

Grumbling (Numbers 11)

Introduction: *Grumbling, the “respectable sin.”*

See Jude 14-16, Phi 2:14, Cor 10:10.

1. The people complained about the Lord (1-9, 30-35)

Deuteronomy 8:3--the encounters and the trials and the experiences that the children of Israel had while they were in the wilderness were not accidental or coincidental.

“Example is important, sin is contagious, memory is selective, diet is preoccupying” (Brown).

NT Application 1: *Don’t grumble about difficult providence*

1 Cor 10:10, “And do not complain, as some of them complained.”

NT Application 2: *Don’t spurn the God’s provision of the Bread of Heaven*

Psalm 78:24-25 manna is described as “the grain of heaven” and “the bread of the angels.”

John 6, "This is the bread which came down from heaven-- not as your fathers ate the manna, and are dead. He who eats this bread will live forever. ... When Jesus knew in Himself that His disciples **complained** about this, He said to them, "Does this offend you?" (Joh 6:57-61)

2. Moses complained to the Lord (10-30)

When you are overwhelmed and discouraged, take your complaint to the Lord in prayer rather than complaining about the Lord to yourself and others

NT Application: *Christ alone can carry us in his bosom*

Moses was unable to bear these people as their mediator, but Christ is able. And he is so tender with His people, even though He is carrying their load. And so even in these passages what we see is we see a contrast between this finite, human, imperfect mediator, and our infinite, human and divine, perfect Mediator.