

***We Worship the Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Spirit and Truth of His Gospel***



***Moses striking the Rock Hendrick de Clerck ca1610***

whether He as a Jew could make such a request. Christ then promised her living water for life. She perceived that only the Messiah could do that and asked who He was. Christ told her He was Messiah. She then left Christ and went into town and told the residents to see if she was talking to the Messiah. The town people talked with Christ and many immediately believed in Christ. They asked Christ to stay and tell them more and Christ spent 2 days teaching the people. So the lady first testified of Christ, but they believed because they heard the Word from Christ and the Spirit worked faith in them. Paul tells the Romans that Christ ignored that we were sinners when He went willingly to the cross to pay the full price of every sin committed in the world, and now we have forgiveness by trusting in Him, rather than trying to earn our salvation by good works.

**The Lessons: Exodus 17:1–7, Romans 5:1–8, & John 4:5–26 (27–30, 39–42).** Though the Lord had brought them out of Egypt, *“all the congregation of the people of Israel”* grumbled against Him because *“there was no water for the people to drink”* (Ex. 17:1). Despite their quarreling, the Lord graciously provided for them. He did not strike the people for their sins, but by the hand of Moses He struck the rock instead and brought forth water for the people. In the same way, living water flows from the pierced side of Christ at *“about the sixth hour”* (John 4:6; 19:14), when He is lifted up on the cross for the sins of the world. He is *“the gift of God”* (John 4:10), the well from which the Holy Spirit is poured out and becomes in His people *“a spring of water welling up to eternal life”* (John 4:14). By this grace in which we stand, being at peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, we *“worship the Father in spirit and truth”* (John 4:23). *“We rejoice in hope of the glory of God”* because *“God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us”* (Rom. 5:2, 5).

**Background:** The lessons today emphasize God’s unprecedented love in order to give us eternal life with Him. Israel, having been miraculously freed from Egyptian tyranny, was now in the desert between Egypt and Sinai. There was no water and the people grumbled and quarrelled with Moses, testing the Lord whether He brought them there to die of thirst. With leaders of Egypt present, God had Moses strike a rock with the staff that parted the Red Sea and water flowed out in abundance. John describes a Samaritan woman of low moral character that came to a well where Christ was seated. He asked her to draw water for Him, and she asked