

Hello Everyone!!

As we are not able to be together due to our COVID situation, I am reminded yet again that the world is lost, the stability man attempts to create fails, but our Lord reigns! The isolation we feel adds to the myriad of emotions ranging from boredom, frustration, distrust and even a fair bit of anger! Sometimes it takes too much time before I respond to the Lord when He is reminding me that these days are to be expected and that lifting up my head is my proper response!

Teaching kids on Sunday is something I selfishly acknowledge as benefitting me perhaps more than the kids! Ploughing through the Old Testament is an awesome way to see how the Lord provides for his children regardless of the circumstance. It's also sad to see the historic cycle of the Children of Israel's obedience and rejection of God's laws and provision. I find myself looking in the mirror continuously, especially when the people were murmuring – it's another word for whining – whining all together... the book of Exodus says the entire congregation. That was intense then and it's intense now.

What did Moses and Aaron say? They said they were complaining against God! This is sobering to me.

During their journey which was a lot longer than it needed to be, God provided regardless of their poor attitudes and instructed them to gather manna every day (except the Sabbath) and not hoard it. It would've been easy to provide enough on one day for the week, but He wanted them to rely on Him every day. The same goes for all of us. Reliance on his providence daily is an act of obedience, faith and trust that I need to be continually reminded of.

The Children of Israel called it Manna, the heart of the definition of it is: "what is it?". We also call it bread from heaven, or gracious un-earned gift from God.

What an incredible thing the Lord provided for them... for 40 years they had everything they needed to make food. That is remarkable as they had no crops or plants or grains as they were on the move continually – the Lord was their provision. I am reminded this is not our home – we are on the move. Called to do His work here and now, despite the situation, despite the circumstance and despite how I may feel.

What could you say about the Manna based on what we read in Exodus?

- 1) It was pure
- 2) It was available for everyone
- 3) It was enough to satisfy the need
- 4) It was good

This bread of heaven seems to me to be a lot like our Lord Jesus – He referred to Himself as the Bread of Life twice in John 6 – The Word of God never ceases to create in me a sense of awe and wonder. Those same words of life that compelled Peter to respond to the Lord and say "to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life" (John 6: 68) need to resonate in my heart every moment of every day.

Praise God that our anchor holds during these times – Stay in the Word!