Lenten Bible Study

March 16, 2022

“Trust in Provision”

**SCRIPTURE READINGS:**

[**Exodus 17:1-7**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Exodus%2017%3A1-7&version=CEB)**– Water from a Rock**[**John 4:1-42**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John%204:1-42&version=CEB)**– The Samaritan Woman at the Well**

 **Meets Jesus**

***God, the maker of heaven and earth, has provided for creation since before the earth was even formed. God knows our needs, both physical and spiritual. God also desires that we demonstrate trust and belief in God’s providential care.*  *When we encounter Christ in our everyday vulnerabilities, he can renew our souls with living water. Jesus knows our hearts and when we claim and proclaim him as Lord, blessings rain down.***

### Prayer: ***You Have Always Made Provision***

**Darkness covered the face of the deep and
     Nothing that is formed had been formed as chaos loomed, And you called forth order and light and seasons and life.
*You have always made provision, and yet I doubt*.**

**Manna rained down from the heavens and
     Water sprang forth from impervious rock
     In the desert places you provided succor for life.
*You have always made provision, and yet I grumble against you*.**

**Enemies pursued and encamped around me
As the hoofbeat of horses and the breath of death was hot on my back, You parted the waters into walls of safe passage on dry ground.
*You have always made provision, and yet I lack faith.***

**Judgment rose against the rejected and the sting of exclusion pierced the heart
     Seeking the solace of the solitary and yet imprisoned within the same. You cast aside custom and transcended tradition to see me and speak truth into my life.
*You have always made provision, and yet I lose hope.***

**You have always made provision
You are making provision
You will always make provision**

**May I learn to trust you as Jehovah Jireh.
May I learn to have confidence in your provision.
May I learn to tell others of your constant providence.**

**– by LaTrelle Miller Easterling**

**Points of Focus**

**Exodus 17:1-7**

1. **Place: Rock in HOREB/SINAI: Massah and Meribah – “Testing” and “Quarreling”:** Modern scholars differ as to the exact geographical position of Mount Horeb, also known as Mount Sinai, but most consider it to be along the border area of present-day Egypt, Israel, Jordan and Saudi Arabia.
2. **God’s PROVISION = Production (made a way), Protection (eliminated danger), and Problem-Solving (food and water)**
3. **Water – What is it about water? H2O =2 parts Hydrogen, 1 part Oxygen = most plentiful substance on earth and essential to all living things.**
4. **Questions: Are we today as stubborn and arrogant as Israel of old? Is our faith/faithlessness like theirs - even though we, like they, have witnessed the PROVISION of God? Do we still doubt that he can and will provide?**

**John 4:1-42**

1. **Place: SAMARIA: Jacobs Well**
	1. **Twelve tribes of Israel**
	2. **Split of United Monarchy**
	3. **Southern (Judea) and Northern (Israel) Kingdoms**
	4. **Wars and Intermarriages**
2. **Jesus takes a direct route from Judea to Galilee through Samaria.**
3. **Takes a rest at a well and strikes up a conversation “Give me a drink”, crossing several social boundaries of religion, ethnicity, and gender, as an ambassador of diversity, equity, and inclusion.**
4. **Question: Do we have issues in these areas today?**
5. **It is not immediately apparent that it is she, not he, who is truly in need of water…living water.**
6. **Who are you with no bucket? Greater than**

 **Jacob who dug this well, drank from this**

 **well, and left it to future generations?**

1. **Fountain of Living Water that quenches**

 **FOREVER the deepest thirst.**

1. **Give me this water?**
2. **Husband discourse? Levirate marriage?**

 **Barren?**

1. **Theological discussion on place of**

 **worship?**

***For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth***

1. **Attestation: I know that Messiah is**

 **coming.**

1. **Confession: I am the Messiah!**
2. **Testimony and belief**
3. **We know for ourselves**

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