

Life-Study of Exodus Summaries – Messages 31-35

MESSAGE 31 – Israel's Experience at Elim

Israel's experience at Elim is a picture of the **experience of resurrection life**. Although their **lack of faith** was a factor later, it was **not** the reason for the children of Israel's southward journey. After their experience at Marah, the pillar continued to lead them downward to Elim. After we have an experience of the cross, we may expect to go upward. However, we shall go downward once again, for the experience of **resurrection** is in a **downward** direction. At Elim we have the water **flowing** downward and the trees **growing** upward. This is a picture of resurrection life flowing out of God into us and then growing up from within us. Resurrection life flows from God into us. If we would be **strengthened** as **God's army** today, we need the perfect and complete flowing life and growing life. (Life-Study of Exodus, 31)

MESSAGE 32 – The Experience of Manna

After the marvelous experience at Elim, the **flesh** of the children of Israel still remained. After we have an experience at Elim, the Lord will **expose** the flesh of our **natural** being. Because our flesh remains after the experience at Elim, we need to be **led on** by the Lord from Elim into the wilderness. Heavenly manna is given to **deal** with our flesh. The flesh is only dealt with when Christ truly becomes our daily life supply. Although we need to experience the twelve springs at Elim, we also need our **hunger** to be **satisfied** by Christ as the heavenly manna. Daily we need to be filled with Christ as the heavenly manna and satisfied by Him. (Life-Study of Exodus, 32)

MESSAGE 33 – God's Dealing with the Flesh of His People

By sending manna God showed that His **intention** was to change the **composition** of His people. God intends to constitute us with a **heavenly** element. The children of Israel fed on manna for forty years. By means of God's **discipline**, the children of Israel saw His **glory**. Furthermore, usually through some kind of **negative** experience, many of us have come to know the Lord's **sufficiency**. God's way to deal with the flesh is to put it aside and not to feed it. For this reason, He changes the diet of His people and sends them food which their flesh does not like. (Life-Study of Exodus, 33)

MESSAGE 34 – The Change of Diet

Although the children of Israel had been redeemed and delivered, they were still **Egyptian** in their constitution. God could never use such material for His heavenly dwelling place. God sent the quails to satisfy the people's Egyptian appetite, but He sent the manna to reconstitute them. May the Lord take away the desire and hunger for anything other than Christ! Our **appetite** should be for **Christ**. The **heavenly diet** makes people **heavenly**, fulfills God's **purpose**, **tests** us in relation to God's will and **proves** where we are, and keeps us **alive** to fulfill His purpose (Life-Study of Exodus, 34)

MESSAGE 35 – The Heavenly Diet - Manna

Man **fell** by eating the fruit of the tree of knowledge, but he is **saved** and recovered by eating of the tree of life. **Manna is a type of Christ**. As the real manna, Christ was sent by God the Father for God's chosen people to live by Christ. The manna is the tree of life, and the tree of life is the manna. **Manna** and the **tree of life** are different terms to describe **one** thing. **Christ is both our manna and our tree of life for eternity**. The heavenly manna is to be the unique food for God's people. In the New Jerusalem there will be just one kind of food and one diet. It is also this way in the Lord's recovery, where we have Christ as our unique diet. (Life-Study of Exodus, 35)