

The Gospel According to John

9-11-2019

1. Last week, I taught in part Joh 6:49 to 6:51 by way of the *Doctrine of Manna*. When the clock tolled 7:45 P.M. I was about to review several Scriptures teaching how Manna was used to test Israel.
2. Before we return to that study, I want to give you opportunity to rebound.
3. I want to review some of that learned last week and then begin new material on page two.

Doctrine of Manna

1. Manna is used in Scripture both figuratively and literally.
 - 1.1 The more important Old Testament Scriptures relating to Manna are Exo 16:14-35; Num 11:1-9 and Jos 5:12.
 2. Manna was used as a teaching aid in the tabernacle and the temples.
 3. Manna was used to teach the importance of taking in the Word of God. Due 8:3 compared with Mat 4:4.
 - 3.1 Doctrine is only provided in amounts commensurate with positive volition. First you have to want to hear and then the manna comes; the same with Bible doctrine. As in Christ's kingdom platform "when you hunger and thirst after righteousness you shall be filled."
 - 3.2 Doctrine also is a grace gift from God and it can either be a source of blessing or cursing.
 - 3.3 The Jews of the Exodus generation grumbled at having to eat manna and so God withheld it and made them eat quail until "it came out of their nostrils."
 - 3.4 When the Jews did not follow God's protocol bad things happened. The same was true in the Kingdom Age and Church Age. Rejecting the bread of heaven results in consequences.
4. Manna was designed to sustain the Israelites physically during their trek to the Promised Land where they were expected to work for their food.

Jos 5:12 The manna stopped the day after they ate this food from the land; there was no longer any manna for the Israelites, but that year they ate of the produce of Canaan.

5. Manna was used to test Israel. So also today, the protocol plan for acquiring doctrine is a test for the believer.

5.1 There are negative believers in every age; to some of the Exodus generation the manna was bitter and to others it tasted like honey.

5.2 So also today the Word of God is appreciated by some and for others in varying degrees the Word is unappreciated and even hated.

5.3 As manna was taken for granted so also is the Word of God. In Psalm seventy-eight Israel's rejection of manna is used in part to describe Israel's "reversionism."

6. The Word of God today is manna from heaven.

7. Like the Jews of the Exodus subsequent generations have rejected God's heavenly food and suffered for their errors.

Pro 28:9 He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayers shall be an abomination.

Pro 12:1 Whoever loveth instruction loveth knowledge: and he that hateth reproof is brutish.

7.1 The attitude of a believer toward Bible doctrine determines whether he will receive blessing or discipline in time.

Pro 8:33 Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not.

Pro 8:34 Blessed is the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the post of my doors.

Pro 8:35 For whoever findeth doctrine, findeth life and shall obtain favor of the Lord.

Pro 8:36 But he that sinneth against doctrine wrongeth his own soul: and all they that hate me love operational death in time.

8. Jos 1:8 says daily study of the Word of God will make the believer a unique success.

Jos 1:8 This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then you shall make thy way prosperous, and then you shall have a good success.

9. Manna was stored says the writer of Hebrews to remind Israel of its coming blessing when the Lord returns.

Heb 9:1 Then verily the first covenant had also ordinances of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary.

Heb 9:2 For there was a tabernacle made; the first, wherein was the candlestick, and the table, and the shewbread; which is called the sanctuary.

Heb 9:3 And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all;

Heb 9:4 Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant;

Heb 9:5 And over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercyseat; of which we cannot now speak particularly.

Heb 9:6 Now when these things were thus ordained, the priests went always into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the service of God ...

Heb 9:11 But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building;

Heb 9:12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

Heb 9:13 For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh:

Heb 9:14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Heb 9:15 And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance ...

Heb 9:23 It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

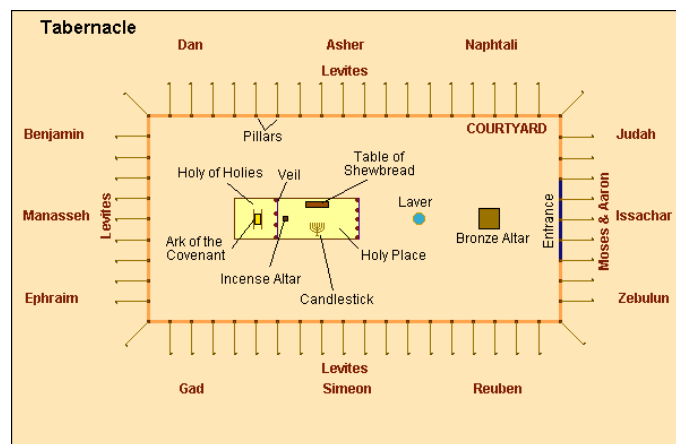
Heb 9:24 For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:

Heb 9:25 Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others;

Heb 9:26 For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.

Heb 9:27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

Heb 9:28 So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.



10. Complaining about manna brought severe discipline from God.

Num 21:5 And the people spake against God, and against Moses, Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? for there is no bread, neither is there any water; and our soul loatheth this light bread.

Num 21:6 And the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died.

10.1 So also today there is a judgment for negative believers who reject the protocol of God.

Rev 3:14 And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;

Rev 3:15 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.

Rev 3:16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

2Pe 2:4 For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;

2Pe 2:5 And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;

2Pe 2:6 And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;

2Pe 2:7 And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked.

10.2 In the same way manna not gathered in accordance with God's rules spoiled; recall manna gathered but not eaten daily had worms and stunk (the exception being manna gathered on Friday).

Exo 16:19 And Moses said, Let no man leave of it till the morning.

Exo 16:20 Notwithstanding they hearkened not unto Moses; but some of them left of it until the morning, and it bred worms, and stank: and Moses was wroth with them.

Exo 16:21 And they gathered it every morning, every man according to his eating: and when the sun waxed hot, it melted.

10.3 Just as God had rules related to the acquisition of manna so also, He has rules concerning the gathering of doctrine today. For example:

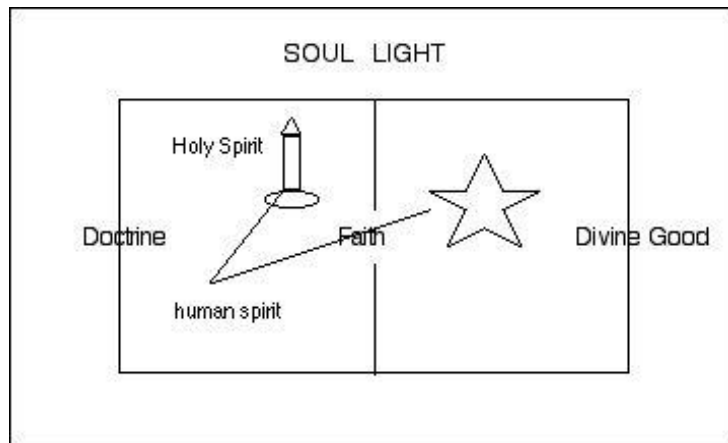
Heb 10:25 Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the day approaching.

Heb 13:7 Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.

Heb 13:17 Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.

11. Manna not daily collected vanished, just as doctrine left on the printed page cannot be used under the heat of adversity; it must be in the soul before the enemy attacks.

11.1 Doctrine must be in the soul if it is to be of value in following the colors to the high ground.



12. Manna provided perfect nourishment for the body just as doctrine provides perfect spiritual nourishment for the Church Age believer.

12.1 Manna like doctrine was customized for the needs of the Israelites. It totally satisfied hunger depending on the needs of the recipients.

Exo 16:18 And when they measured it by the omer, he who gathered much did not have too much, and he who gathered little did not have too little. Each one gathered as much as he needed.

13. The Word of God as spiritual manna has been miraculously preserved for more than a thousand years even though tyrants, theologians and kings have attempted to distort and destroy it.

14. The last mention of manna is found in Rev 2:17, where it apparently refers to all of the wonderful blessings provided to the believer in eternity future. This would certainly include a full knowledge of God--the hidden manna.

Rev 2:17 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.

15. Summary

15.1 Manna comes from the Hebrew word "**Mah**" meaning "what?" It was said by the Israelites when they first saw it on the ground, "what is this?" Manna is used analogously in the New Testament for the Christ [the Bread of Life] and that which He taught [the bread].

15.2 For example, John in his Gospel, repeatedly relates manna to the Bread of Life--Christ and the bread provided by Christ--His teachings.

Joh 6:31 Our fathers did eat **manna** in the desert; as it is written, He gave them **bread from heaven** to eat.

Joh 6:32 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that **bread from heaven**; but my Father giveth you the true **bread from heaven**.

Joh 6:33 For the **bread of God** is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world.

Joh 6:34 Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread.

Joh 6:35 And Jesus said unto them, **I am the bread of life**: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

Joh 6:36 But I said unto you, That ye also have seen me, and believe not.

Joh 6:37 All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

Joh 6:41 The Jews then murmured at him, because he said, **I am the bread** which came down from heaven ...

Joh 6:47 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.

16. Now let's see what we can learn from Joh 6:48-59

Joh 6:48 **I am that bread of life.**

Joh 6:49 Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead.

Joh 6:50 This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die.

Joh 6:51 I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live forever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.

Joh 6:52 Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"

Joh 6:53 Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.

Joh 6:54 Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.

Joh 6:55 For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.

Joh 6:56 Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him.

Joh 6:57 Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me.

Joh 6:58 This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your forefathers ate manna and died, but he who feeds on this bread will live forever."

Joh 6:59 He said this while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.

Comment: It is clear that if Christ is the antitype of the manna, and the true bread which cometh down from heaven. He is the bread of life to men. There could be no better analogy as set forth in Joh 6:48-59-the Bread of Life.

Summary Points:

1. He was the bread of life:

1.1. As God Incarnate: In the humanity of Jesus Christ, the Divine is brought near to us, and made apprehensible, and provision is also made for the communication of the Divine-life in its fullest, richest form to our souls.

1.2 In him dwells the fulness of the Godhead bodily (Colossians 2:9). He is the medium of the communication of that Divine fulness to us (1 John 1:16).

1.3 In him, the Divine life is embodied in a holy, perfect humanity; and in that form - a form which brings it within our reach, which makes apprehension and assimilation possible - it is presented to us to be partaken of.

2. As an atoning Savior. Did Christ not bear this character of Atoner, he would not be truly bread of life to the guilty. Our guilt, our sin, our whole moral condition, stands between us and God, an insuperable barrier to the peace and fellowship for which we crave. But Christ has taken away that barrier.

2.1 He has made a sacrifice of himself for sin (John 6:51). To appropriate what I have in Christ, is, accordingly, to appropriate to myself the certainty of forgiveness through his death, the assurance of peace with God, the knowledge of reconciliation.

2.2 And to have done this is already to have begun to live. It is to know the accomplishment of that spiritual change which the Scriptures describe as a "passing from death unto life" (John 5:24). "Old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17).

3. Christ is the giver of this Spirit. It is from him the Spirit comes. His work on earth has opened the way for the free communication of the Spirit's influences. He dwells by this Spirit in each of his members, nourishing, strengthening, and purifying them, to nourish ourselves upon Christ is to take more of this Spirit into our hearts and lives. Thus, is Christ the bread of life.

4. Since Joh 6:59 ends the Scriptures which describe Christ as the Bread of Life, I want to review 59 other appellatives.

- 1. Almighty One** – “...who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.” **Rev. 1:8**
- 2. Alpha and Omega** – “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.” **Rev. 22:13**
- 3. Advocate** – “My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father--Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.” **1 John 2:1**
- 4. Author and Perfecter of Our Faith** – “Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” **Heb. 12:2**
- 5. Authority** – “Jesus said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.’” **Matt. 28:18**
- 6. Bread of Life** – “Then Jesus declared, ‘I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.’” **John 6:35**
- 7. Beloved Son of God** – “And behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.” **Matt. 3:17**
- 8. Bridegroom** – “And Jesus said to them, “Can the wedding guests mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast.” **Matt. 9:15**
- 9. Chief Cornerstone** – “The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief corner stone.” **Ps. 118:22**
- 10. Deliverer** – “And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.” **1 Thess.1:10**
- 11. Faithful and True** – “I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war.” **Rev.19:11**
- 12. Good Shepherd** - “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.” **John 10:11**
- 13. Great High Priest** – “Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.” **Heb. 4:14**

14. Head of the Church – *“And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church.” Eph. 1:22*

15. Holy Servant – *“...and grant that Your bond-servants may speak Your word with all confidence, while You extend Your hand to heal, and signs and wonders take place through the name of Your holy servant Jesus.” Acts 4:29-30*

16. I Am – *“Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.” John 8:58*

17. Immanuel – *“...She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel, which means 'God with us.’” Is. 7:14*

18. Indescribable Gift – *“Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift.” 2 Cor. 9:15*

19. Judge – *“...he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead.” Acts 10:42*

20. King of Kings – *“These will wage war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, because He is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those who are with Him are the called and chosen and faithful.”*

Rev. 17:14

21. Lamb of God – *“The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”*

John 1:29

22. Light of the World – *“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” John 8:12*

23. Lion of the Tribe of Judah – *“Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.” Rev. 5:5*

End Lesson

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