

Manna

A word formed from two Hebrew expressions, *mah* and *nah*, meaning quite literally, “*What is it?*”

They named it not because they understood it, but because they didn’t.

It was foreign to every category they knew, something outside the bounds of experience, beyond natural understanding. It came with the morning dew, resting gently on the wilderness floor, like frost from another world.

And so it is with the Word of God.

It is not given to us in the form of familiarity. It does not arrive shaped by our expectations or confined to what we already understand.

The revelation is food, gifts from heaven, divine, mysterious, but life to our soul.

If we are to truly receive what God has for us, we must come not as experts, but as children, wide-eyed, open-handed, and excited about what is next.

Constantly surprised by His love, and overwhelmed by His grace; awed by the wonders of His Word, which is too deep to define.

The manna was new every morning, and so is Christ, the Bread of Life, new every moment for those who hunger for Him.

“Most assuredly, I say to you, Moses did not give you the bread from heaven, but My Father gives you the true bread from heaven... I am the bread of life.” (John 6:32-35)

The manna pointed forward; to Jesus. To the One who came down, not in familiar robes of religion, but wrapped in mystery, humility, and glory.

He is the answer to the question, “*What is it?*”

He is the Bread, and He is always more than we expect.

Exodus 16:14–18 *“And when the layer of dew lifted, there, on the surface of the wilderness, was a small round substance, as fine as frost on the ground. So when the children 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, ‘This is the bread which the Lord has given you to eat. This is the thing which the Lord has commanded: ‘Let every man gather it according to each one’s need, one omer for each person, according to the number of persons; let every man take for those who are in his tent.’ ” Then the children of Israel did so and gathered, some more, some less. So when they measured it by omers, he who gathered much had nothing left over, and he who gathered little had no lack. Every man had gathered according to each one’s need.”*

Exodus 16:30–31 *“So the people rested on the seventh day. And the house of Israel called its name Manna. And it was like white coriander seed, and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey.”*

John 6:32–35 *“Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, Moses did not give you the bread from heaven, but My Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” Then they said to Him, “Lord, give us this bread always.” And Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.”*

To "thirst" means to have an intense, deep craving or longing for something, like knowledge, or power.

It's a powerful yearning, like being parched, but for abstract things, signifying a drive for experience or substance.

In Christ we will never thirst again!