

THE GIFT OF SPEECH, Pt 5

Murmuring

Christian Character in Action: Lesson 21

15 July 2022

MUR'MURING: Uttering complaints in a low voice or sullen manner; grumbling; complaining.

John 6:43 Jesus said, “**Murmur not among yourselves.**”

- All have sinned... (Rom 3:23). Everybody is guilty of murmuring.

EIGHT TIMES WHEN THE ISRAELITES MURMURED IN THE WILDERNESS:

Exod 15:1-2 Israel’s deliverance from Egypt gave them reason to sing and rejoice and exalt God.

22-24 They began to murmur (instead of praying) due to thirst very soon after their deliverance. Discomforts and inconveniences commonly bring people to murmur.

25-26 God’s response: He made the bitter waters sweet and satisfied the peoples’ thirst.

1

Exod 16:1-3 45 days after being delivered from slavery in Egypt, the people complained of hunger.

Vs 4 God’s response: He promised to feed them every day with manna.

2

Exod 17:1-3 The Children of Israel murmured against Moses when they found no water and accused him of trying to kill them and their children and their cattle.

- Though they had learned more about God and His provisions, they still did not stop murmuring and start praying instead.

4-6 God’s response: He provided water from a rock.

3

Num 11:1-6 The people of Israel complained. It displeased God so that He killed many people with fire. Then the people complained about the manna that God provided.

7-15 This caused Moses to complain about the people and about God’s expectations of him.

16-20 Once again, God gives the people what they want, but this time He gives them so much flesh in a month that they get sick of it till it comes out their nostrils.

4

Num 14:1-3 The Israelites murmured against Moses and Arron because of the report of giants in the Promised Land. They wished they would die.

Vs 27 God hears the murmuring of the people.

5 **Vs 35** God grants their wishes and promises that they will die in the wilderness.

Num 16:41 After God killed Korah and those who sided with him, the people murmured against Moses and Aaron.

42-49 God's response: God sent a plague upon the people that killed 14,700.

- It is obvious that God is displeased with our constant discontentment. Instead of murmuring, we ought to be praying, praising, thanking, edifying, and encouraging.

6

Num 21:4-5 The people complained because of the way and spoke against God and Moses.

Vs 6 God's response: God sent serpents among the people so that "***much people of Israel died.***"

- Murmuring is the sin that led to the judgment of the fiery serpents.
 - We don't judge our murmuring to be a serious sin, but God does.

7

Josh 9:16-18 All the congregation of Israel murmured against the princes for making a covenant with the Gibeonites.

God's response: The Lord didn't judge the murmuring this time because He also was unhappy with the leadership of Israel.

8

What was the new factor that made the Israelites more accountable to God so that God began judging them severely whenever they murmured? The giving of the Law on tables of stone.

Unsaved people get away with sin because they don't know God's commandments.

New Christians get away with sin until they start learning God's words.

Mature Christians are expected to know God's word, live above sin, and maintain a high standard of holiness. If they sin, it will cost them.

For without the law sin *was* dead. ⁹ For I was alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died. (Rom 7:8-9)