"Got Thirst?"

By Pastor Steve Gibson

When you are thirsty, how do you get a drink of water? Likely it's a fairly simple trip to the faucet or opening a bottle of water. But in Exodus 17, it wasn't such a simple problem to resolve.

The children of Israel were in the wilderness, camping at Rephidim. Of course they were not camping long before discovering there was no water available. So they went to complain to Moses. They suggested he was trying to kill them, their children, and their animals (v. 3). They went so far as to question whether the Lord was with them (v. 7).

Moses cried out to the Lord and was directed to take some elders with him and strike the rock with his rod. Water was then to flow out from the rock.

God could have responded by sending a plague or wiping out the people. He could have let them dehydrate for being so demanding and doubtful. Instead, He gave them an object lesson in what Christ was willing to do for them. The rock represented Jesus. He loved them so much that he was willing to take a beating for them to be able to have water for their needs.

Patriarchs and Prophets describes the unbelief manifested by the people as 'criminal' (298). God had provided ample evidences of His care for them so that they should have chosen to place their full confidence of His ability to meet this need as well. How many times do we read about them running out of water after this event? We don't. God supplied their food in the form of manna. He supplied water. He kept their clothes and shoes in shape. He met their daily needs.

It wasn't until they reached Kadesh, in sight of the landmarks of Canaan, that the stream of water provided by the Lord was quenched (PP 413). This should have been an encouraging sign to the people that God was about to meet their need for water in a new way, in the new land. It was an opportunity to exercise faith in God's generous provision.

Have you seen God provide for your daily needs over time? Do you believe He is capable of knowing just what is best for you day by day? Can you testify that even in a desert land, God has provided His ability to satisfy your thirst? Do you thank Him for Jesus, the ultimate thirst quencher? Do you eagerly anticipate walking with Him beside the River of Life? Soon, by His grace?

Wednesday's 6:15 p.m. Call 1-978-990-5000 Code: 104311

Prayer Group

Live Stream Church Service

Each Sabbath @ 11:30 a.m. Look for an email with the YouTube link.

Church Reopening Date

We will not be opening our church for in person services at this time. Please keep your eyes open for an email with opening information.

Tithes & Offerings

Below are the three ways you can give your offerings:

Mail to: Cathy Fields P.O. Box 15332 Scottsdale, AZ 85267

Visit our website at:

www.buckeyeaz.adventistchurch. org and click on 'Online Giving' and follow the prompts.

Call Head Deacon Raymond Hazard to make arrangements.

Email: pastorstevegibson@hotmail.com **Address:** 501 N 4th Street, Buckeye, AZ 85326 **Mailing Address:** PO Box 1288, Buckeye AZ 85326

