

Doctrinal Studies

Biblical Concept of Manna

1. Exodus 16:15 – When the children of Israel saw the manna, they said: “MANHU” which is “What’s it?” We would say, “What is it?” Psalm 78 – manna spoken of as angel’s food.
2. Manna came down every day – but it didn’t! Exodus 16:4, 5; 22-27. Saturday the Sabbath, God didn’t give manna, but the day before He gave twice as much. In the midst of all the murmuring, God gave for 40 years – GOD IS FAITHFUL TO EVERY BELIEVER.
3. Those who gathered a lot of manna did not have any more than those who gathered a little. Exodus 16:16-18. Illustration: Here is a man with a large capacity, and another with small capacity. At the point of salvation, we are in Christ and have the same capacity. God wants us to enlarge our tank (capacity) by growing in grace and knowledge of the word. Capacity is based on knowledge of the Word. Every believer has the same position in Christ! In Christian growth, capacity is based upon receiving and using spiritual fuel!
4. Manna spoiled, but it didn’t spoil. Exodus 16:19-20. When the manna was used, it didn’t spoil. If any was left till morning, it did, it stank and bred worms. Spiritual fuel will do you no good if it is not used! The Word upon a shelf will not help you. The Word upon your innermost shelves will help you! The Word must be applied. God provided for each day. We are not to try to outguess God, trust Him one day at a time. I Corinthians 2:5 “That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God” II Corinthians 5:7 “walk by faith – not sight.” It is best to do things God’s way!!
5. Manna spoiled if kept overnight, but it was preserved for hundreds of years. Exodus 16:19-20; 16:33. They took a golden pot of this same manna, put in the Ark of the Covenant and it stayed generation after generation and never spoiled! Hebrew 9:4 The tabernacle in which the Ark was located speaks of the Word of God. The Word must be in us – not in our hands! Or in a shelf! We are to learn the Word – there it is preserved!!
6. Manna melted, but it didn’t melt. Exodus 16:21 – manna gathered was not bothered by the sun. We cannot apply what we do not know. If the message is not on the inside, its value will melt! Useless! The sun rising speaks of pressures of life, difficulties, frustrations...if we are minus Spiritual fuel, we will fall apart.
7. Manna tasted good to some and bad to others. Exodus 16:5 – Manna was like candy, right attitude. Numbers 21:5 – manna was horrible – wrong attitude. Because of what they were thinking, it tasted bad. These people refused God’s provision and they died the sin unto death! Attitude determines response. There are two attitudes to the Word of God. If the attitude is wrong, the Person will be miserable; he will be rejecting God’s daily provisions. This leads to the sin unto death. If the attitude toward the Word is right, it will always taste like honey and life will be wonderful.
8. While manna is free to those who receive it (grace) it is expensive, costly to those who reject it (judgment). John 6:50-51 – to those who accept Christ – eternal life, to those who reject Christ – eternal condemnation. The most expensive thing you can do is to refuse the gift of eternal life – the Bread of life ...Jesus Christ, the Savior of the World. SALVATION IS FREE! John 3:36 “He that believeth on Him hath everlasting life...”
9. Regardless of how the Jewish people failed during the Exodus generation, God gave them manna every day as He promised. Exodus 16:35 (except Saturday). They were so carnal and yet God poured out His blessings upon them. GOD’S GRACE DOESN’T FAIL!!!