a fragrant aroma to the LORD.

7. I am valuable to Him...and you are valuable to Him.

8. He likes what He sees in me...and what He sees in you.

9. He pursued me when my mind and heart was far far away and still does...And pursues you daily as well.

10. I am married to the Creator of the universe... and so are you. Let that sink it.

11. v. I am a joy to Him...and so are you.

12. I am not in full time ministry... but **I can be in full time commitment and commitment to Him in EVERYTHING I do.**

13. **a. Bernis: Get rid of your why God list. You'll find out when you see Him face to face**

b. Haggai 2:6-7: "In just a little while I will shake the heavens and the earth and I will shake all the nations. The treasures of all the nations will come, and I will fill this House with glory," says Adonai-Tzva'ot. (LORD of Hosts)

c. Grateful for the shaking as it means a change is coming/after the refining process; Glory follows the shaking.

i. After the shaking there will be a great revival. Victory is ahead.

14. All we need to do is trust and obey. THERE IS NOT OTHER WAY.

15. "Rejoice always" I say rejoice. Slide **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18: "Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Messiah Yeshua."**

14.. **Who wants to overflow with his love? (1 Thes 3:12)**

20. Remember: There, but for the grace of God go I. Many don't have the discernment cause they don't have the Holy Spirit. **Acts 1:8 Let's pray for them to get the Holy Spirit.**

21. You know Him, can run to Him, talk with Him, and walk with Him. It doesn't get any better than that.

22. Hardships and pain make us who we are

23. Blessings for obedience and cursing for disobedience. Deut 28;2-7, 11-12

24 I have experienced far more peace and love through my personal relationship with Yeshua than I ever imagined was possible. **Wisdom and discernment not from me but from the Holy Spirit**

25. 1 Thes 5:18: "IN EVERYTHING give thanks; for this is the will of God in Messiah Yeshua for you."

26. But fret not for: Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."