

# *Don't Waste Your Wilderness*

## *Introduction*



### **Scriptures**

- **Deuteronomy 8:1-3**

All the commandments that I am commanding you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land which the Lord swore to give to your forefathers. You shall remember all the way which the LORD your God has led you in the wilderness these forty years, that He might humble you, testing you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not.

He humbled you and let you be hungry, and fed you with manna which you did not know, nor did your fathers know

### **Other Scriptures**

- Mark 1:11-13
- Exodus 13:21
- I Cor. 10:11
- John 7:38
- Gen. 15:1
- Ephesians 1:3
- Acts 14:22
- Romans 8:28
- Duet. 8:15-16

### **Main Points**

- God led the children of Israel through the wilderness for 40 years.
- Each one of us must go through our own personal wilderness experiences.
- Don't waste your wilderness!
- The deepest things we will receive from God will be when we are in the wilderness.

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- Israel is a prophetic shadow of the church today.
- Father God delights in His children being alive, full of life, and happy!
- God wants us to have lives that are increasing.
- Lessons in the Wilderness:
  - Humility-to bow low toward the Lord; make one dependent
- Walking in humility is walking in dependency and respect toward God.
- Your wilderness has a purpose!
- Testing in scripture carries with it the idea of bringing somebody up to the next level.
- Tests cause us to call out to God.
- Lessons in the Wilderness:
  - Supernatural Provision
- In the wilderness, we often experience the supernatural provision of God.
- Do not waste your wilderness! Thank God in the midst of it.
- God has good things planned for you. Get ready for breakthrough!
- Begin with thankfulness for your wilderness.
  - Spiritual gemstones will be a result for you.
  - Ministry to others will be another result.

### **Discussion Questions**

1. Are you currently in a wilderness experience? If so, take a moment to write about what is happening and your struggles. How is God meeting you where you are?
  
2. What are some things God is opening your eyes too about your current situation? Is there sin that must be cleansed from your life? What things is God teaching you about Himself during this testing? How do you see Him differently today then before your wilderness experience?
  
3. Rabbi said that God's tests are not because He is not sure how you will respond, but really for you to have revealed your response. What have you noticed about your responses? What would you like to have changed?