Manna Gathering Lessons

Exodus 16:16-27

1. Manna was to be gathered by every man (Exod. 16:16). God has provided the Lord Jesus, God's Bread from heaven (John 6:48-51), but each believer must feed upon Him by means of His Word.

- 2. Manna was to be gathered daily (Exod. 16:21). They needed to gather every day, the only exception being the Sabbath. Just as the body needs daily nourishment, so does the soul. Rarely would one go through a day without eating, but how often do professing believers go through the day without opening God's Word? John Bunyan wrote, "Either this book will keep you from sin, or sin will keep you from this book."
- 3. Manna was to be gathered in the morning (Exod. 16:21). How we start the day is so important. Like sprinters in the Olympics, if the runner gets a good start off the blocks, he usually runs a good race. How vital to begin the day with God. If the manna were not gathered early, it would be too late later, because the manna would melt (Exod. 16:21). Our days tend to get very busy, and the opportunities to meet with God can easily melt away.
- 4. Manna was to be gathered **fresh** and not stored up (Exod. 16:20). Yesterday's manna was vital, but I need a new supply today. If I try to keep today's manna for tomorrow it will breed worms. I need a fresh encounter with God every day.
- 5. The quantity of manna gathered was sufficient (Exod. 16:17-18). Some will gather less (like a mother with a newborn whose schedule is crazy) and some will gather more, but God will make sure that what we gather is sufficient.
- 6. *Manna provided total nourishment*. It was all they needed.
- 7. May we never **lose our taste** for God's manna. See Numbers 21:5 (negative) and Psalm 19:10 (positive).

~George Zeller: www.middletownbiblechurch.org

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