on the way, the repeated shortages and uncertainties of water, and the complete lack of ordinary bread. And the way the Lord led them was so long!

<u>Fifth</u>, they wanted a God who would <u>fight their battles for them</u> and destroy their enemies, and who would bring them into the Promised Land in complete peace and safety.

When they heard the majority report of the twelve spies that had been sent to explore the land, and heard that all the inhabitants were huge and strong, and that all of the cities were great and surrounded by huge, thick walls, and that there were giants in the Land, they showed their total lack of confidence in the Lord's power and willingness to protect them and give them victory, and they fell into total despair. In this despair they complained that God wanted to kill them and let their wives and children be taken captive; they wanted to stone the two spies who urged them to trust the Lord and go forward; they rejected Moses and Aaron's leadership, and wanted to elect a captain to take them back to Egypt. They were fully ready to give up the quest for the Promised Land and to go back into slavery!

The Israelites were dissatisfied with God! The forms of expression their dissatisfaction took reveal the kind of God they wanted. Simply stated, they wanted another kind of God! That's what they wanted!

14