



Manna From Heaven

EXODUS 16

More Complaints...

- ▶ (Exo. 15:22-27) They had started their complaining already...just days after their deliverance
- ▶ Why do people complain? People complain when their **needs** are not met (i.e. water)
- ▶ Some people complain when their **expectation** is not met (i.e. bitter water)
- ▶ Others complain when their **wants** are not met (i.e. no meat later on)
- ▶ Why do you complain?



Then They Entered the Wilderness

- ▶ We all have gone through some “wilderness” at one time or another (i.e. a place of **lack**)
- ▶ What is wilderness to me may be different to you (ill: music)
- ▶ Sometimes the line between “needs” and “wants” is not clear, and it is not necessary for us to define it at every turn. What matters is **how** we should handle our “desire” to complain.



When We Are In Hunger Pain...



- ▶ Of all the needs and wants, **food** will be near the top of the list for sure. And hunger is hard to ignore.
- ▶ If we cannot **ignore** it, we must “deal” with it or we will be complaining about it.
- ▶ (v.2) Therefore, complaining to Moses was their **emotional** and “logical” choice...but they have forgotten one thing—they clearly have **forgotten** who they were actually complaining to (v.7-8)

God Chose to Overlook

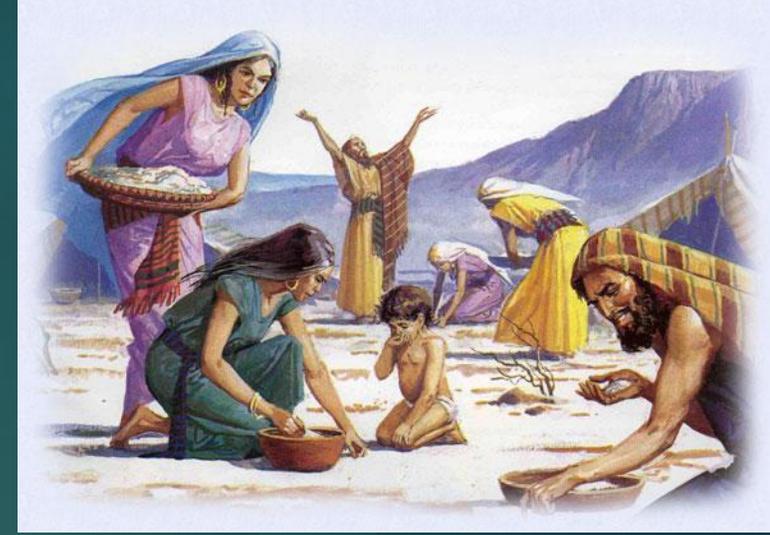
- ▶ They should be very thankful that God overlooked their complaining and grumbling out of His **mercy** (Mal. 3:6, Psalm 145:8-9)
- ▶ Instead of raining down judgment, God rained down food to satisfy them (v.4)
- ▶ As we study this blessing we may more deeply appreciate God's **mercy** and **provision**, plus our proper **response** to God



Manna From God

They called it **manna**, since they had no idea what it was (v.15)

1. It **delivered** them from their hunger (v.15-16)
2. it was exactly what they **needed** (v.15) and everyone was filled (v.18)
3. It was **sweet** to the taste (v.31)
4. Yet they had to **work for it**, even though it rained down to them (v.4-5)



Manna—the Word of God



- ▶ Manna is a picture of both God's **written word** and the **Living Word**—Jesus
- ▶ First, it is a picture of the word of God (Deut. 8:2-3)
 1. It is God's word that gives us the **Gospel** that delivers (John 5:39; Rom. 10:17)
 2. It is **sufficient** to our needs (Heb. 4:12; 1 Tim. 3:16-17)
 3. It is **sweet** to our taste (Psalm 19:7-11; Rev. 10:9-10)
 4. Nevertheless, like manna, we still need to **gather** it

Manna—the Living Word



- ▶ Second, manna is a picture of **God's Son** as the **Bread of Life** (John 6:25-35, 47-51)
 1. He has come to **save us** (Matt. 1:21-23; Luke 19:10)
 2. Jesus is **sufficient** for us (John 6:35; 10:10)
 3. Of course He is also **sweet** to us (Psa. 55:14)
 4. We need to **seek** after Jesus, even though it is He who came down to us (Psalm 27:8)

Conclusion

- ▶ How shall we respond to all this?
- ▶ Believe—Do you **believe** in God's mercy and His desire to provide for us? And believe in God's word and believe our Saviour?
- ▶ Gather—we need to **go** to Christ and His word
- ▶ Enjoy—we should **read** and **enjoy** God's word, and **spend time** with our Lord

