

Oh, for crying out loud!

Numbers 11

Complaint #1: “Life is so hard!” (1-3)

In the absence of vision, people complain about petty issues (1a)

Complaining reveals an attitude of rebellion (1a)

God judges a critical spirit (1b)

Complaint #2: “Do we have to eat this again?” (4-9, 18-20, 31-33)

Complaining is contagious (1, 4, 10, 28)

When you lose sight of God, your vision is distorted (4-6)

Complaining shows a lack of gratitude (7-9)

Complaining shows an attitude of rebellion (20)

Be careful what you wish for. It may not taste as good as you think (18-20, 31-33)

Complaint #3: “I’m overworked!” (10-17, 21-25)

Complaining comes from a self-centered heart (10-15)

Complaining reveals a lack of confidence in God (21-23)

Be careful what you wish for. It may cost more than you want to pay (16-17, 24-25)

Complaint #4: “I’ve been replaced!” (26-30)

Complaining reveals an attitude of jealousy (28)

By focusing on God, you can break the cycle of complaining (29)

Complaint	Cause	Consequence	
Life is so hard! (1)	No immediate cause	Moses intercedes (2)	Fiery judgment (1)
Do we have to eat this again? (4-6)	Lost sight of God’s provision (7-9)	God provides quail (18-20, 31-32)	Dissatisfaction (20) & judgment (33)
I’m overworked! (10-15)	Lost sight of God’s power (21-23)	God provides help through delegation (16, 24)	Shared resources, responsibility & credit (17, 25)
I’ve been replaced! (26-28)	Jealous of the gifts of others (29)	Unselfish attitude (29)	

***When you complain, you are a self-centered, ungrateful rebel.
 Rather than complain about what you don’t have, give thanks for what God has provided.***