

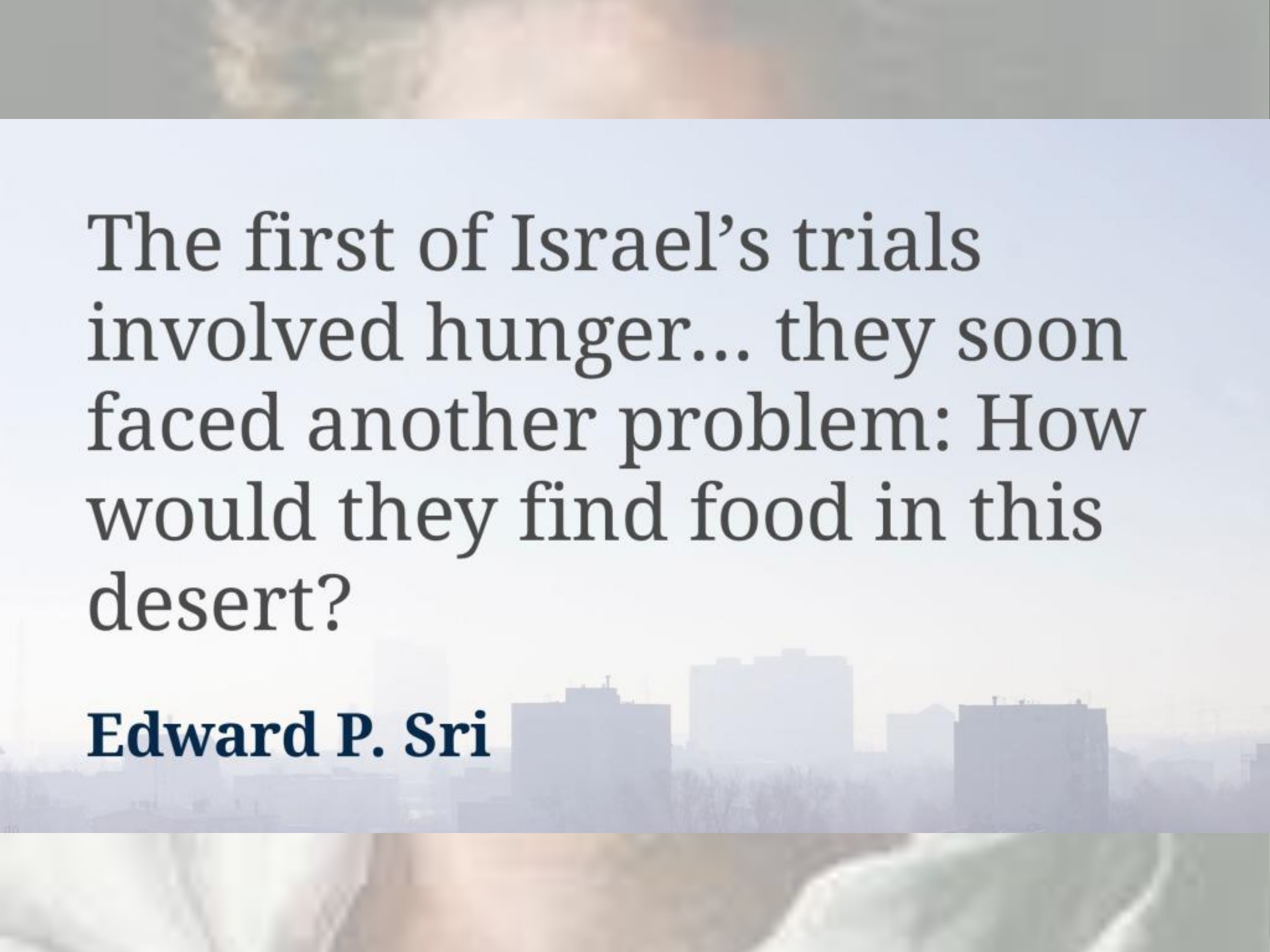


# The Gospel According to Matthew

Lesson 2 – Chapters 3 - 5

The fact that Jesus spent forty days in the desert shows how He symbolically relived the story of Israel's forty years in the wilderness during the Exodus.

**Edward P. Sri**



The first of Israel's trials involved hunger... they soon faced another problem: How would they find food in this desert?

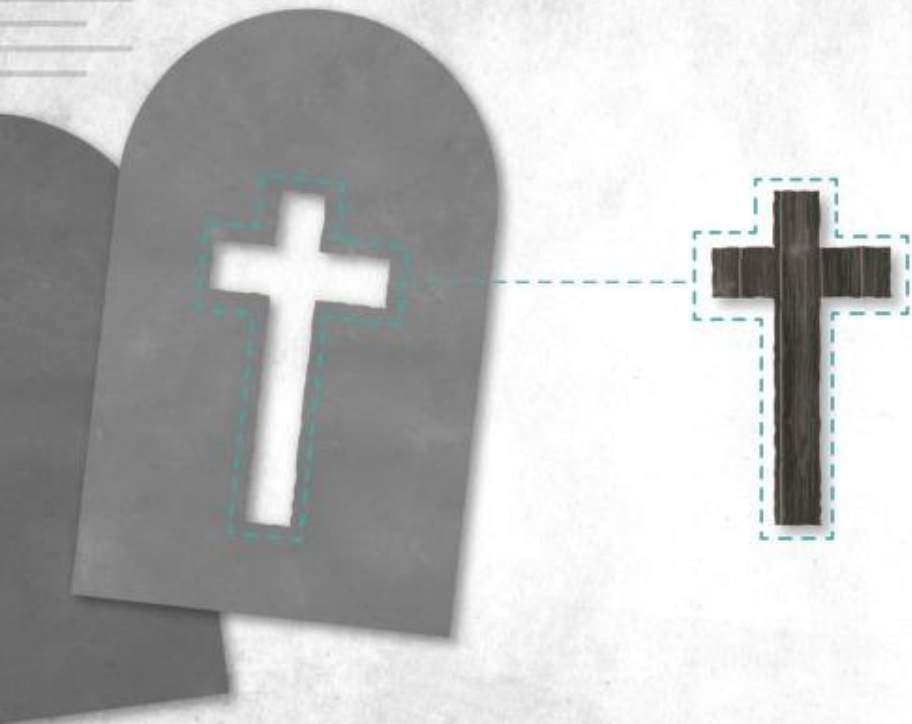
**Edward P. Sri**

The second trial involved Israel putting God “to the test.” How were they going to find water to drink in the dry desert? “Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?” (Ex. 17:3)

**Edward P. Sri**

The last temptation of Israel involved worshipping a false god. Failing to trust Yahweh again, they built an idol in the shape of a golden calf, putting their trust in an Egyptian pagan deity.

**Edward P. Sri**



Do not think that I have come  
to abolish the Law or the Prophets;  
I have not come to abolish them

**but to fulfill them.**

Matthew 5:17

# Abolish vs. Fulfill

Let's use an analogy. If I were to say that my daughter's softball game was cancelled (abolished), it would tell us two things: first and foremost, it tells us *the game is over* and secondly it tells us the game finished *prior* to the natural end.

## Abolish vs. Fulfill

However, if I said that my daughter's softball game had been completed (fulfilled) it would also reveal two things: likewise it would reveal the game is in fact over, and would also reveal the game did not finish prior to the natural completion point. (author unknown)



**πληρῶωf: to give the true or complete meaning to something—'to give the true meaning to, to provide the real significance of.' οὐκ ἦλθον καταλῦσαι ἀλλὰ πληρῶσαι 'I did not come to destroy but to give true meaning to' Mt 5:17;**

**JOHANNES P. LOUW; EUGENE A. NIDA**

**'Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish but to complete them. In truth I tell you, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, not one little stroke, is to disappear from the Law until all its purpose is achieved.**

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