

## Exodus 27 – What? Christ?

Exodus (Names) - Changing the World

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### Pattern of Accusation

- Hebrews react in fear to an *insurmountable* threat
- Hebrews accuse (test) God of unfaithfulness
  - God did not provide for or protect them
  - God led them into their predicament, not their fault
  - They should have stayed in Egypt (world)
  - Being slaves and alive better than being free and dead

### No Meat!

- Hebrews react in **anger** to an *insurmountable* threat
- Hebrews accuse (test) Moses (God) of unfaithfulness
  - God did not provide for them - no meat
  - God led them into their predicament, not their fault
  - They should have stayed in Egypt (world)
  - Better satiated slaves (Satan) than deprived slaves (God)

## Marching Only Two Weeks

- They had barely begun their journey when their provisions began to run low and all they saw are rocks
- The entire people accused Moses (God) of starvation
- They contemplated (romanticized) their lives in Egypt
- They think only of here and now, not God's past grace

## God Hears and Answers

- Moses cries to God
- God hears and answers
- God gives quail at evening
- God *promises* manna
- People shall know God is God because of His grace



## Essentials of Manna

- Each family shall gather one omar per person each day *except* the Sabbath (Institution of the Sabbath)
- Day before the Sabbath each family shall gather two omars per person
- Any overage will spoil, any underage will be augmented
- The lesson is *not* about communal living and sharing

## What is Manna?

- Manna means: “What?”
  - It was miraculous bread from heaven given by God
  - It is useless to speculate on any empirical explanations
- God links the giving of manna with the Sabbath
- Hebrews link manna with food, not spiritual growth

## Manna Lasted Forty Years

- The emphasis on manna was so essential that the Hebrews were to put it in the ark as a memorial
- Any attempt to hoard manna was thwarted, spoiled
- There was no manna given on the Sabbath
- Manna represented not just physical food but spiritual food; yet, all they could say was, “What?”

## Christ Explains Manna (Jn 6:31-35, 41, 48-52)

- Nearly 1500 years later Christ explained manna; He was the manna (bread) from Heaven
  - Christ is the Word from Heaven (Jn 1:14, 18)
  - Christ fed the 5,000
  - Next day the 5,000 followed Him around the sea
  - They wanted to *honor* Him (be physically fed by Him)
  - They do not see Him as God, only a meal ticket (socialism) – Christ rejected this understanding

## People Link Manna With Food

- People gave Moses credit for manna, feeding their forefathers in the wilderness
- Christ gave God credit for manna, giving them “spiritual” food (physical food a metaphor)
- They wanted the same “sign” (physical food) but Christ explained that manna was “spiritual” food for salvation

## Physical Manna is Death

- Physical manna did not prevent death, all those who ate manna in the wilderness died (De. 32:17)
  - They ate the physical manna but died due to unbelief
  - They rejected God’s spiritual lessons
  - They did not enter into God’s “rest” (salvation)
- Their descendants were no different, they did not believe, missed salvation, rejected God’s bread-Christ

## Sabbath Linked to Manna

- People were to contemplate God’s grace of manna (and all of His acts of grace educating them in their need)
- He had already obedience to His word to their spiritual growth (Waters of Marah)
- They thought only of physical life, not spiritual life
- They did not feed on His Word, only ate His food

## Eat My Flesh

- Christ is the Word
  - Word became flesh and dwelt among men
  - Christ is the manna from Heaven
  - All who hear His word will have the “new covenant”
- Last Supper Christ said: (Mt 26:26, Mk 14:23-24, Lk 22:20, Jc 11:25-27)
  - “Take, eat my body” means *digest*, live on the Scriptures

## The Hidden Manna (Rc 2:17)

- Christ promises the “hidden manna” to those who conquer, who overcome the lie of the world (JTh 2:9-10)
  - This is the truth of God which is hidden from the world
    - The “natural man” cannot perceive God’s truth (1Co 2:14, 18)
    - Christ and His Bride, the hidden mystery (Jc 2:1-4)
      - Church (Eph 5:22-32)
      - New Jerusalem (all redeemed throughout history) (Rc 21:2-3)

## Limited Manna

- Each person in the wilderness gathered one omar of manna
- Each person of the New Covenant receives metered manna
  - Consistent with God’s grace for him, or her
  - No one can hoard God’s word
  - No one will lack God’s word
- There is no unlimited “power” based on hidden knowledge, this is the lie of Satan, lie of Gnosticism, path of death

## God Tested His People

- God tested His people, challenging their ignorance
- God graciously met the need they did not accept
  - In spite of their anger against Him
  - Demonstrating their lack of faith
  - Showing them their need for spiritual discernment
- God meets the need we do not perceive

## God Pointed to His Son

- The people named God's provision, "What?"
  - This displayed their lack of understanding of God' grace
  - Culturally the people rarely grew out of their ignorance
  - They did not *feel* on God' word
  - They substituted their own words and learning for Him
  - Because they never grew beyond "what", they crucified the "Manna" when He came to give them new life

## Second Trial of the Triad

- First trial - Water of Marah (Bitterness)
- Second trial - Provisions for growth (Covetousness)
- Third trial - Water of Massah and Meribah (Rebellion)
- Then testing from the world - Amalek