

Life-Study of Exodus Summaries – Messages 36-40

MESSAGE 38–39 – The Heavenly Diet - Manna

After the children of Israel had begun to enjoy manna, God charged them to “take a pot, and put and omer full of manna therein, and lay it up before Jehovah”. The manna **preserved** in the pot placed within the ark was the **central point** of the tabernacle. **Christ as the manna eaten by us should be the focal point of our being.** As we partake of Christ day by day, we are also preserving Him. The amount of manna to be preserved was the same as the amount collected and eaten. This indicates that we cannot keep more of Christ than we gather and eat. God does not command us to preserve any other kind of food before Him. His requirement is that we preserve an amount of Christ equal the amount we have **eaten** of Him. Only the Christ we have eaten and experienced is worthy of **remembrance**. Whatever we enjoy of Christ in the church today will become an eternal memorial. This memorial of manna indicates that as the real manna Christ is the source of supply for God’s **dwelling place**.

The memorial is the **hidden manna**. Whenever we eat manna, this manna spontaneously becomes hidden manna. **Without** the hidden manna, we shall not be able to **function** as priests. The more you eat of Christ, the more function you will exercise. If we eat manna, we shall be **transformed** into priests with the hidden manna as our **specific** portion.

In the Bible **gold** signifies the **divine nature**. Praise the Lord that within us we have a gold pot; we have the divine nature that can preserve Christ as our hidden manna. When we touch the divine nature, the golden pot, we enjoy Christ as the manna hidden within it. This Christ is in our **spirit**, which in our experience is the Holy of Holies. When we enjoy Christ, we preserve Him in the divine nature which is in Christ who is in turn in our spirit. Since our spirit is for the church, with the church, and in the church, in experience we are actually **God’s tabernacle** today. The hidden manna is for the overcomers. **Every proper priest is an overcomer.** The hidden manna will constitute us into an overcomer. It will also fulfill the requirements of the inner law of life and bring you into peace. In the churches, we should not simply eat the open manna, but should also eat the hidden manna, which makes us **priests and overcomers**. (Life-Study of Exodus, 38–39).

MESSAGE 40 – The Living Water out of the Smitten Rock

Immediately after the children of Israel had begun to partake of manna, they were led to a place where there was no supply of water. Then at the proper time, He led His people into the place where the **rock** was waiting for them. In leaving the place where they first ate manna, the children of Israel simply **followed** the Lord’s leading. They just followed the pillar as it led them to a dry place, where there was a huge rock. The pillar led the children of Israel into a place where they would have the experience of the **living water**. This indicates that **even after we have experienced Christ as our manna, we still need to experience Him as our living water.** This rock is a begetting rock and is our salvation, refuge, strength, rest, and refreshment. Through incarnation, Christ came to earth as the rock. At Calvary, the appointed place, He was crucified, smitten by God’s law with its power and authority. His side was cleft, and living water flowed forth. This living water is the Spirit, the ultimate issue of the Triune God (Life-Study of Exodus, 40).

Characteristics of manna

Characteristic	Verses	Significance
From heaven	Exo. 16:4	Manna is heavenly food. Christ as the real manna sustains the church today.
With the dew	Exo. 16:13-14	Dew signifies daily grace, the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ. The dew is refreshing, without this dew, we are very dry.
In the morning	Exo. 16:21	Indicates that it gives us a new beginning every morning. The first thing we should do each morning is to come to the Lord in the Word and feed on Him.
Small	Exo. 16:14	The Lord wanted to be small in order to be food for us. As the real manna, Christ is small for us to take in, digest, and assimilate.
Fine	Exo. 16:14	Manna was very fine and even. When we take the Lord Jesus as our food, enjoying His word as our life supply, we become fine and even.
Round	Exo. 16:14	Signifies that Christ is eternal, without beginning or ending. The eating of Jesus brings us out of time and into eternity.
White	Exo. 16:31	Manna was clean and pure, without any kind of mixture. The more we eat Him and receive His word, the more we are purified, simplified, and the stains within us are eliminated.
As frost	Exo. 16:14	As manna, Christ not only refreshes us, He also kills the negative things within us. Frost also cools us, partaking Christ and His word causes us to be cooled down and refreshed.
As coriander seed	Exo. 16:31 Num. 11:7	As food, Christ is full of life. As such seed, Christ grows within us.
Solid	Num. 11:8	Daily in our experience we need to grind Christ, beat Christ, and boil Christ to make Christ suitable for eating.
Like bdellium	Num. 11:7	Manna has an eye, which signifies transparency. Eating Christ causes us to have more eyes. Eventually, we shall become transparent throughout our entire being.
Tastes like fresh oil	Num. 11:8	Oil typifies the Holy Spirit. The Spirit we taste when we enjoy Christ as manna is always fresh.
Tastes like wafers with honey	Exo. 16:31	As our manna, Christ has the element of the mingling of the animal life with the vegetable life, which is our sweet nourishment.
Good for making cakes	Num. 11:8	As the cakes made from manna, Christ is rich in nourishment.
A mystery		As the real manna, Christ is mysterious. On the one hand, He still has a body of flesh and bones, on the other hand, He lives in us and is being formed in us.