

Forerunners for Christ Los Angeles

September 7, 2024 – Hunger for the Supernatural of God – Erlinda Cruz

Water From the Rock in Rephidim

“Then all the congregation of the children of Israel set out on their journey from the Wilderness of Sin, according to the commandment of the Lord, and camped in Rephidim; but there was no water for the people to drink. Therefore the people contended with Moses, and said, “Give us water, that we may drink.”

So Moses said to them, “Why do you contend with me? Why do you tempt the Lord?”

And the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses, and said, “Why is it you have brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?”

So Moses cried out to the Lord, saying, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me!”

And the Lord said to Moses, “Go on before the people, and take with you some of the elders of Israel. Also take in your hand your rod with which you struck the river, and go. Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it, that the people may drink.”

And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel. So he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the contention of the children of Israel, and because they tempted the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

Now Amalek came and fought with Israel in Rephidim.”

Exodus 17:1-8 NKJV

Definitions

Meribah: “Meribah” means “quarreling or strife”

Rephidim: The Hebrew name Rephidim (רִפְדִּים) translates to “place of rest” or “resting places.”

Some events that took place at Rephidim include:

- **Israel's victory over Amalek**: The Israelites defeated Amalek in battle at Rephidim, with Moses holding up his hands to help them win. After the battle, Moses built an altar and named it “the Lord is my banner.”
- **Water from a rock**: God told Moses to strike a rock at Horeb, and water would come out for the people to drink.

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- **Visit from Moses' father-in-law:** It is believed that Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, visited Rephidim, as recorded in Exodus 18.
- The Israelites left Rephidim and advanced into the wilderness of Sinai, and the name Rephidim is not mentioned again in the Bible.