



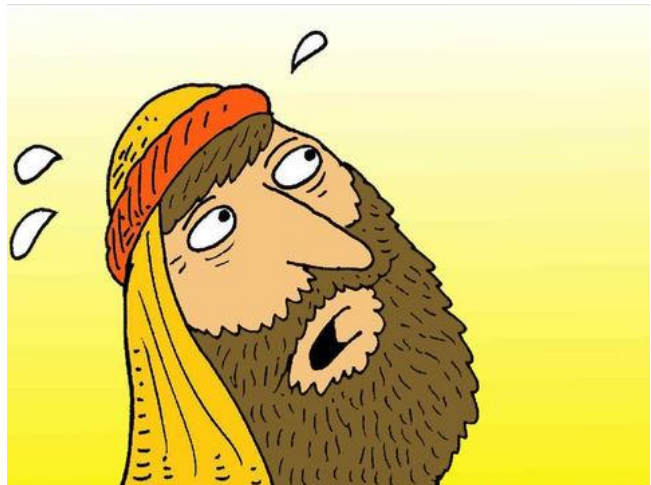
L2L46: Moses' Mistake

Numbers 20

The Israelites rebelled against God when they were supposed to go into the land God promised them, so as a punishment God made them wander in the desert for forty years. They were now getting close to the end of that time, but it seemed the people had not changed very much—they still complained and complained. One day, the congregation was made to camp in a place where there was no water. Instead of asking God for help, they were angry and complained to Moses and Aaron. God told Moses to gather the people together to witness a special miracle that God was going to perform to bring water from a rock. God had done this miracle before, only this time He wanted Moses to speak to the rock instead of hitting it with his staff as he had before. Moses was so angry with the people for all their complaining that he made a hasty mistake—a mistake which would change the course of his life.

Discuss:

- Why do you think the people were the people complaining about not having water? What would it be like to be in the desert without water?
- Why do you suppose the people didn't ask God for help when they were in trouble? Why is it important that we ask God to help us when we are in trouble?
- What were God's instructions to Moses and Aaron? What did Moses and Aaron actually do?
- Why was God so angry with Moses? Have a look at Numbers 20:10. Was Moses giving God the credit for causing the miracle? What should have Moses said?
- What was Moses' punishment for his mistake? What lessons can we learn from this story?



Richard Gunther (www.lambsongs.co.nz) | FreeBibleImages.org

Memory Challenge:

Numbers 20:12

Then the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not believe Me, to hallow Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them."