

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

From Darren:

Exo 15:19-17:7 - The Israelites hate camping; the Sabbath, a gift from God to us

Ps 27:1-6 - Why be afraid

Pro 6:20-26 - An unambiguous list, for sure

Matt 22:1-33 - RSVP and dress appropriately; the God of the living

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Exodus 15:19-17:7

15 19 When Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and charioteers rushed into the sea, the LORD brought the water crashing down on them. But the people of Israel had walked through the middle of the sea on dry ground! **20** Then Miriam the prophet, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine and led all the women as they played their tambourines and danced. **21** And Miriam sang this song: "Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; he has hurled both horse and rider into the sea." **22** Then Moses led the people of Israel away from the Red Sea, and they moved out into the desert of Shur. They traveled in this desert for three days without finding any water. **23** When they came to the oasis of Marah, the water was too bitter to drink. So they called the place Marah (which means "bitter"). **24** Then the people complained and turned against Moses. "What are we going to drink?" they demanded. **25** So Moses cried out to the LORD for help, and the LORD showed him a piece of wood. Moses threw it into the water, and this made the water good to drink. It was there at Marah that the LORD set before them the following decree as a standard to test their faithfulness to him. **26** He said, "If you will listen carefully to the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in his sight, obeying his commands and keeping all his decrees, then I will not make you suffer any of the diseases I sent on the Egyptians; for I am the LORD who heals you." **27** After leaving Marah, the Israelites traveled on to the oasis of Elim, where they found twelve springs and seventy palm trees. They camped there beside the water.

16 1 Then the whole community of Israel set out from Elim and journeyed into the wilderness of Sin, between Elim and Mount Sinai. They arrived there on the fifteenth day of the second month, one month after leaving the land of Egypt. **2** There, too, the whole community of Israel complained about Moses and Aaron. **3** "If only the LORD had killed us back in Egypt," they moaned. "There we sat around pots filled with meat and ate all the bread we wanted. But now you have brought us into this wilderness to starve us all to death." **4** Then the LORD said to Moses, "Look, I'm going to rain down food from heaven for you. Each day the people can go out

and pick up as much food as they need for that day. I will test them in this to see whether or not they will follow my instructions. **5** On the sixth day they will gather food, and when they prepare it, there will be twice as much as usual.” **6** So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, “By evening you will realize it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt. **7** In the morning you will see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaints, which are against him, not against us. What have we done that you should complain about us?” **8** Then Moses added, “The LORD will give you meat to eat in the evening and bread to satisfy you in the morning, for he has heard all your complaints against him. What have we done? Yes, your complaints are against the LORD, not against us.” **9** Then Moses said to Aaron, “Announce this to the entire community of Israel: ‘Present yourselves before the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.’” **10** And as Aaron spoke to the whole community of Israel, they looked out toward the wilderness. There they could see the awesome glory of the LORD in the cloud. **11** Then the LORD said to Moses, **12** “I have heard the Israelites’ complaints. Now tell them, ‘In the evening you will have meat to eat, and in the morning you will have all the bread you want. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God.’” **13** That evening vast numbers of quail flew in and covered the camp. And the next morning the area around the camp was wet with dew. **14** When the dew evaporated, a flaky substance as fine as frost blanketed the ground. **15** The Israelites were puzzled when they saw it. “What is it?” they asked each other. They had no idea what it was. And Moses told them, “It is the food the LORD has given you to eat. **16** These are the LORD’s instructions: Each household should gather as much as it needs. Pick up two quarts for each person in your tent.” **17** So the people of Israel did as they were told. Some gathered a lot, some only a little. **18** But when they measured it out, everyone had just enough. Those who gathered a lot had nothing left over, and those who gathered only a little had enough. Each family had just what it needed. **19** Then Moses told them, “Do not keep any of it until morning.” **20** But some of them didn’t listen and kept some of it until morning. But by then it was full of maggots and had a terrible smell. Moses was very angry with them. **21** After this the people gathered the food morning by morning, each family according to its need. And as the sun became hot, the flakes they had not picked up melted and disappeared. **22** On the sixth day, they gathered twice as much as usual—four quarts for each person instead of two. Then all the leaders of the community came and asked Moses for an explanation. **23** He told them, “This is what the LORD commanded: Tomorrow will be a day of complete rest, a holy Sabbath day set apart for the LORD. So bake or boil as much as you want today, and set aside what is left for tomorrow.” **24** So they put some aside until morning, just as Moses had commanded. And in the morning the leftover food was wholesome and good, without maggots or odor. **25** Moses said, “Eat this food today, for today is a Sabbath day dedicated to the LORD. There will be no food on the ground today. **26** You may gather the food for six days, but the seventh day is the

Sabbath. There will be no food on the ground that day.” **27** Some of the people went out anyway on the seventh day, but they found no food. **28** The LORD asked Moses, “How long will these people refuse to obey my commands and instructions? **29** They must realize that the Sabbath is the LORD ’s gift to you. That is why he gives you a two-day supply on the sixth day, so there will be enough for two days. On the Sabbath day you must each stay in your place. Do not go out to pick up food on the seventh day.” **30** So the people did not gather any food on the seventh day. **31** The Israelites called the food manna. It was white like coriander seed, and it tasted like honey wafers. **32** Then Moses said, “This is what the LORD has commanded: Fill a two-quart container with manna to preserve it for your descendants. Then later generations will be able to see the food I gave you in the wilderness when I set you free from Egypt.” **33** Moses said to Aaron, “Get a jar and fill it with two quarts of manna. Then put it in a sacred place before the LORD to preserve it for all future generations.” **34** Aaron did just as the LORD had commanded Moses. He eventually placed it in the Ark of the Covenant—in front of the stone tablets inscribed with the terms of the covenant. **35** So the people of Israel ate manna for forty years until they arrived at the land where they would settle. They ate manna until they came to the border of the land of Canaan. **36** The container used to measure the manna was an omer, which was one-tenth of an ephah; it held about two quarts.

17 **1** At the LORD ’s command, the whole community of Israel left the wilderness of Sin and moved from place to place. Eventually they camped at Rephidim, but there was no water there for the people to drink. **2** So once more the people complained against Moses. “Give us water to drink!” they demanded. “Quiet!” Moses replied. “Why are you complaining against me? And why are you testing the LORD ?” **3** But tormented by thirst, they continued to argue with Moses. “Why did you bring us out of Egypt? Are you trying to kill us, our children, and our livestock with thirst?” **4** Then Moses cried out to the LORD, “What should I do with these people? They are ready to stone me!” **5** The LORD said to Moses, “Walk out in front of the people. Take your staff, the one you used when you struck the water of the Nile, and call some of the elders of Israel to join you. **6** I will stand before you on the rock at Mount Sinai. Strike the rock, and water will come gushing out. Then the people will be able to drink.” So Moses struck the rock as he was told, and water gushed out as the elders looked on. **7** Moses named the place Massah (which means “test”) and Meribah (which means “arguing”) because the people of Israel argued with Moses and tested the LORD by saying, “Is the LORD here with us or not?”

Psalm 27:1-6

27 **1** The LORD is my light and my salvation— so why should I be afraid? The LORD is my fortress, protecting me from danger, so why should I tremble? **2** When evil people come to devour me, when my enemies and foes attack me, they will stumble and fall. **3** Though a mighty army surrounds me, my heart will not be afraid. Even if I am attacked, I will remain confident. **4** The one thing I ask of the LORD — the thing I seek most— is to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, delighting in the LORD 's perfections and meditating in his Temple. **5** For he will conceal me there when troubles come; he will hide me in his sanctuary. He will place me out of reach on a high rock. **6** Then I will hold my head high above my enemies who surround me. At his sanctuary I will offer sacrifices with shouts of joy, singing and praising the LORD with music.

Proverbs 6:20-26

6 **20** My son, obey your father's commands, and don't neglect your mother's instruction. **21** Keep their words always in your heart. Tie them around your neck. **22** When you walk, their counsel will lead you. When you sleep, they will protect you. When you wake up, they will advise you. **23** For their command is a lamp and their instruction a light; their corrective discipline is the way to life. **24** It will keep you from the immoral woman, from the smooth tongue of a promiscuous woman. **25** Don't lust for her beauty. Don't let her coy glances seduce you. **26** For a prostitute will bring you to poverty, but sleeping with another man's wife will cost you your life.

Matthew 22:1-33

22 **1** Jesus also told them other parables. He said, **2** "The Kingdom of Heaven can be illustrated by the story of a king who prepared a great wedding feast for his son. **3** When the banquet was ready, he sent his servants to notify those who were invited. But they all refused to come! **4** "So he sent other servants to tell them, 'The feast has been prepared. The bulls and fattened cattle have been killed, and everything is ready. Come to the banquet!' **5** But the guests he had invited ignored them and went their own way, one to his farm, another to his business. **6** Others seized his messengers and insulted them and killed them. **7** "The king was furious, and he sent out his army to destroy the murderers and burn their town. **8** And he said to his servants, 'The wedding feast is ready, and the guests I invited aren't worthy of the honor. **9** Now go out to the street corners and invite everyone you see.' **10** So the servants

brought in everyone they could find, good and bad alike, and the banquet hall was filled with guests. **11** “But when the king came in to meet the guests, he noticed a man who wasn’t wearing the proper clothes for a wedding. **12** ‘Friend,’ he asked, ‘how is it that you are here without wedding clothes?’ But the man had no reply. **13** Then the king said to his aides, ‘Bind his hands and feet and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ **14** “For many are called, but few are chosen.” **15** Then the Pharisees met together to plot how to trap Jesus into saying something for which he could be arrested. **16** They sent some of their disciples, along with the supporters of Herod, to meet with him. “Teacher,” they said, “we know how honest you are. You teach the way of God truthfully. You are impartial and don’t play favorites. **17** Now tell us what you think about this: Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” **18** But Jesus knew their evil motives. “You hypocrites!” he said. “Why are you trying to trap me? **19** Here, show me the coin used for the tax.” When they handed him a Roman coin, **20** he asked, “Whose picture and title are stamped on it?” **21** “Caesar’s,” they replied. “Well, then,” he said, “give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and give to God what belongs to God.” **22** His reply amazed them, and they went away. **23** That same day Jesus was approached by some Sadducees—religious leaders who say there is no resurrection from the dead. They posed this question: **24** “Teacher, Moses said, ‘If a man dies without children, his brother should marry the widow and have a child who will carry on the brother’s name.’ **25** Well, suppose there were seven brothers. The oldest one married and then died without children, so his brother married the widow. **26** But the second brother also died, and the third brother married her. This continued with all seven of them. **27** Last of all, the woman also died. **28** So tell us, whose wife will she be in the resurrection? For all seven were married to her.” **29** Jesus replied, “Your mistake is that you don’t know the Scriptures, and you don’t know the power of God. **30** For when the dead rise, they will neither marry nor be given in marriage. In this respect they will be like the angels in heaven. **31** “But now, as to whether there will be a resurrection of the dead—haven’t you ever read about this in the Scriptures? Long after Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob had died, God said, **32** ‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’ So he is the God of the living, not the dead.” **33** When the crowds heard him, they were astounded at his teaching.