

Exodus Chapter 16

V: 1 On the 14th day of the 1st month was the Passover: the firstborn of Egypt were slain, the first born of Israel were covered by the blood on the door posts.

- The next day, the 15th day of the first month, Pharaoh ordered the children of Israel to leave Egypt, which they did with great plunder.
- The Lord has encamped about them in a pillar of cloud by day, and a pillar of fire by night – His presence is tangible.
- The Lord had led them by way of the Red Sea as opposed to directly entering Canaan because He is doing a work in them, taking them through a process.
- Part of that process leads them to a dead end at Baalzephon, the place where the Lord looks over. High mountains on the North and West, the Red Sea to the East; and Pharaoh's chariots thundering up from the South.
- The people panicked – “is it because there were no graves in Egypt that you brought us out here to die?” Yet the Lord is gracious and He shows Himself strong, faithful, and victorious over Pharaoh and the army of Egypt.
- The children of Israel cross the Red Sea on dry ground; but Pharaoh's great army is at first confounded then destroyed as the Red Sea comes crashing down upon them.
- Three days into the wilderness after crossing the red sea, they come to the bitter springs of Mara. They have to deal with their own un-met expectations and the reality of their actual needs.
- God then graciously leads them to Elim, a place of rest and refreshing – 12 springs of water and 70 palm trees.
- Their eventual destination is Mt. Sinai, the place where God 1st spoke to Moses.
- It's been a month and their journey hasn't been entirely easy, it's had its ups and downs, their fledgling faith has been tested as it will soon be tested again.

2 Timothy 3:12 “Yea, and all that will live Godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.”

John 16:33 “These things I have spoken unto you, that in Me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.”

- It's always the same trick – just different circumstances. (Don McClure / dog story).

King David declared:

Psalm 37:25 “I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor His seed begging bread.”

- This chapter is about faith lessons, learning to trust in the Lord.

V: 2 The whole congregation murmured... they got 100% at something...

Spoken once, responded to 4 X's. (vv: 7,8,9,12)

Numbers 11:1 “And when the people complained, it displeased the Lord:”

Philippians 2:14-15 ¹⁴“Do all things without murmurings and disputings: ¹⁵That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;”

- Against Moses & Aaron... misdirected anger – the Lord is the one who led them.

Isaiah 42:8 “I am the Lord: that is My name: and My glory will I not give to another, neither My praise to graven images.”

Psalm 51:6 “Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.”

- Often times our issue is with God – not with the instrument that He would use in our lives.
- I don't scold the fork because I'm overweight, I can't blame the mirror, I have to examine my own conscience and deal with my sin.

V: 3 Oh the good old days of slavery! They remember the flesh pots, and the bread – but what about the whip, and the task masters? What about the rigour & toil?

Commentary on the exodus:

Psalm 106:13-15 ¹³“They soon forgot His works; they waited not for His counsel. ¹⁴But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness, and tempted God in the desert. ¹⁵and he gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul.”

- They were focused on the temporal, fleshly things – they took their eyes off of Jesus.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

- All of a sudden they are worried about starving to death.

- They are looking at the wilderness around them; they see that it won't support their live stock & cattle, their flocks and their herds.... They are worried about something that hasn't happened yet.

2 Corinthians 5:7 "For we walk by faith, not by sight."

Philippians 4:6-7 "⁶Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. ⁷And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

V: 4 As God responds, notice that there is no indication that He is angry, or upset – what we do see is that He is gracious – He blesses His people – He meets their need.

Psalms 103:8 "The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy."

Psalms 103:14 "For He knoweth our frame; He remembereth that we are dust."

- God is going to rain bread down from Heaven – part of the blessing is to prove them – and He's telling them ahead of time.

Isaiah 40:11 "He shall feed His flock like a shepherd: He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young."

- Our God has the tender heart of a Shepherd, He truly loves His people.

V: 5 God is speaking to Moses who will in turn communicate to the people:

- They are given two rules:
 1. Only gather as much as you can eat, no storing up of food.
 2. Don't expect to find any on the 7th day; you'll get double on the 6th day.
- God begins to institute that which He has already demonstrated for us:

Genesis 2:2-3 "²And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had made; and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had made. ³And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it He had rested from all His work which God created and made."

V: 6-7 You will know (affirmed) the Lord brought you out from Egypt – not to perish – but to see His glory revealed.

- The Lord hears your murmurings against Him.
- Who are we that you should murmur against us?
- Anytime we murmur concerning our lot in life, we are, in essence, murmuring against God. If we have committed our lives to God, and we've allowed Him to be in control of our circumstances, so when we murmur against our circumstances we're murmuring against God and His work in our lives.
- He's the one who created the circumstances, even though we may direct our complaints at a person, ultimately it is God who is in control.
- If God is in control, then He has a good purpose in mind.

Romans 8:28 “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose.”

(Jeremiah / potter's house – clay, wheel, potter. We are the clay, God is the potter, the wheel is the circumstances of our lives.)

V: 8 “Thus saith the Lord” – in the evening you will have quail to eat, and in the morning manna.

- He is Jehovah-Jireh “The Lord will provide”

Philippians 4:19 “But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”

V: 9-10 Moses instructs the people: “*Come near before the Lord.*”

- This is the Father's heart; He wants us to be near Him – that is why He sent His son Jesus to die on a cross for us – so that we could have fellowship with Him, so that we could be in His presence for eternity.

James 4:8 “Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you...”

- They had been told (V: 7) that they would see the glory of the Lord, this is the fulfillment of it.
- The glory of the Lord appears in a cloud.

V: 11-12 In the evening you shall have quail, in the morning you shall be filled with bread.

- Why? 2 reasons;
 1. To meet their need.
 2. “*ye shall know that I am the Lord your God.*”.

- The bread sent from Heaven was the perfect medium to communicate who God is; that His people would know that He is the Lord.

Jesus is that bread – the bread of life that was sent:

John 1:14 “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory as of the only begotten of God, full of grace and truth.”

V: 13-15 Just as God had said: in the evening quail covered the covered the camp. In the morning the dew came and with the dew a small round wafer, the size of a snowflake.

Manna: (H 4478). man, mawn; “what is it?” – the bread from Heaven.

- Some of Hebrew scholars dispute this definition, citing a translational error by the translators of the Septuagint, they say that the correct translation or definition of manna is “a gift” – that it is “a gift” from God.

Deuteronomy 8:3 “And He humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger , and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that He might make thee know that man doeth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live.”

- Jesus is the living Word of God, Jesus is the bread of life – we must partake of Him to live in eternity.

John 6:53-58 ⁵³Then Jesus said unto them, verily, verily, I say unto you, except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink His blood, ye have no life in you. ⁵⁴Whoso eateth My flesh, and drinketh My blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. ⁵⁵For My flesh is meat indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. ⁵⁶He that eateth My flesh, and drinketh My blood, dwelleth in Me, and I in him. ⁵⁷As the living Father hath sent Me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth Me, even he shall live by Me. ⁵⁸This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live forever.”

- Manna is a type or model of Jesus.

Jeremiah 15:16 “Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name O Lord God of hosts.”

- Jeremiah reiterates the same thing: he says that if we’re going to be called by His name, if we’re going to be called Christians – we’re going to partake of Him, we’re going to partake of the Word!
- This is the bread the God has given you... meaning it’s good enough, it’s all we need.

V: 16-18 Gather it up: 1 omer per person.

1 omer = 1 ½ pints to 7 pints, there is disagreement; no one can be certain.

- Everyone went out to gather up manna in the morning some more and some less, but it always came out just right.

V: 19-20 They were not to leave any extra – they were to finish it.

- When some did leave it until the morning, it was full of worms and stank.

The same as the Passover lamb, none to be leftover until the morning:

Exodus 12:10 “And ye shall let nothing of it remain until the morning; and that which remaineth of it until the morning ye shall burn with fire.”

Jesus taught us to pray:

Matthew 6:11 “Give us this day our daily bread.”

- He is teaching them to stay close; they are learning to live out their faith day by day.
- This is what God wants for us, not to be secure in having it all stored up for the future, that would mean that we have faith in our ability and skill.
- God wants us to be dependant upon Him daily, trusting in Him to take care of us.

V: 21 They gathered it in the morning; but later when the sun waxed hot it melted away.

Proverbs 8:17 “I love them that love Me; and those that seek Me early shall find Me.”

- I know that for the most part, unless I get up early before everyone else and get my devotion time with the Lord; it seems that as the day gets going the opportunity is lost. The intentions of studying in the evening are so often lost; mornings are best.

Jesus modeled this for us:

Mark 1:35 “And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.”

Psalm 5

V: 22-26 On the sixth day they gathered twice as much, two omers per man.

- They could bake it into cakes / bread, they could boil it; into a cereal like cream of wheat.
- This would be their sustenance for the next 40 years, every day going out early collecting it and preparing it.

“Tomorrow is the rest of the holy Sabbath unto the Lord:”

- God institutes the Sabbath, 1st mention in the Bible.
- Later incorporated into the 10 commandments.
- 9 of the 10 commandments are repeated in the NT, the Sabbath being the only omission.
- Jesus becomes our Sabbath, our rest.

V: 27 There’s always got to be somebody that doesn’t do what they are told.

- The children of Israel were being tested or proved to see if they would walk in His law or not. Vv:4
- They already had what they needed, they had received that the day before. They were either out looking for extra, or they had eaten up all they had instead of spreading it out over two days.

Haggai 1:9 “Ye looked for much, and, lo, it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it...”

V: 28 Moses was being held accountable for the people’s sin; the whole congregation was being addressed through Moses.

V: 29 Sounds like a verbal warning, documented re-training.

- The 7th day is the Sabbath day.
- No one is to go out of his “place”; it is to be a day of rest.
- Generally held to be their living place, their home and the close proximity.

V: 30-31 The people rested on the 7th day.

- The house of Israel called it “what is it?”
- Warm bread and honey butter...

Coriander seed, white, honey:

Coriander seed: 1. Also called **cilantro**, having strong-scented leaves used in cooking. 2. the aromatic seeds of this herb, used whole or ground as a flavoring.

White: purity.

Honey: sweet.

Flavorful, pure, sweet...

Psalm 19:7-11 “⁷The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. ⁸The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure,

enlightening the eyes. ⁹The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. ¹⁰More to be desire are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. ¹¹Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping them there is great reward.”

V: 32-34 A commemoration: as in remembrance of Me.

- Set aside an omer of Manna – so that people can see it and be reminded of God’s provision through the wilderness.

“... before the “Testimony””

- As we move through Exodus we’ll come to the place wherein God has Moses instructs the people to construct the Ark of the Covenant. Basically a box covered inside and out with gold.
- The lid to the Ark is referred to as the Mercy Seat. Part of the decoration or design of it includes two angels of hammered gold whose wings extend to the center of the lid, this is where the presence of God appeared.
- Eventually this vessel containing an omer of Manna would be placed into the Ark of the covenant, along with Aaron’s rod that budded, and the stone tablets inscribed by the finger of God with the Ten Commandments.

Hebrews 9:4 “Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron’s rod that budded, and the table of the covenant;”

- A reminder to the people of God’s provision, of God’s power, and of His plan.
Manna rod law

V: 35-36 The children of Israel ate Manna in the wilderness for 40 years until they entered the promise land, into the land of Canaan.

- An omer is 1/10th of an ephah.

Jesus later declares:

John 6:35 “I am the bread of life: he that cometh to Me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on Me shall never thirst.”

Luke 15:17 It was hunger that drove the prodigal son home – “bread enough to spare” - restoration.

- Like the children of Israel, the Manna was laying there for them to pick up – but they had to bend down, kneel down, humble themselves to receive it.
- So too we must humble our selves to receive the real Bread of Life, to receive Jesus.

Psalm 51:17 “The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.”

Jesus taught us:

John 6:27 “Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for the meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you:...”

He is waiting with open arms:

Matthew 11:28-30 ²⁸“Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. ³⁰For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light.”

Psalm 34:8 “O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in Him.”