

Sanctuary Studies

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The Golden Pot of Manna *part two*

★ In part one of the “Golden Pot of Manna”, we looked at Exodus 16 to discover a number of lessons which surrounded the giving of *Manna* to the children of Israel. In this study we will discover more lessons as we trace this word throughout the Bible. Keep in mind that these lessons are vital to our relation to God as the remnant, seeing that this Manna was placed in the *Most Holy Place*.

- I. The second mention of Manna in the scriptures - **Numbers 11**
 - a. Who were the instigators, and what was their desire? **vs 4**
 - b. Were they grateful for the provisions God gave them? **vs 6**
 - c. What became Moses’ response? **vs 10-15**
 - d. Did God give them their request? **vs 18-20**
 - e. How much quail did they gather? **vs. 32**
 - f. Because of their indulgence, what happened? **vs 33**

★ A great lesson is drawn from the above chapter. The Israelites manifested a discontent with the provisions of God. This chapter takes place after 2 years of receiving the heavenly manna. God knew it was not for their best interest to subsist on flesh, but He still gave them their desires. Rather than being grateful, gluttony and indulgence took hold of them and God punished them for it. If God would have allowed them to continue, they would have forsaken every principle He was trying to teach them. They did not discern His far reaching ideal. Notice the following quotations below:

- *God brought the Israelites from Egypt, that He might establish them in the land of Canaan, a pure, holy, and happy people. In the accomplishment of this object He subjected them to a course of discipline, both for their own good and for the good of their posterity. Had they been willing to deny appetite, in obedience to His wise restrictions, feebleness and disease would have been unknown among them. Their descendants would have possessed both physical and mental strength. They would have had clear perceptions of truth and duty, keen discrimination, and sound judgment. But their unwillingness to submit to the restrictions and requirements of God, prevented them, to a great extent, from reaching the high standard which He desired them to attain, and from receiving the blessings which He was ready to bestow upon them. { PP 378.3}*
- *The misuse of our physical powers shortens the period of time in which our lives can be used for the glory of God. And it unfits us to accomplish the work God has given us to do. By allowing ourselves to form wrong habits, by keeping late hours, by gratifying appetite at the expense of health, we lay the foundation for feebleness. By neglecting physical exercise, by overworking mind or body, we unbalance the nervous system. Those who thus shorten their lives and unfit themselves for service by disregarding nature’s laws, are guilty of robbery toward God. And they are robbing their fellow men also. The opportunity of blessing others, the very work for which God sent them into the world, has by their own course of action been cut short. And they have unfitted themselves to do even that which in a briefer period of time they might have accomplished. The Lord holds us guilty when by our injurious habits we thus deprive the world of good. { COL 346.4}*

★ Do you see what God was trying to accomplish? His plans were to lay a foundation for the benefit of His chosen people so that they would develop in a greater attainment to be used to fulfill their calling as the people of God through Abraham in **Genesis 12:3**. This same purpose, God has for His people today. As the world grows in sickness and disease, we are to grow in health and strength through the principles of our Lord. Thus the world will look to us for answers, and hence we can “show forth the praises of Him who has called us out of darkness and into His marvelous light”(1 **Peter 2:9**). Can you see the parallel of Manna to our health message? Solemn indeed!

II. The third mention of Manna in the scriptures - **Deuteronomy 8**

- a. What admonition is given from the very beginning of this chapter? **vs 1,2**
- b. What well known phrase is given to tell us how we should live? **vs 3**
- c. Should we be faithful and follow God? Why, according to **vs 4-6**
- d. What blessings awaited the children of Israel in the promised land? **vs 7-10**
- e. What is the warning in **vs 11-17**
- f. Shall we boast in our wealth? Why not? **vs 18**
- g. What will happen to those who forsake God to serve other gods? **vs 19,20**

★ This chapter has many good details in it. We will focus on that which pertains to the Manna. Do you remember **Exodus 16:4**? Notice the connection here in **Deuteronomy 8:3,4**. The Manna teaches us the lesson of living by the words of God. More specifically, the words which came from God's mouth; namely, the 10 commandments. The Manna in **Exodus 16** was also a preparation to see whether or not they would hearken to the laws and commands of God. God was testing the heart. Adam and Eve also had a test to see whether they would obey the words of God or not. Their test was given on the point of appetite. If only God's people then and now, would realize the far reaching plan of God. We would learn to co-operate with Him. Notice the second verse in the same chapter that deals with Manna: **Deuteronomy 8:16**. According to this verse, why did God give the Manna here? It shows clearly, for a lesson of humility, and to do them good for the "latter end." Notice the following quotations below:

- *Whenever men choose their own way, they place themselves in controversy with God. They will have no place in the kingdom of heaven, for they are at war with the very principles of heaven. In disregarding the will of God, they are placing themselves on the side of Satan, the enemy of God and man. Not by one word, not by many words, but by every word that God has spoken, shall man live. We cannot disregard one word, however trifling it may seem to us, and be safe. There is not a commandment of the law that is not for the good and happiness of man, both in this life and in the life to come. In obedience to God's law, man is surrounded as with a hedge and kept from the evil. He who breaks down this divinely erected barrier at one point has destroyed its power to protect him; for he has opened a way by which the enemy can enter to waste and ruin. { MB 52.1}*
- *You now have an opportunity to attain to the greatest intellectual power through the study of the Word of God. But if you are indolent, and fail to dig deep in the mines of truth, you will not be ready for the crisis that is soon to come upon us. O that you would realize that each moment is golden. If you live by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God, you will not be found unprepared.*

You know not where you may be called upon to give your witness of truth. Many will have to stand in the legislative courts; some will have to stand before kings and before the learned of the earth, to answer for their faith. Those who have only a superficial understanding of truth will not be able clearly to expound the Scriptures, and give definite reasons for their faith. They will become confused, and will not be workmen that need not to be ashamed. Let no one imagine that he has no need to study, because he is not to preach in the sacred desk. You know not what God may require of you. { Mar 253.5}

★ **Deuteronomy 8:3** prepares the way for next weeks study. Christ Himself referred to these words when assailed by Satan. If we want to be prepared for what is to come in the future, then we must take the time to prepare today. As God's plan unfolds in our life, we must be careful to maintain a grateful attitude and remember that He knows the future. Learn from the examples of Israel and learn not to complain and murmur. The Manna God provides is sufficient to keep us from feebleness and disease. This application is both physical and spiritual. Live by every word for it will found to be life unto you!