

# Manna from Heaven

(Exodus 16:4)

Even though they had been delivered from slavery and brought miraculously across the Red Sea, Israel constantly murmured and grumbled against God (Exodus 15:22-25).

On one occasion Israel grumbled because they wanted God to give them bread (Exodus 16:1-35). God heard their complaining and decided to accommodate them.

- **Through this manna...**

- God demonstrated His power.
  - God personally fed His people for forty years in the wilderness (Exodus 16:35).
  - For forty years the children of Israel would eat a miracle of God!
- God demonstrated His grace.
  - Grace is "God's unmerited favor." It is when God gives us something that we do not deserve.
  - Israel did not deserve to be fed manna from heaven for 40 years. It was only because of God's grace that they received that blessing.
- God demonstrated His desire for faith.
  - For forty years, Israel was forced to trust God for their daily bread.
  - This is why God wanted no leftovers (Exodus 16:19-21).
- God demonstrated desire for obedience.
  - When it came to collecting the manna, the nation would have to follow the instructions of God (Exodus 16:4).
  - They would have to gather exactly what God said, when He said, and avoid being greedy.
- God demonstrated His love.
  - If Israel ever started questioning God's love, all they would have to do is wake up in the morning and go outside their tents.
  - If God didn't love His people, He wouldn't have provided for them. Instead He would have allowed them to starve.

- **Jesus is the true bread!**

- Jesus is the living bread that has come down from heaven (John 6:26-58).
  - This bread satisfies us spiritually!
  - This bread provides eternal life!
- Like Israel...
  - We must eat of the bread God has provided from heaven (John 6:51). This means we consume ourselves with Jesus. We must make Him the very center of our lives.
  - We must trust and have faith in Him (Proverbs 3:5-7; Hebrews 11:6).
  - We must be grateful towards Him (Numbers 11:5-6). Israel grumbled and were ungrateful for the bread God gave them. Do we possess a similar attitude?

**Conclusion:** Praise God for the bread that He has given us from heaven!

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