

EPISODE NO. 91

Num. 20:1-13

Water Flowed from Another Rock

1 In the 1st month of the 40th year after leaving Egypt, the whole community of Israelites arrived at the Desert of Zin. They stayed at Kadesh. Miriam died there, and she was buried there.

2 Now, there was no water for the community. So, they gathered together against Moses and against Aaron. 3 The people argued with Moses. They said, “We wish we would have died when our Hebrew brothers died in the presence of the Always-Present One! 4 Why did the two of you bring the congregation of the Always-Present One into this desert? Are we and our livestock supposed to die here!?” 5 And, why did you bring us up from Egypt to this awful place? It has no grain, no figs, no vines, and no pomegranates! And, there is no water for us to drink!”

6 Then Moses and Aaron left that gathering. They went to the entrance of the Meeting Tent. They laid on the ground face-down. And the splendor of the Always-Present One appeared to them.

7 Yahweh spoke to Moses: 8 “You and your brother Aaron must get Aaron’s walking-stick, and you must gather the community. SPEAK to that rock over there in plain view of the people. It WILL surrender its water! You are to bring water out of that rock for them. Give that water to the people and their animals.”

9 So, Moses took Aaron’s walking-stick from the presence of Yahweh . He did just as Yahweh told him.

10 Moses and Aaron assembled the congregation in front of the rock. Then Moses said, “Now listen to me, you rebels! Do you want US to bring forth water out of this rock for you!?” 11 Next, Moses raised his hand and HIT the rock with the stick twice. Lots of water started to gush out immediately. And, the people and their animals drank from it.

12 However, Yahweh said to Moses and Aaron, “Because you didn’t trust Me, you did NOT honor Me as holy in the sight of the people. Therefore, you two will not lead this congregation into the land that I will give to them!”

13 These were the waters of Meribah. (Here the Israelites argued with the Always-Present One, but He showed them that He is holy.)