

Sample Summary of Exodus 17

Structure

1. (17:1–7) The LORD’s Provision in Israel’s **Third** Wilderness Crisis

- a. (vv. 1–4) Crisis
 - i. (v. 1) No Water at Rephidim
 - ii. (vv. 2–3) Congregation Quarrels with Moses
 - iii. (v. 4) Moses Cries to the LORD
- b. (vv. 5–7) Cure
 - i. (vv. 5–6a) The LORD Instructs Moses to Strike the Rock
 - ii. (v. 6b) Moses Strikes the Rock in the Sight of the Elders
- c. (v. 7) Commemoration

2. (17:8–16) The LORD’s Provision in Israel’s **Fourth** Wilderness Crisis

- a. (v. 8) Crisis
 - Amalekites Attack Congregation at Rephidim
- b. (vv. 9–13) Cure
 - i. (v. 9) Battle Plan: Moses Instructs Joshua
 - ii. (vv. 10–13) Battle Action
 1. (v. 10) Joshua Leads Fight at Hill’s Foot, While Moses, Aaron, and Hur Ascend Hill’s Summit
 2. (v. 11–12) Action on Summit: Only Moses’s Raised Hand(s) Causes Israel to Prevail, So Aaron and Hur Must Help Him Keep His Hands Lifted
 3. (v. 13) Action at Foot: Joshua Defeats Amalek and His People
- c. (vv. 14–16) Commemoration

Unifying Theme Rather than forsake his redeemed hosts when they put him to the test, the LORD demonstrates his saving presence among them through his mediator by causing water to flow freely from the stricken rock and by defending them from their assailants. *So, instead of testing him, trust him—even in the wilderness.*

Author’s Aim Moses aims to keep recounting the LORD’s merciful provisions for his redeemed covenant family on their way to Mount Sinai, as the LORD satisfies the congregation’s thirst with water from the stricken rock and wars against their attackers.

Teaching Outline

<i>Crisis</i> (17:1–4)	<i>Cure</i> (17:5–6)	<i>Commemoration</i> (17:7)
(17:8)	(17:9–13)	(17:14–16)

1. What does Israel's water crisis at Rephidim teach about God's people? (17:1–4)

When God tests you, you often test him back.

2. What does the cure for Israel's water crisis at Rephidim teach about God? (17:5–7)

When you test God back, he keeps blessing you at a cost.

3. What does Israel's defense crisis at Rephidim teach about God's people? (17:8)

Enemies are seeking to destroy the church, and you're no match for them.

4. What does the cure for Israel's defense crisis at Rephidim teach about God? (17:9–16)

Enemies are seeking to destroy the church, but they're no match for him.

**So don't put the LORD to the test. Instead, fly to him for refuge and march at his command.