

3-Year
Torah Cycle
Parashat #58
בְּשַׁלַּח
Beshalach
Exodus 16:25–17:16
Isaiah 58:13-14
Mark 2:27-28

I) Reading the Torah Portion

Now it's time to read the Torah portion. You will get the most out of the Torah portion if you have a disciplined plan for approaching it each week. I suggest the following (although you may want to develop your own plan of attack). Prepare by having a pen and paper ready to take notes or by having your computer ready. Read the Torah portion quickly just to get a bird's-eye view of it and to gain a general understanding of its contents. Then read it again slowly and more contemplatively. As you read it, you should keep track of 1) changes in the main storyline (plots and subplots) of the text, 2) the introduction of new major themes you have not encountered heretofore and 3)

connections to the main themes developed in the Torah portion. Keeping track of the major themes will provide you with thoughts to help you outline the passage later on. Recording changes in the storyline (subplots) will 1) help you more accurately interpret Scripture and 2) see connections to themes that may be repeated in the Haftarah and Apostolic readings.

I strongly recommend that when you study these lessons you have the following tools available. 1) A Bible [all references are based on the NKJV], 2) a printed copy of this lesson, 3) pen and paper [notebook preferred] where you can either write extra notes or complete answers to questions where the lines in this lesson are not enough space to write on, 4) an on-line version of the Bible. I suggest BibleGateway (<https://www.biblegateway.com/>). There are many instances where I will ask you to make a connection to some other passage. The BibleGateway app has an awesome SEARCH feature to find Bible passages. Also, once you find a passage you can use Control-F or Command-F (MAC users) to *find* words, numbers or phrases in the text on display. Lastly, as often as possible ... have a partner studying with you!

II) Outlining the Torah Portion

Now that you have read the Torah portion, it's time to outline it. Try to divide the Torah portion into its major subject divisions. Please limit the outline to no more than seven major headings. Also, try to limit each subject division to a short phrase. In the chart below provide a brief phrase describing each significant change of events in the reading. Outlining will help you develop the skill of "seeing" the themes in the text.

I.
II.
III.
IV.
V.
VI.
VII.

III) Torah Portion Discussion Questions

I have given you a number of questions to stimulate your thought about the Torah portion reading. My goal is two-fold. First, I want to ask you questions about what the Spirit has shown me are important lessons to learn from the Torah reading. Secondly, I want to help you develop the art of making thematic connections. This skill will develop as you practice, practice, practice. Furthermore, once you see the benefits of making thematic connections, I'm hoping that you believe that the language of thematic connections is Adonai's "language."

1. It seems the Sabbath day rest is very important to Adonai! Let's take note of some of its nuances. What is the significance of the fact that the Sabbath is the very first concept Adonai endeavored to teach the entire nation?

2. How is Genesis 2:2-3 (² And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. ³ Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.) thematically connected to the Torah portion and how is the connection significant?

3. What does Genesis 2:3 (Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.) teach us about the seventh day?

4. What do you think is the significance of the fact that Adonai introduced the Sabbath rest at creation instead of when He gave the Law?

5. Now that you are aware of the special place the Sabbath day has always (from the beginning) had in the mind of God, explain how Exodus 5:5 (And Pharaoh said, "Look, the people of the land *are* many now, and you make them rest from their labor!") was especially grievous?

6. How does Exodus 16:23 reinforce the concept of a Sabbath rest?

7. What all do we learn about the Sabbath from Exodus 20:8-11 (⁸ "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day *is* the Sabbath of the Lord your God. *In it* you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who *is* within your gates. ¹¹ For *in* six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that *is* in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.)?

8. What is the significance of the fact that the Sabbath commandment is included in the Ten Commandments?

9. What does Leviticus 23:10-12 (¹⁰“**Six years you shall sow your land and gather in its produce,** ¹¹**but the seventh year you shall let it rest and lie fallow,** that the poor of your people may eat; and what they leave, the beasts of the field may eat. In like manner you shall do with your vineyard *and* your olive grove. ¹² Six days you shall do your work, and on the seventh day you shall rest, that your ox and your donkey may rest, and the son of your female servant and the stranger may be refreshed.) teach us about the Sabbath?

10. What is the significance of the death penalty in Exodus 31:15 (Work shall be done for six days, but the seventh *is* the Sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord. **Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death.**)?

11. According to Exodus 31:12-13 (¹²And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ¹³“Speak also to the children of Israel, saying: ‘Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, for **it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations,** that *you* may know that I *am* the Lord who sanctifies you.) was the Sabbath seen as a temporary statute?

12. According to Exodus 31:12-13, what is one of the reasons Adonai commanded Israel to keep the Sabbath?

13. According to Exodus 31:16-17 (¹⁶**Therefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant.** ¹⁷**It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever;** for *in* six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed.’ ”) how long does Adonai expect Israel to keep the Sabbath?

14. How does Exodus 34:21 (“Six days you shall work, but on the seventh day you shall rest; **in plowing time and in harvest you shall rest.**”) reinforce the importance of keeping the Sabbath?

IV) Messiah in the Parsha

In Luke 24:25-27 and 46-47 Yeshua stated that Moses, the Prophets and the Writings all prophesied of His death, burial and resurrection in three days. Therefore, we should expect to see teachings about Yeshua and His role in redemption throughout the Torah. In this section I will ask you questions that will hopefully help you “see” Messiah Yeshua in the Torah portion and sometimes the Haftarah reading as well.

1. Can you think of a Scripture from the Tanakh that foretells where the Messiah would be born?

2. What does Bethlehem mean?

3. How does Luke 2:12 (And this *will be* the sign to you: You will find a Babe ***wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.***) thematically connect to Israel’s exodus at the Passover. Hint – Exodus 12:34 – So the people took their dough before it was leavened, having their kneading bowls bound up in their clothes on their shoulders.

4. Although not so straight forward, the Exodus account is hinting at a connection between the unleavened bread in their kneading troughs and Yeshua lying in the manger. Therefore, this is an early connection between Yeshua as our unleavened bread. What do we know about the symbolism of Yeshua as our Passover Lamb?

5. We know that Yeshua is our Passover lamb. Furthermore, we celebrate Yeshua as our Passover lamb in the feast called Passover. Knowing that the Passover lamb is a prophetic picture of Yeshua, it should not surprise us that the unleavened bread eaten by the Israelites also teaches us messianic truths about the Messiah. Is there a feast associated with Yeshua as our unleavened bread?

6. Can you think of any passage from the gospels that clearly associate Yeshua with unleavened bread?

7. How is the fact that Yeshua is our bread of life thematically connected to the Torah portion?

8. Can you think of a passage where Yeshua specifically connected Himself as the bread of life to the manna Adonai provided in the wilderness?

9. We have seen how Yeshua is connected to the manna mentioned in our Torah portion. But He is also thematically connected to the water mentioned in the Torah portion! Can you think of a passage from the Apostolic writings that specifically connects Yeshua to Israel's supernatural provision of water during their wilderness travels?
-
-

V) Making the Connection to the Haftarah Reading

I have listed a number of passages from the Haftarah reading that have thematic connections to the Torah portion. Your job is to find the thematic connections in the Torah portion. Although I may quote an entire verse or two from the Haftarah reading, you should focus most of your attention on the text that is bold and italicized. The bold and *italicized* text will contain the main theme or words that I want you to connect to the Torah portion. Once you have found a connection to the Haftarah verses, record the chapter and verse of the Torah text connection and write a brief sentence describing how the two passages are thematically connected.

1. How are Isaiah 58:13a and c ("If you turn away your foot from ***the Sabbath*** . . . And call ***the Sabbath*** a delight") thematically connected to the Torah portion?
-
-

2. How are Isaiah 58:13b and e (***From doing your pleasure on My holy day*** . . . And shall honor Him, ***not doing your own ways***) thematically connected to the Torah portion?
-
-

3. How is Isaiah 58:13d (***The holy day of the LORD*** honorable) thematically connected to the Torah portion?
-
-

4. How is Isaiah 58:13f (***Nor finding*** your own pleasure) thematically connected to the Torah portion?
-
-

5. How is Isaiah 58:14b (And I will cause you to ride on the high ***hills*** of the earth) thematically connected to the Torah portion?
-
-

6. How is Isaiah 58:14c (And ***feed you*** with the heritage of Jacob your father.) thematically connected to the Torah portion?
-
-

7. How is Isaiah 58:14d (***The mouth of the LORD has spoken.***) thematically connected to the Torah portion?
-
-

VI) Making the Connection to the Apostolic Writings

I have listed a number of passages from the Apostolic reading that have thematic connections to the Torah portion. Your job is to find the thematic connections to the Torah portion. Although I may quote an entire verse or two from the Apostolic reading, you

should focus most of your attention on the text that is bold and italicized. The bold and *italicized* text will contain the main theme or words that I want you to connect to the Torah portion. Once you have found a connection to the Apostolic verses, record the chapter and verse of the Torah text connection and write a brief sentence describing how the two passages are thematically connected.

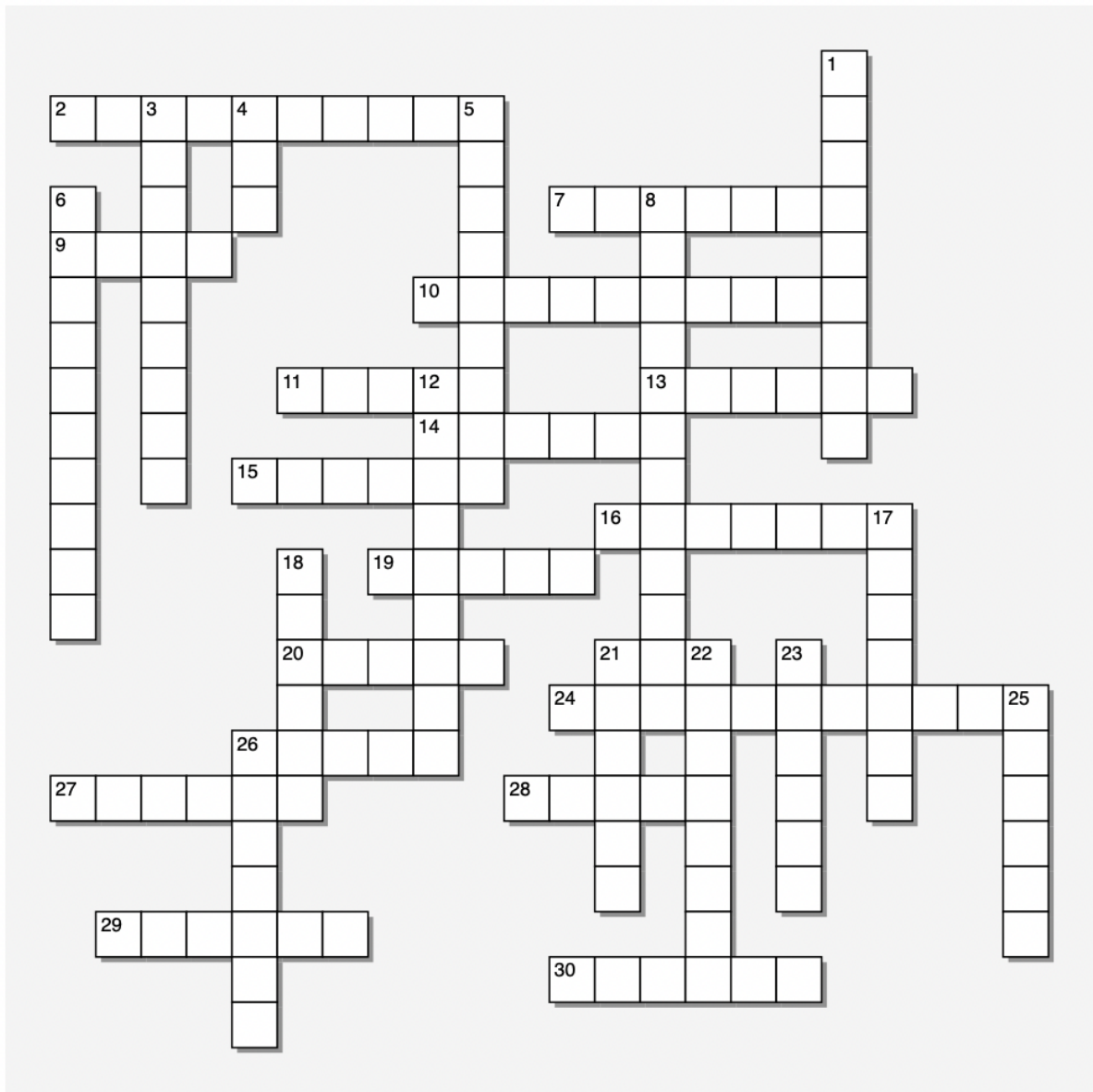
1. How is Mark 2:27 (And He said to them, "***The Sabbath was made for man***, and not man for the Sabbath.") thematically connected to the Torah portion?

2. How is Mark 2:28 ("Therefore the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath.") thematically connected to the Torah portion?

VII) Some Basic Facts About Our Lesson

This crossword puzzle will cover basic facts about the Torah portion, Haftarah reading and Apostolic readings. The answers are based on the text from the New King James Version of the Bible and may contain phrases as well as individual words.

Parashat 58 (3-Year Torah Cycle) Exodus 16:25 - 17:16 Restoration of Torah Ministries (Based on NKJV)



Across

- 2. Desert
- 7. Narrate
- 9. A measure

Down

- 1. Fought
- 3. Animals
- 4. Dine

Across

- 10. Dissension
- 11. Test
- 13. Relaxed
- 14. Ignore
- 15. Lived outdoors
- 16. Rest
- 19. What is it?
- 20. Meadow
- 21. Staff
- 24. Offspring
- 26. Food
- 27. Leaders
- 28. Location
- 29. Battled
- 30. Edge

Down

- 5. Bolstered
- 6. Grumbled
- 8. Assembly
- 12. Succeeded
- 17. Listening
- 18. Crackers
- 21. Stay
- 22. Beat
- 23. Take
- 25. Hit
- 26. Led

VIII) Practical Application

Let's get practical. The study of the Word is not complete until we are encouraged to think, speak and act differently. Our study of the Word should always involve personal application of the text to our lives. As I've heard it said before, Adonai's Word needs to go from our head to our hearts and then to our hands. Our lifelong journey is to become like our master, Yeshua, and this is only accomplished as we faithfully apply His Word to every aspect of our lives.

Discipling Our Children

What have you learned from this week's Torah study that you can teach your children?

- Write down what you learned that can and/or should be discussed with your children? Perhaps they need to know some of the facts covered in the crossword puzzle?
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
- Write down anything you learned that revealed bad habits or thought patterns in your children's lives?
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
- Write down anything you learned that revealed good habits or thought patterns that your children need to be encouraged or strengthened in and grow in obedience to?
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
- Write down anything you learned that can be a topic of prayer for you and your children this week or permanently?
 - _____

- _____
- _____

Discipling One Another

Think about what you've studied in this week's lesson.

- Write down anything you learned that impacted you the most?
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
- Write down anything you learned that revealed bad habits or thought patterns you need to stop?
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
- Write down anything you learned that revealed good habits or thought patterns you need to be encouraged or strengthened in and grow in obedience to?
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
- Write down anything you learned that can be a topic of prayer for yourself, your family, your worship community, your neighborhood, the world or Adonai's people at large?
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____

Just focus on one thing and talk to an accountability partner about it. Determine what you can DO over the next week (or more) in order to put what you've learned into practice. Make a commitment to someone else that you are going to seek to put some aspect of this week's lesson into practice.

ANSWER KEY

Outlining the Torah Portion

- I. Exodus 16:25-30—Learning to Rest on the Sabbath
- II. Exodus 16:32-36—Putting Aside Manna for Future Generations to See
- III. Exodus 17:1-4—The People Complain Against Moses for Lack of Water
- IV. Exodus 17:5-7—Water Flows When Moses Strikes the Rock
- V. Exodus 17:8-13—Israel Defeats Amalek
- VI. Exodus 17:14-16—War Against Amalek from Generation to Generation

Torah Portion Discussion Questions Answers

1. This indicates the importance of the Sabbath! Think about it. Adonai has to teach the people many, many things. And of all the things He needs to teach them, He first taught them how to keep the Sabbath. This speaks to its importance.
2. Here we see that the divine formula for rest (working six days and resting on the seventh) was actually modeled for all creation by Adonai in the very beginning. He set the example. It's significant because it seems to suggest that if Adonai kept it, surely His people should keep it once commanded.
3. It teaches us that the Sabbath day is a special day because it has a special blessing unlike any other

day of the week. Furthermore, it is a day especially sanctified or set apart from all the other days! Thus, the Sabbath day is unique!

4. Many think the Sabbath is Jewish, for the Jews. The fact that Adonai introduced us to the Sabbath at creation suggests that the Sabbath is something for ALL mankind, not just the Jewish nation.
5. It was especially grievous because Adonai planned for His chosen people to be able to rest on the Sabbath. Pharaoh's plans for Israel prevented Israel from enjoying the blessedness of the Sabbath.
6. When the Sabbath approached Israel was to prepare food for the Sabbath the day before, ensuring that they did not work on the Sabbath!
7. We can see many concepts about the Sabbath in this passage:
 - A. It is supposed to be a day we always remember as a special day.
 - B. We are to work on the six days of the week.
 - C. The seventh day is the Lord's Sabbath
 - D. The seventh day is a Sabbath unto Adonai.
 - E. We are not to work on the Sabbath day. We are not to make our children work on the Sabbath day. We are not to make our servants work on the Sabbath day. We are not to make our animals work on the Sabbath day. We are not to make our strangers and visitors work on the Sabbath day.
 - F. The Sabbath day was blessed by Adonai because of the pattern He established of working six days and resting on the Sabbath.
8. This emphasizes the importance of the Sabbath. Taken along with the fact that the Sabbath was the first concept Adonai taught the children of Israel, the fact that the Ten Commandments contain a specific reference to the Sabbath speaks of its importance to God and why it should be important to us.
9. The idea that rest is needed even applies to the land of Israel! It needs rest every seven years.
10. Anyone who broke the Sabbath was liable to the death penalty. This emphasizes its importance! It is obviously very important, else why would Adonai command the death penalty for those who refused to keep it? Once again, we see the importance of keeping the Sabbath. Adonai was not kidding when he taught Israel how to keep the Sabbath and commanded them to do so.
11. Adonai intended for Israel to keep the Sabbath throughout their generations.
12. So that Israel would know that Adonai is the one who sets them apart. Every Israelite from each generation needed to learn that lesson and the Sabbath is the vehicle Adonai chose for them to learn that lesson.
13. The Sabbath is a perpetual sign between Adonai and the children of Israel and it is to be observed by Israel FOREVER! Not only is it called a perpetual sign, it's called a COVENANT. Adonai could not be more clear concerning the importance and longevity of the Sabbath.
14. Adonai commanded Israel to keep the Sabbath even during times of planting and harvest. In other words, keeping the Sabbath has priority over WORK when it comes to the seventh day.

Messiah in the Parsha Answers

1. Micah 5:2 – “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, *Though* you are little among the thousands of Judah, *Yet* out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth *are* from of old, From everlasting.” See also Matthew 2:4-6 – ⁴And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵So they said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet: ⁶‘But you, Bethlehem, *in* the land

- of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.' ”
2. It means *house of bread*. As you can see, Messiah Yeshua was born in a city called the house of bread. Sometimes these types of connections are intentional. So, my question is this: Are we to associate the Messiah with bread?
 3. There are a number of connections:
 - A. In Exodus, the bread was bound up in the people's clothes. In other words, it was wrapped in a clothing material. In Luke's gospel, Yeshua was wrapped in swaddling clothes, a clothing material.
 - B. The bread is in kneading bowls just as Yeshua was in a manger, a feeding trough.
 - C. The bread in the story of the Exodus was unleavened bread, with leaven a symbol of sin. The babe Yeshua was sinless.
 4. We know that the Passover lamb was symbolic of Yeshua in many ways:
 - A. The Passover lamb had to be without blemish, a picture of Yeshua's sinless life.
 - B. The blood of the Passover lamb saved Israel, a picture of how Yeshua's blood saves us.
 - C. None of the bones of the Passover lamb could be broken, which was symbolic of the fact that none of Yeshua's bones were broken when He was on the cross.
 - D. John the Baptist identified Yeshua as the lamb of God in John 1:29 – The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!
 - E. These are just a few connections between Yeshua and the Passover lamb.
 5. Yes, just as we celebrate Passover as a feast teaching us about Yeshua as our Passover lamb, so too, we celebrate a feast called the Feast of Unleavened Bread, in which Yeshua is celebrated as our unleavened bread.
 6. Yes, Yeshua identified Himself with the unleavened bread of Passover! Luke 22:19 – And He took bread, gave thanks and broke *it*, and gave *it* to them, saying, “This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” Also see John 6:51 (I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.) where Yeshua stated He is the bread of life.
 7. In Exodus 16:35 (And the children of Israel ate manna forty years, until they came to an inhabited land; they ate manna until they came to the border of the land of Canaan.) we're informed that Adonai fed Israel manna for forty years. In other words, the manna was life to them, just as Yeshua is the bread of LIFE.
 8. John 6:48-51 – ⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and are dead. ⁵⁰This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹***I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.***
 9. I Corinthians 10:2-4 – Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, ²all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. ***For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ.*** Apparently, Paul realized that it was Yeshua who provided water for Israel during her wilderness wanderings.

Haftarah Connection Answers

1. Exodus 16:25—Then Moses said, “Eat that today, for today *is* a **Sabbath** to the LORD; today you will not find it in the field.’ ”
2. Exodus 16:27—Now it happened *that some of the people went out on the seventh day to gather*, but they found none.
3. Exodus 16:25—Then Moses said, “Eat that today, for **today is a Sabbath to the LORD**; today you will not find it in the field.’ ”
4. Exodus 16:25—Then Moses said, “Eat that today, for today is a Sabbath to the LORD; today **you will not find it** in the field.’ ”
5. Exodus 17:9-10—And Moses said to Joshua, “Choose us some men and go out, fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the **hill** with the rod of God in my hand.” ¹⁰ So Joshua did as Moses said to him, and fought with Amalek. And Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the **hill**.
6. Exodus 16:29—“See! For the LORD has given you the Sabbath; therefore **He gives you** on the sixth day **bread** for two days. Let every man remain in his place; let no man go out of his place on the seventh day.”
7. Exodus 16:28—And **the LORD said** to Moses, “How long do you refuse to keep My commandments and My laws?”

Apostolic Reading Answers

1. Exodus 16:29—“See! For **the LORD has given you the Sabbath**; therefore He gives you on the sixth day bread for two days. Let every man remain in his place; let no man go out of his place on the seventh day.”
2. Exodus 16:25—Then Moses said, “Eat that today, for today *is* a **Sabbath to the LORD**; today you will not find it in the field.’ ”