



- Even To The Point Where They Believed:
  - That They Would Die:
    - For Lack Of Food!
- So - More Than Likely:
  - The Food They Had Brought With Them:
    - Into The Wilderness:
      - Was Starting To Run Out!
      - And - They Didn't Know Where To Go Or What To Do - For Food!
- They Were Desperate!
  - And So - Though They Remembered:
    - Their Food In Egypt:
      - They Forgot About:
        - Their Bondage!
    - At Least They Had:
      - Meat & Bread There!
        - And So - They "Murmured" & Complained Against Moses & Aaron & The Lord Himself!
- So - How Does The Lord Respond?
  - With Compassion & Grace - Which Led To:
- A Promise!
  - A Promise To Provide:
    - Them What They Needed And:
      - What They Wanted Most!
        - Food!
  - He Tells Moses In 16:4 - That:
    - "I Will Rain Bread From Heaven For You!"
      - What A Gracious Promise!
  - He Didn't Condemn Them!
    - Instead - He Shows His People:
      - That He Would Care For Them:
        - Every Single Day!
    - And - His Care:
      - Would Be Seen Through:
- A Provision!
  - A Provision That Would Meet And Satisfy:
    - Their Need!
  - One Of The Complaints They Had:
    - Was That - In Egypt:
      - 16:3 - "We Did Eat Bread *To The Full!*"
    - And - What Did The Lord:
      - Promise To Provide In 16:8?
        - "The Lord Shall Give You In The Evening Flesh To Eat, And In The Morning Bread *To The Full!*"
    - God *knew* Their Need:
      - And - *Provided* For Their Need!
      - And This - He Still Does:
        - For His People Today!
  - But - God Also Told Moses:
    - That He Had:
- A Purpose:
  - In Sending Them This Food!
    - It Wasn't Just:
      - To Provide For Them!
    - It Was Also:
      - To Prove Them & To Test Them!
  - Which Is What We Find:
    - In 16:4 - "Then said the LORD unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, whether they

- will walk in my law, or no!”
- This Purpose Is Further Described:
  - In Deuteronomy 8:2-3 - Where Moses Says To The Children Of Israel - Just Before They Were To Enter The Promised Land:
    - “And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, [and] to prove thee, to know what [was] in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no. / 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 doth not live by bread only, but by every [word] that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live!”
- So - The Problem They Faced In The Wilderness:
  - Was A Test From The Lord!
    - It Was To Test Their Hearts:
      - For Humility!
        - To Bring Them To To The End Of Themselves!
      - For Hunger!
        - And - What Where They Most Hungry For!
      - For Help!
        - To Bring Them To Their Most Necessary Food!
- So - God Had A Greater Purpose:
  - In Providing Them:
    - This “Bread From Heaven!”
      - It Was To Show Them - And Us:
        - Our Greatest Need!
    - “Every Word That Proceedeth Out Of The Mouth Of The Lord!”
      - His Spoken Word - Yes!
        - But - Especially:
          - His Living Word!
            - Jesus Christ Himself!
    - So Now - We Can Learn More About Christ:
      - By Looking At:

## 2. ***The Nature Of The Manna!***

- In John’s Gospel:
  - Jesus Tells Us - After Reminding The People:
    - Of God’s Provision Of Manna:
      - In The Wilderness:
        - In John 6:48-49 - “I am that bread of life. / Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. / This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die!”
    - Jesus Tells Us That:
      - The Manna That Rained Down From Heaven:
        - In The Wilderness:
          - Was A Type & Illustration:
            - Of Himself!
        - And So - There Are Many Ways:
          - In Which This Special Bread:
            - Points Us To Christ!
      - We See It In:
        - The Source Of The Manna!
          - In 16:15 - In The First Day:
            - On Which The Manna Fell:
              - Moses Tells The People:
                - “This Is The Bread Which *The Lord* Hath Given You To Eat!”
            - The Source Of The Manna:
              - Was God Himself! To Display His:
                - Mercy & Grace To His People!
          - And So It Is With Christ!

- According To 1 John 4:14:
  - It Was The Father Who Sent The Son:
    - To Be The Savior Of The World!
- To Save Us:
  - From Our Spiritual Famine:
    - And To Be Our Life!
- We Also See Christ In:
  - The Size Of The Manna!
    - In 16:14 - The Manna Is Described As:
      - “A Small Round Thing, As Small As The Hoar Frost On The Ground!”
      - Also - In 16:31 - We Are Told That:
        - “It [was] like coriander seed, white; and the taste of it [was] like wafers [made] with honey!”
      - So - At First Sight - The Manna Wasn’t Very Impressive - And - It Didn’t Look:
        - Very Substantial!
          - Each Piece Was Just A “Small Round Thing!”
    - And - Wasn’t This True Of Christ?
      - In The Prophecy About Christ In Isaiah 53:2:
        - We Are Told That - “He hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him!”
    - When Jesus Came - At First Sight:
      - He Didn’t Look Very Impressive Or Substantial Either!
        - He Was Small & Weak & Vulnerable:
          - Even As A Baby!
      - But - Just Like The Manna:
        - There Was Something More:
          - About Him & In Him!
            - And That’s Because Of:
- The Significance Of The Manna!
  - Though Small In Size:
    - There Was A Sweetness & A Strength & A Supply In The Manna:
      - That Could Only Come From:
        - God In Heaven!
  - The Manna In The Wilderness:
    - Tasted Like:
      - “Wafers Made With Honey!”
    - But - The Words That Came:
      - From Christ’s Own Lips:
        - Are “Sweeter . . . Than Honey And The Honeycomb!”
- The Manna In The Wilderness:
  - Had A Strength To It:
    - Even Though It Appeared Small & Insignificant!
  - In Numbers 11:
    - We Are Given A Further Description Of The Manna - As Well As:
      - How It Was Used!
    - After The People Gathered It:
      - They Could Grind It In Mills Or Beat It In A Mortar! Other Times They Would Boil It In A Pot!
  - And - So It Is With Christ!
    - Though He Appeared Weak And Small:
      - Yet - There Was Divine Strength In Him!
    - Though The Devil Tried To Grind Him:
      - To Powder - By Tempting Him To Sin:
        - He Resisted & Overcame Him Without Sin!
    - And - Though Sinners Sought To Beat Him - By Crucifying Him:
      - He Overcame Them When He Rose From The Dead!
  - And - His Inherent Strength:
    - Is The Strength & Sustenance:

- Of All Who Believe In Him!
- The Manna In The Wilderness:
  - Also Was Supplied In A Special Way:
    - To Maintain Its Purity And Freshness:
      - In That Dry & Dusty Wilderness!
  - According To Numbers 11:9:
    - Sometime In The Night:
      - There Was A Dew That Formed Upon The Ground!
    - And Then:
      - “The Manna Fell Upon It!”
        - So The Manna Was Protected From The Ground Below!
    - Imagine The Sight!
      - Like Snow In The Desert!
  - But Then - According To Exodus 16:14:
    - It Appears That Some More Dew:
      - Was Laid Upon The Manna!
    - So That - When The Sun Rose Upon The Land:
      - “And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness [there lay] a small round thing, [as] small as the hoar frost on the ground!”
  - It Was As If Each Piece Of Manna:
    - Was Presented By God To His People:
      - As A Treasure Sandwiched In A Container Of Dew!
        - Which God Opened For His People Each Day When It Was Time For Them To Gather And Eat!
  - Even Today - Jewish Families:
    - For Their Passover Meal:
      - Put Their Matzah Bread Between Two Napkins:
        - As A Reminder Of This Special Event!
  - And - In Revelation 2:17:
    - To The Church In Pergamos - Jesus Says:
      - “To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna!”
  - And - What A Picture This Is To Us:
    - Of Jesus - God’s Own “Hidden Manna” From Heaven!
      - Though He Came Into The Wilderness Of Our World:
        - He Was Kept Pure & Fresh & Clean!
    - Not Only Because Of His Own Divine Nature!
      - But - As God’s Gift To Us:
        - He Was Both Conceived And Anointed By:
          - The Holy Spirit Of Grace!
    - So - Like The Dew:
      - The Holy Spirit Was Under Christ & Over Christ:
        - Not To Maintain His Purity, But To Manifest It To The World!
- There Are Probably Even More:
  - Amazing Parallels Between:
    - Manna & Christ!
      - But - I’d Like To Focus On Just One More - And That Is:
- The Sufficiency Of The Manna!
  - According To Exodus 16:
    - God Provided Enough Manna:
      - For All His People To Eat:
        - To The Full!
  - In 16:16 - After Moses Told Them:
    - To “Gather of it every man according to his eating!” - We Are Told In:
      - 16:17-18 - “And the children of Israel did so, and gathered, some more, some less. / And when they did mete [it] with an omer, he that gathered much had nothing over, and he that gathered little had no lack!”
        - Noone Went Away Hungry!

- If Any Did - It Was Their Own Fault!
- There Is Even A Jewish Tradition:
  - That Says That The Manna:
    - Was “Able To Content Every Man’s Delight, And Agreeing To Every Taste!”  
(Wisdom Of Sirach 16:20)
- And - So It Is With Christ!
  - Back In John 6:54 - Jesus Said:
    - “Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day!”
    - Jesus Christ Is All-Sufficient:
      - For The Needs Of His People!
- All Because - Jesus Is:
  - The Bread From Heaven:
    - Of Which - Manna:
      - Was Only A Type & Picture:
        - And Object Lesson!
  - Because - There Is A Major Difference:
    - Between The Type & The Antitype!
      - Between The Type Of Manna - And:
        - Its Antitype Of Christ!
        - And That Is:

### 3. ***The Nourishment Of The Manna!***

- The Nourishment:
  - Of The Manna:
    - Was A Limited Nourishment!
  - Because - It Only Nourished The People:
    - In A Physical Way:
      - To Sustain Them:
        - In Their Physical Lives!
  - We See This Especially:
    - When - In 16:22-23 - Where We Are Told:
      - “And it came to pass, [that] on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for one [man]; and all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses. / And he said unto them, This [is that] which the LORD hath said, To morrow [is] the rest of the holy sabbath unto the LORD!”
  - The Supply Of This Daily Bread:
    - Was Only Provided:
      - On Six Days! Though - On The Sixth Day:
        - Enough Was Provided:
          - For The Seventh!
    - But - Remember - God Had A Purpose:
      - In This Provision!
        - To Teach Them & To Test Them In The Wilderness!
    - And - One Of Those Lessons:
      - Was That:
        - They Needed Something More Than Just Physical Bread! And:
          - *There Was* Something More Than Just Physical Bread!
  - And So - The Limited Nourishment:
    - Of The Manna:
      - Was To Point Them To:
- The Nourishment:
  - Of Christ:
    - Which Is A Lasting Nourishment!
  - Because - As The Bread Of Life:
    - He Will Sustain Us:
      - In A Spiritual Way:
        - So That We Might Find Relief And Rest:

- Not Just For Our Bodies, But For Our Souls!

- In John 6:51 - Jesus Tells Us:

- "I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world!"

- The Spiritual Nourishment Of Christ:

- Is Lasting - Because:

- He Is Life!

- Jesus Is Our Bread Of Life!

- Jesus Is Our Manna From Heaven!

### **Conclusion:**

1. Of Course - The Children Of Israel:

- Had The Privilege Of Eating This Manna:

- For The Entire 40 Years:

- Of Their Wandering Through The Wilderness!

- But - What Did They Come To:

- Think & Feel About:

- God's Provision?

2. Turn Now With Me:

- To Numbers 11:4-7 - Where We Read These Sad Words:

- "And the mixt multitude that [was] among them fell a lusting: and the children of Israel also wept again, and said, Who shall give us flesh to eat? / We remember the fish, which we did eat in Egypt freely; the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlick: / But now our soul [is] dried away: [there is] nothing at all, beside this manna, [before] our eyes!"

- Having Been Fed By God:

- With His Manna From Heaven:

- They Wanted Something More!

- His Manna Was Not Enough!

3. Is This Something That Can Happen To Us?

- As We Live In The Wilderness Of This World:

- There Are Times We Might Be:

- Drawn Away Into Thinking:

- That We Need Or Want Something More:

- Than The "Simplicity Of Christ!"

- And The Daily Manna Of His Grace & His Word!

- When We Are Tempted In This Way:

- Let Us Remember How:

- "Christ Is The Food Of His People, While They Are In The Wilderness Of This World!" (John Gill)

- Because - The Bread Of His Life:

- Alone - Can:

- Save You!

- Strengthen You!

- Sustain You! And:

- Satisfy!

4. The Manna In The Wilderness:

- Was Limited!

- Only Christ - The Bread Of Heaven:

- Will Last!

**Grace Baptist Church**

**Stephen Elmer, Pastor**

**4245 North 200 West**

**Greenfield, Indiana 46140**

**317-326-2362**

**[www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace](http://www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace)**

**[www.growatgrace.org](http://www.growatgrace.org)**

**[pastor-elmer@hotmail.com](mailto:pastor-elmer@hotmail.com)**