

Lesson 50

Manna in the Desert

Opening Prayer:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

You have give us a day of rest to remember You and Your blessings. Teach us to slow down and think about You. Teach us to remember to say “Thank You” for all You have done.

Teach us to remember the importance of remembering You each day of our lives.

In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Memory Work:

Bible Verse:

Exodus 16:15 – When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

Catechism Lesson: The Third Commandment

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

Focus:

The Third Commandment tells us to take a day of rest to focus on God, remember His benefits and give thanks for His blessings. The world tells us to work, play, or anything else but remember God. Take some time to pause and remember the God who created us. He knows what we need, more than we do.

Notes

‘Manna’ in sounds like the words for “What is it?” in Hebrew.

Lesson: Exodus 16:1-35

They set out from Elim {*EE-lim*}, and all the congregation of the people of Israel came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had departed from the land of Egypt.

And the whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, and the people of Israel said to them, “Would that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”



Then the LORD said to Moses, “Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in My Law or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily.”



So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, “At evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because He has heard your grumbling against the LORD. For what are we, that you grumble against us?” And Moses said, “When the LORD gives you in the evening meat to eat and in the morning bread to the full, because the LORD has heard your grumbling that you grumble against Him—what are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the LORD.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, ‘Come near before the LORD, for He has heard your grumbling.’”

And as soon as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. And the LORD said to Moses, “I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’”

In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp. And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground.

When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was.

And Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat. This is what the LORD has commanded: ‘Gather of it, each one of you, as much as he can eat. You shall each take an omer, {OH-mer} {about two quarts} according to the number of the persons that each of you has in his tent.’”

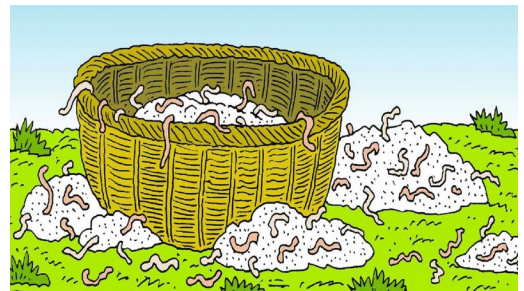


And the people of Israel did so. They gathered, some more, some less. But when they measured it with an omer, whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack. Each of them gathered as much as he could eat.



And Moses said to them, “Let no one leave any of it over till the morning.”

But they did not listen to Moses. Some left part of it till the morning, and it bred worms and stank. And Moses was angry with them.



Morning by morning they gathered it, each as much as he could eat; but when the sun grew hot, it melted.

On the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers each. And when all the leaders of the congregation came and told Moses, he said to them, “This is what the LORD has commanded: ‘Tomorrow is a day of solemn rest, a holy Sabbath to the LORD; bake what you will bake and boil what you will boil, and all that is left over lay aside to be kept till the morning.’”



So they laid it aside till the morning, as Moses commanded them, and it did not stink, and there were no worms in it. Moses said, “Eat it today, for today is a Sabbath to the LORD; today you will not find it in the field. Six days you shall gather it, but on the seventh day, which is a Sabbath, there will be none.”

On the seventh day some of the people went out to gather, but they found none. And the LORD said to Moses, “How long will you refuse to keep My commandments and My laws? See! The LORD has given you the Sabbath; therefore on the sixth day He gives you bread for two days. Remain each of you in his place; let no one go out of his place on the seventh day.” So the people rested on the seventh day.

Now the house of Israel called its name Manna. It was like coriander seed, white, and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey. Moses said, “This is what the LORD has commanded: ‘Let an omer of it be kept throughout your generations, so that they may see the bread with which I fed you in the wilderness, when I brought you out of the land of Egypt.’”

And Moses said to Aaron, “Take a jar, and put an omer of Manna in it, and place it before the LORD to be kept throughout your generations.”

As the LORD commanded Moses, so Aaron placed it before the testimony to be kept.

The people of Israel ate the Manna forty years, till they came to a habitable land. They ate the Manna till they came to the border of the land of Canaan.



Review:

Why did the people complain? There was no food.

About whom did they complain? Moses and Arron.

Who were they really blaming or doubting? God

What did God do to help them? Sent “food from heaven like rain” or Manna. (Also quail that first night, but not every night.)

What did the people call it? “What is it?” Which in Hebrew is pronounced, “manna.”

How much food were they to collect each day? About 2 quarts per person. Only what they could eat in one day.

How many days per week did God send the food? Six days per week.

Why not all seven days of the week? The seventh day was a day of rest, a holy day.

How much food were the people to collect on the sixth day? Enough for two days. They were to cook their food, for the seventh day, on the sixth day also. No one was to work on the seventh day.

How did the food come? In the dew that was on the ground in the morning. When the dew dried up white flakes were on the ground.

Like what did it look and taste? It looked like white coriander seeds and tasted like wafers made with honey.

Did everyone listen to God’s Word? No. Some collected more then they could eat in one day.

How did God and Moses feel about that? They were angry with the people.

What happened to the leftovers? It was filled with worms and smelled bad.

Did that happen on the sixth day? No. The food collected on the sixth day lasted two day.

How long did the happen? Every week for 40 years.

Did the people ever work on the seventh day? No. god sent them food through all 40 years.

Closing Prayer:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Thank You for all You do to care for us. Teach us to remember, each day, how much You love us. Remind us to remember You each day of our lives. Teach us to take time each week to worship You and give thanks for all Your blessings.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.