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Teaching Notes

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Gleanings in Exodus

Arthur W. Pink

I. The Manna

- A. The manna was a supernatural gift.
- B. The manna came right to where to the people were.
- C. The manna was small in size.
- D. The manna was white in color.
- E. The manna was to be eaten.
- F. The manna was gathered daily.
- G. The manna was gathered in the morning.
- H. The manna was obtained by labor.
- I. The manna was gathered by stooping.
- J. Some gathered more, some less.
- K. What was gathered must be used.
- L. The manna was incomprehensible to the natural man.
- M. The manna was despised by the mixed multitude.
- N. The manna was preserved in the Ark.
- O. The manna lasted until Canaan was reached.

II. Manna-A Type of Christ

Intimate connection between the written Word (the Bible) and the Incarnate Word (Jesus Christ)

John 5:39-40 You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life.

John 5:46 If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me.

Pink: "The chief value of the written word is to set forth the perfections and bring us into communion with the incarnate Word. It is only as we feed upon Christ Himself that we truly feed upon the written Word."

Christ Himself made a strong connection between Himself and the Manna in the desert:

John 6:31-35 Our forefathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" 32 Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. 33 For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." 34 "Sir," they said, "from now on give us this bread." 35 Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.

A. The Occasion of the giving of the Manna

1. After all the miracles, they ran into difficulties in the desert
2. Murmuring against the Lord

Exodus 16:2-3 In the desert the whole community grumbled against Moses and Aaron. 3 The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the LORD's hand in Egypt! There we sat around pots of meat and ate all the food we wanted, but you have brought us out into this desert to starve this entire assembly to death."

3. Grave exhibition of unbelief and rebellion... also clear picture of human powerlessness and weakness
4. Picture of man's spiritual state into which Christ descended: thousands of years of common grace blessings, ample evidence of God's existence and goodness

Romans 1:21-23 For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles.

Into this dark world of unbelieving, ungrateful people, people who had already seen mighty evidences of the power and goodness of God, God sent His greatest blessing: Jesus Christ Himself

B. The Place where the Manna fell

1. The Manna fell in the "Wilderness of Sin"... (vs. 1)

2. "Wilderness" represents a homeless place, a fruitless place, a barren place... made barren by sin

Genesis 3:17-18 To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,' "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. 18 It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.

Also barren of fear of the Lord:

Genesis 20:11 Abraham replied, "I said to myself, 'There is surely no fear of God in this place

3. So also Christ entered the world... a place barren of all spiritual fruit, a homeless place

"No room at the inn" at His birth

"No place to lay His head" during earthly ministry

Finally found a place to lay His head at the end of His life:

John 19:30 When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

C. The Glory of the Lord was linked with the giving of the Manna.

vs. 10 While Aaron was speaking to the whole Israelite community, they looked toward the desert, and there was the glory of the LORD appearing in the cloud.

1. Very first time we read of the glory of the Lord appearing IN ALL OF SCRIPTURE
2. So also, the glory of the Lord was not perfectly revealed until Christ came to earth

John 1:14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Hebrews 1:3 The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.

2 Corinthians 4:6 For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

D. The Manna came down from Heaven

Exodus 16:4 Then the LORD said to Moses, "I will rain down bread from heaven for you.

1. The physical manna came down from above... it descended to earth

2. It was not of human origin, but of heaven

3. So also Jesus Christ came down from above, descending to feed mankind

John 3:13 No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven-- the Son of Man.

John 6:33 For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

John 6:38 For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me.

E. The Manna was a free gift from God.

F. The Manna was sent to the Israelites.

G. The Manna came right down to where the Israelites were.

H. The Manna must be gathered by each individual.

I. The Manna met a daily need.

J. Appetite determined the amount gathered.

K. The Manna was despised by those who were not the Lord's people.

L. The Manna fell upon the dew, not upon the dust of the ground.

M. The Manna was white in color.

N. The Manna was sweet to the taste.

O. The Manna was ground and baked.

P. The Manna was preserved on the Sabbath.

Q. The Manna was laid up before the Lord.

R. The Manna is called angel's food.

S. The Manna was given in the night.

T. The Manna is now hidden.