

Intro:

1 Cor. 10:1-4, Jesus led them through Red Sea/wilderness, gave *spiritual* meat and drink; vss. 6, 11, bad examples for us not to follow.

Main Point of Text: The Church tests Christ with constant murmuring, while He proves them with continuous mercy.

Heb 3:7-13: murmuring hardened their hearts to testing God in unbelief; unbelief keeps from getting to PL.

Sermon Point: *Don't bite Christ's hand that feeds you.*

Move 1: Murmuring is caused by fear and unbelief.

Ex. 15:24 previously. A result of not remembering: 16:3; 17:3. *They soon forgot his works; they waited not for his counsel: But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness, and tempted God in the desert ... they believed not his word: But murmured in their tents, and hearkened not unto the voice of the LORD.* (Psa 106:13-14, 24-25) Ex. 16:15, half-hardened hearts already (Calvin). Elders must witness w/ minister to Jesus/covenant: 16:22, 32-34; 17:5-6. Chps. 15-17, take eyes off the Angel of God in their midst. Fear is misplaced: Deut. 6:13 quoted by Jesus in Matt. 4:10. Rom 15:4. Ps. 42:5.

Move 2: Murmuring leads to disobedience.

Ex. 15:26: God trained to *obey*. Ps. 105:45: ... *That they might observe his statutes, and keep his laws ...*
Ex. 16:19-20, 23, 25-29, 35 (foreshadowing). Looking back, they ... *lightly esteemed the Rock of his salvation. They provoked him to jealousy with strange gods, with abominations ...* (Deut. 32:15-16). Result of obedience: 16:24; disobedience: 16:20 (Mt. 9:43-49). 1 Cor. 10:12: ... *let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.* (1 Cor. 10:12) Jude 14-17.

Move 3: Murmuring can get you hurt or killed.

Ex. 15:26. Murmuring in Num. 11:1-20, 30-34: quail out of nostrils; 21:3-7: fiery serpents. Num. 20:8-11 (kept out of PL). True also of ministers, 17:4 *And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna ... that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.* (Deu 8:3) Jesus quoted in Matthew 4:4 and lived. Expects you to do the same: *Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.* (1 Cor. 10:10). *Do all things without murmurings and disputings: That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;* (Phil. 2:14-15)

Move 4: *Murmuring tests God, when you are the one who is supposed to be tested.*

16:3 vs. 6, 8; 17:2, 7. Ps. 106:9-14: *He rebuked the Red sea also, and it was dried up: so he led them through the depths, as through the wilderness ... And the waters covered their enemies ... Then believed they his words; they sang his praise. They soon forgat his works; they waited not for his counsel: But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness, and tempted God in the desert.* 1 Cor. 10:9, they tempted Christ. Ex. 15:25; 16:4: “prove”: train/prepare. To trust and obey: 15:26; 16:4. Main tests in text are, 1) whether you’ll trust God for your daily bread by working and then not hording; 2) whether you’ll save up and rest each week on the Lord’s Day. Deut. 8:15-16, proving to do good. Deut. 6:16: *Ye shall not tempt the LORD your God, as ye tempted him in Massah* (Mt. 4:7). Ex. 17:7. Isa 45:9.

Move 5: *Murmuring shows how grateful you should be for God’s unceasing covenant mercy.*

Still shows the “glory of the Lord” to know Him (16:7, 10, 12). 16:9, gracious beckoning to look with thanksgiving. As “Sons of Israel”. Psalm 105:39-42: *He spread a cloud for a covering; and fire to give light in the night. The people asked, and he brought quails, and satisfied them with the bread of heaven. He opened the rock, and the waters gushed out; they ran in the dry places like a river. For he remembered his holy promise, and Abraham his servant.* Ps. 106:7-8: *Our fathers understood not thy wonders in Egypt; they remembered not the multitude of thy mercies; but provoked him at the sea, even at the Red sea. Nevertheless he saved them for his name’s sake, that he might make his mighty power to be known.* 16:13-14, covering/coating because He is their Passover and cloud covering (1 Cor. 10:1-2). He hears, and answers with the bread of heaven, 16:4. 16:17-18, 35: Had plenty. Came right where they were: Phil. 4:19. 1 Cor. 10:4: *They ... did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.* (1 Cor. 10:4). Jesus: ... *Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world ... I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger ...* (John 6:32-35). John 6:51-58). *He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna,* (Rev 2:17) 17:6: striking of rod earlier ruined drinking water for Egyptians; here, brings drinking water. Should have struck *them*. Instead, struck *Christ*: 1 Cor. 10:4. Isaiah 53: 4-5, 8, 10. Never again: Num. 20.

Conclusion:

Once was/is enough. Hebrews 7:26-27; 9:26-28; 10:10, 12.

Don’t bite Christ’s hand that feeds you.