

God's Gracious Provision to Whiners

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Exodus 16

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)
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Whiners Like Us

- Grumblers: 5:21; 14:11, 15:24; 17:24 for next 40 years...
- Grumbling not caused by outward circumstances, but inward condition of their hearts Mt 15:18-19; Ps 78:18
- Complaining led to other sins: lying & exaggeration v3
- Complaining is accusing God of not being good or loving - Ps 78:17
- Moses & Aaron graciously taught v7-8

God's Gracious Provision

- God responds to His people with provision — gracious & merciful v11-12
- Our God is gracious & merciful Ex 34:6-7
- Quail - amazing provision of timing, location & numbers! 13
- Manna — supernatural provision 16:31; Jn 6:31ff; Neh 9:15; Ps 78:24; 105:40

It is all about His Glory

- God reminded His people of His care & provision: 6-8
- God showed His glory 9-10
- Purpose: so that God's people might glorify Him. WSC Q#1

The Bread of Life

- God sent bread to sanctify His people
- God provides for His people - gives us what we truly need 12. Deut 8:2-3 so we might depend upon Him for our daily provision
- People had to depend upon God for provision — when, how, storage time, Sabbath saving. To test & humble: Deut 8:16
- People (we) often respond like bratty toddlers - "I do it"
- Jesus taught about Himself being God's manna for us that sustains us and saves us: Jn 6:47-51; 53-58

APPLY: How do you eat God's Word (Manna) DAILY? Or do you eat just once a week on the Sabbath?

What are the advantages to slow regular intakes of manna vs eating a few days a week? How do these different patterns affect your sanctification (compare to what would happen physically)?

Thoughts on Manna to Feast on: R&D'd from Gleanings in Exodus by A.W. Pink:

- Manna was a gift from God : supplied by God for 40 years to millions of Israelites to sustain them each day. An omer is about 2 quarts or a half a gallon. So that means over a million dry gallons of manna a day! God is truly amazing! Just think how God has preserved His Word for us!
- Manna came to the people : v13-14 — the people did not need to journey far to get manna, it was wherever there was dew near their camp. Likewise we have the Word of God near us.
- Manna was small in size : v14, 31 - God provided richly with small Manna. Likewise we have the sum total of God's revealed truth in the Bible! 2 Pt 1:3-11
- Manna had to be eaten : God didn't give manna to look at or admire, it was to be eaten to provide bodily sustenance. Likewise with spiritual manna, God's Word it is to be read, memorized and digested to be of spiritual sustenance. "Don't just admire the banquet — feast richly on it!"
- Manna was to be gathered daily. V4 - our souls require the same systematic attention as do our bodies... if we neglect our daily spiritual food the results will be equally disastrous. Imagine eating just once a week!
- Manna was gathered in the morning : v21 - the manna was to be collected first thing in the day, if one waited until the sun was hot the manna melted away. If we collect our manna at the time of the dew in the morning we are then prepared for the day ahead. Ps 119:147; Gen 19:27; Mk 1:35.
- Manna had to be collected by effort : God provided manna freely, but the people had to collect it, prepare it, and eat it. A.W. Pink noted that people had to stoop to collect it (get on our knees). Likewise God's Word is there, but we must read it, study it, memorize and seek to understand it.
- Manna was to be used, not stored : v26,27 - we are to use God's truth each day and not hoard it. Hoarded manna spoils and benefits no one. Manna teaches us to submit carefully to the revealed will of God.