Meditation #6 – Exodus 17:1-3

Meditation: It has been a month or so since the Israelites were delivered by God’s hand from the cruel oppression of the Egyptians. They saw the Red Sea part for them and then devour their enemy. They collected and ate the manna God miraculously provided for them. Now they are thirsty and acting like spoiled children. They even talk like children, “give us” rather than “please, may we have.” What a demanding lot! I can sympathize with their being thirsty, but their manner is so offensive. How much nicer it would have been if they had humbled themselves before God, acknowledged his awesome deliverance and provision, and then asked him for water. How interesting that he gave them water in spite of their behavior.

Paraphrase: The Israelites were camped at Rephidim not long after God brought them out of Egypt. No water was found there and the people became anxious. With a prideful spirit, they approached Moses and complained of their plight. Moses cautioned them that complaining to him was the same as complaining to God since he was God’s representative to them, but they didn’t care. They continued to whine and fuss to the point of lamenting their deliverance from Egypt. Somehow, within a short amount of time, they had forgotten what God had done for them.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank you for your loving provision for me. Thank you for the many times you have delivered me from the evil one, and thank you that I can rest content in my relationship with you. Forgive me, please, Lord, when I take for granted all that you have done for me. I love you Lord with all of my heart, and with all of my soul, and with all of my being. May my life and my work be acceptable to you who gives me every good thing. In Jesus’ name I pray, Amen.