

SENIOR HIGH Bible Class

September, October, November 2020
FALL QUARTER



For Teens Ages
15 Through 17



Union
Gospel
Press

Senior High Bible Class

FALL QUARTER

Preparation of a Nation

UNIT I: Provisions

Sept. 6—God Provides Manna and Quail	2
Sept. 13—God Provides Water from a Rock	6
Sept. 20—God Gives Victory over the Amalekites	10
Sept. 27—God Provides Judges to Help Moses	14

UNIT II: Instructions

Oct. 4—God’s First Instructions to Israel.....	18
Oct. 11—God Gives the Ten Commandments.....	22
Oct. 18—God Confirms the Covenant	26
Oct. 25—God Meets Moses Alone	30

UNIT III: Correction

Nov. 1—The People Sin Against God	34
Nov. 8—God Confronts the Sin	37
Nov. 15—God Judges the Sin.....	40
Nov. 22—Moses’ Audacious Request.....	43
Nov. 29—Moses Reflects God’s Glory	46

LOOKING AHEAD

God had rescued Israel from Egypt and promised to lead them to the Promised Land. During their time in the wilderness, God was preparing them for their future.

That preparation began with learning to depend on God’s provision. They needed food and drink for the journey, and they needed protection from their enemies. They also needed godly leadership. Unit I shows how God provided each of those necessities, teaching the people dependence on Him.

In order to function as a civil society, the nation of Israel needed a set of laws. God’s instructions gave them the necessary constitution but also taught them how to walk in His ways. These lessons are discussed in Unit II.

Because of sin, it became necessary for God to correct His people. They needed to learn that sin would always be judged. At the same time, He wanted them to know that He is a God of forgiveness and compassion. Unit III shows how correction taught the people to know God better.

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Editor in Chief: Todd Williams

Writer: Robert A. Allen

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SCRIPTURE LESSON TEXT

EX. 16:2 And the whole congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness:

3 And the children of Israel said unto them, Would to God we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh pots, *and* when we did eat bread to the full; for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger.

4 Then said the LORD unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no.

5 And it shall come to pass, that on the sixth day they shall prepare *that* which they bring in; and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily.

6 And Moses and Aaron said unto all the children of Israel, At even, then ye shall know that the LORD hath brought you out from the land of Egypt:

7 And in the morning, then ye shall see the glory of the LORD; for that he heareth your murmurings against the LORD: and what *are* we, that ye murmur against us?

8 And Moses said, *This shall be*, when the LORD shall give you in the evening flesh to eat, and in the morning bread to the full; for that the LORD heareth your murmurings

which ye murmur against him: and what *are* we? your murmurings are not against us, but against the LORD.

9 And Moses spake unto Aaron, Say unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, Come near before the LORD: for he hath heard your murmurings.

10 And it came to pass, as Aaron spake unto the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and, behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud.

11 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

12 I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel: speak unto them, saying, At even ye shall eat flesh, and in the morning ye shall be filled with bread; and ye shall know that I *am* the LORD your God.

13 And it came to pass, that at even the quails came up, and covered the camp: and in the morning the dew lay round about the host.

14 And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness *there lay* a small round thing, as small as the hoar frost on the ground.

15 And when the children of Israel saw *it*, they said one to another, It *is* manna: for they wist not what it was. And Moses said unto them, This *is* the bread which the LORD hath given you to eat.

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God Provides Manna and Quail

Lesson Text: Exodus 16:2-15

Related Scriptures: I Corinthians 10:1-10; Exodus 6:1-8;
John 6:30-58; Numbers 11:4-34

TIME: 1445 B.C.

PLACE: Wilderness of Sin

GOLDEN TEXT—“Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst” (John 6:35).

ANALYZING

Traveling through the wilderness meant that the people of Israel needed to depend on God for daily sustenance. Without Him, there was no way to feed that many people. They had to learn what it meant to trust the Lord.

1. God provides testing (Ex. 16:2-5). Taking the nation through the wilderness on the way to the Promised Land was one of the ways God used to prepare them for the future. He knew they would need to trust Him in order to take possession of the land. So He began teaching them to trust Him for their daily food.

The people started complaining to Moses and Aaron almost as soon as they left Egypt. There was no food in the wilderness. What were they going to eat? How would they survive? They even suggested that Moses had brought them out into the wilderness to starve them to death. They were particularly bitter about having no bread or meat to eat like they had enjoyed in Egypt. They did not believe God could provide any-

thing like what they had eaten back in Egypt. The injustice of slavery was quickly forgotten when their stomachs told them they were hungry.

The test God used was quite simple. He would scatter special food, which they named “manna,” over the ground each day. They were to gather it in the morning, picking up just enough for that day. If they took more than they could use, it would spoil. However, on the day before the Sabbath, they were to collect twice as much, for no manna would appear on the Sabbath morning. If they obeyed, they would find that the double portion of manna did not spoil as it would on other days. Obeying God meant that they had the food they needed. Disobeying God brought consequences.

This plan of God’s was carefully explained to the people. God would provide food for them, but they needed to obey Him in order to enjoy the food and be satisfied.

2. God provides assurance (Ex. 16:6-10). Even though they had experienced a miraculous rescue from Egypt in the Exodus, the people were still not ready to trust God. They complained to Moses that God