

GOD PROVIDES MANNA AND QUAIL
Minister Edward Crane

Lesson Text: Exodus 16:2-15

Related Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 10: 1-10; Exodus 6:1-8; John 6:30-58; Numbers 11:4-34

Place: The Wilderness of Sin

Lesson Outline: (1) The People's Complaint Exodus 16:2-3
(2) The Lord's Response Exodus 16: 4-8
(3) The Lord's Provision Exodus 16:9-15

INTRODUCTION TO THE LESSON TEXT

Our lesson in this chapter of Exodus finds the Israelites in the Wilderness of Sin, 4-6 weeks out of Egypt, and hungry. The Israelites was just delivered by God from slavery in Egypt, and at this point the Israelite, while in the Wilderness, was a ragtag bunch of slaves. They had little idea of what God expected of them, they were not sure who Moses was or should they even listen to him. If they were to survive the walk to the promised land, they would have to learn to honor, and obey God. The Israelites would have to be prepared to listen to God when he gave them His law, they would have to be God's peoples in thought, and in deed. While in the wilderness God would use this time as an opportunity to teach them to listen and obey.

Even in today's times, we as adults are often just as childish in our responses to difficulties just like the Israelites, and we may have even witness some complaints in others, as well as ourselves, things like the high cost of products, long lines, irate drivers, unkind boss or co-worker, issues with your house, car, spouse, children, etc. The truth is we all tend to respond automatically to circumstances without thinking clearly most of the time, we see the problem rather than seeing God who is greater than our problem. Much less, do we trust that God is using the problem to achieve His purposes. We can't fault the Israelites for their constant complaining, but we should consider that they are a mirror to us.

QUESTIONS

- 1) What does the word **(SIN)** mean in this passage?
- 2) When did the Israelites arrive in the Wilderness of **(SIN)**?
- 3) What did the people claim would have been better for them than being in the wilderness, and WHY?
- 4) What charge did the Israelites bring against Moses, and Aaron? and WHY?
- 5) How did God address the Israelites complaint?
- 6) What way would the bread (manna) from Heaven test the Israelites? and WHY?
- 7) Who was the Israelites really complaining, and murmuring about? and in what sense?
- 8) What type of divine provision did God provide for the Israelites? and on what occasions did the provision come to the Israelites?
- 9) When the bread (manna) arrived what did the Israelites call it? and WHY?
- 10) How long did the meat, and Manna last, and WHY?

APPLICATION: In order for today's Christians to survive in their Christian journey to the promised land that God has already prepared for him or her you must as a Christian, learn to honor, and obey Him, and become a people of God in thought, and deed that will prepare you to listen, and receive God's law when He gives it to you.

CONCLUSION: When we see the foolishness of the Israelites complaining, and murmuring against God, and His servant Moses it's because we are here on the other side of the story, and we have not experienced slavery, and it's cruel deprivations as the Israelites did. And if we have experienced how sin hardens us from the truth, or even to the point of being wronged, and helpless to do anything about it, therefore we may be more compassionate towards the Israelites, and grasp how difficult it was for them to listen to God, and obey Him. The Israelites had to learn basic obedience to be prepared for the giving of the Law of God. We can see in the scriptures, when complaining about our circumstances it's viewed as a sin, because we don't give God a chance to work it out for our good. **We should always practice "Philippians 2:14-15"**