

Series: SETTLED LIVING IN UNSETTLED TIMES

#12: When You're Stuck in the Middle

Deuteronomy 8:2-3

In times of safety and prosperity, we walk the road of life easily. But in unsettled times, such as the times we now live in, epic temptations waylay us--temptations to live a life without direction, gratitude, humility, faith. In their 40 unsettled years, Israel faced the same dangers. Reviewing the series:

<u>Text</u>	<u>Danger</u>	<u>Solution</u>
10:11-32	Disorder	Order: Control what you can control.
10:33-36	Wandering	Direction: Don't be wandering, be led.
11:1-34	Whining	Gratitude: Quit grumbling & be grateful.
12:1-15	Envy	Humility: Be content with what you have.
13:1-14:9	Fear	Courage: Stand against the majority.
13-14	Unbelief	Faith: Seize the opportunity!
15:22-41	Forgetting	Memory: Remind yourself daily.
16-17	Rebellion	Submission: Honor God's appointed authorities.
20:1-13	Disobedience	Obedience: Execute God's commands.
21:4-9	Death	Action: Look and live!

Have you ever felt "stuck in the middle" of life? It's been years since the joyful past. And the future you long for seems never to be coming any closer. Imagine how Israel felt, year after boring year in the wilderness, "stuck in the middle" between Red Sea deliverance in the distant past and a happy Promised Land in the hazy future. Today is dry desert. In this final episode, we discover why God has enrolled us in his Wilderness School, here in the middle of time.

1. _____ Class. God's goal: to _____ our ego.

2. _____ Class. God's goal: to test our obedience.

3. _____ Class. God's goal: to _____ us dependence.

The essence of temptation is to live independently of God. *Neil Anderson*
 The best place any Christian can ever be in is to be totally destitute and totally dependent upon God, and know it. *Alan Redpath*