

10062020 Last week we examined the principle complaining hinders training... and you know what the training by God boils down too? Obedience to the word daily! it is of more importance than our physical wants or needs... it is the food of our sustenance and must be ingested on a daily basis....why? let me share with you the hardest words of Jesus to apply daily? here they are

**Matt 6: ...<sup>24</sup> I tell you not to worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food and drink, or enough clothes to wear. Isn't life more than food, and your body more than clothing?**

<sup>31</sup> “So don't worry about these things, saying, ‘What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?’ <sup>32</sup> These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. <sup>33</sup> Seek the Kingdom of God<sup>[e]</sup> above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need. <sup>34</sup> “So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today.”

- **So if I could learn to live today, handling today's trouble well...trusting God with tomorrow...I would be doing God's will exceedingly well. That my friend is the crux of walking with God successfully one day of trust and obedience at a time. ...**
- **and we have a great example of this teaching in the Exodus of Israel from the bondage of the Egyptians...**

So lets learn from their time from their experience...there are a couple of ways we learn...for everyone is some kind of teacher in our lives... from our own experience very necessary ...and from the experience of others very necessary.. some people are a great example of a bad example learn from that...and some people are great examples of good examples...then there is Jesus the best example ...learn to discern that and you will save yourself a lot of trouble.....so lets learn today from their example...

every story has a backdrop... the circumstances of the story... **this is the Israelite Backdrop...** as it helps us to understand our study of the Book of Exodus.

- **Egypt was the bread basket of the world, both in the days of Joseph, he saved them by through an interpretation of the dream of a famine...then oversaw the building of granaries to store excess grain and agricultural**

production...Egypt literally became the bread basket of the know world. this continued up to the time of Moses.

- The Nile river enabled all this as it runs through Egypt and yearly floods the plains creating rich and fertile farm land...while also providing the water abundant livestock, providing drinking water and every other need of water for people. The Nile also provided the means to trade goods and services up and Down Egypt and other lands. people, travel and trade. the Israelite slaves were quite aware of this and lived receiving their provision from it also though they were slaves.....
- **So... the barren desert was no place to find water and food, Yet that is exactly where the cloud of the presence of God took them... and to their credit the Israelites obeyed God and followed Moses and the guiding cloud...into the desert...not knowing they were going to "boot camp" to be trained to trust and obey God on a daily basis...**

*Ex 15:22 Then Moses led the people of Israel away from the Red Sea, and they moved out into the desert of Shur. They traveled in this desert for three days without finding any water. <sup>23</sup> When they came to the oasis of Marah, the water was too bitter to drink. So they called the place Marah (which means "bitter"). <sup>24</sup> Then the people complained and turned against Moses. "What are we going to drink?" they demanded. <sup>25</sup> So Moses cried out to the LORD for help, and the LORD showed him a piece of wood. Moses threw it into the water, and this made the water good to drink. It was there at Marah that the LORD set before them the following decree as a standard to test their faithfulness to him. <sup>26</sup> He said, "If you will listen carefully to the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in his sight, obeying his commands and keeping all his decrees, then I will not make you suffer any of the diseases I sent on the Egyptians; for I am the LORD who heals you."*

- **So what happened to Pharaoh, his officers, and the Egyptians? Well they disobeyed the command of the Lord to "let His people go" ...The resulting plagues show the progressive agricultural and economic devastation of that nation. the nation that was the "bread basket" of the known world was virtually emptied.** Thus, disobedience to the will of God brought the Egyptians to physical hunger and worse.
- **and the Israelites would be spared of that if they follow the Lord will...same holds true in our lives...he restores us from the damage of**

bondage in our lives as we learn to trust and obey...and we don't the natural consequence is a gradual loss in many areas of life and sometime immediate losses..

- how do we walk out prosperity in our lives one day at a time of obedience...how do we walk out disobedience and the resulting losses in our lives ? One day at a time...
- **After a couple week or so of rest the cloud leads them away from the Oasis further into the wilderness.... the barren desert was no place to find food, but God!**
- A month had passed between the time Israel departed from Egypt to the time when the nation reached the Wilderness of Sin. **Their growling stomachs soon produced complaining lips.** **ever notice that the latest crisis is always the worst crisis...for the complainer**

*Ex 16:1 Then the whole community of Israel set out from Elim and journeyed into the wilderness of Sin, between Elim and Mount Sinai. They arrived there on the fifteenth day of the second month, one month after leaving the land of Egypt. <sup>2</sup> There, too, the whole community of Israel **complained** about Moses and Aaron. <sup>3</sup> **"If only the LORD had killed us back in Egypt,"** they moaned. "There we sat around pots filled with meat and ate all the bread we wanted. But now you have brought us into this wilderness **to starve us all to death.**"*

- Consider God's response to the complaining of His people, **He responds..gently...they are young in the Lord and this is a teaching moment..**

*<sup>4</sup> Then the LORD said to Moses, "Look, I'm going to rain down food from heaven for you. Each day the people can go out and pick up as much food as they need for that day. **I will test them in this to see whether or not they will follow my instructions.** <sup>5</sup> On the sixth day they will gather food, and when they prepare it, there will be twice as much as usual."*

- **I am going to test them...he like a teacher already knew the answer...lets see if they can do one thing I ask them ...and do it everyday.....**

- **Disobedience turned a bread basket into an empty basket. Obedience turned a barren wilderness into a breadbasket. Submission to the will of God is of higher priority than the meeting of our physical needs.**

*<sup>6</sup> So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, “By evening you will realize it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt. <sup>7</sup> In the morning you will see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your **complaints**, which are against him, not against us. What have we done that you should **complain** about us?” <sup>8</sup> Then Moses added, “The LORD will give you meat to eat in the evening and bread to satisfy you in the morning, for he has heard **all your complaints against him**. What have we done? Yes, **your complaints** are against the LORD, not against us.”*

- **These commands are God’s instructions regulating the gathering and use of the manna which He is about to provide for His people.**
- **It is these commands which serve as a test of Israel’s faith and obedience. broken down into one daily command...**
- **These commands which serve to strengthen Israel’s faith and to teach His people to obey Him.**

*EX 16:9 Then Moses said to Aaron, “Announce this to the entire community of Israel: ‘Present yourselves before the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’” <sup>10</sup> And as Aaron spoke to the whole community of Israel, they looked out toward the wilderness. There they could see the **awesome glory of the Lord in the cloud**. <sup>11</sup> Then the Lord said to Moses, <sup>12</sup> “I have heard the Israelites’ complaints. Now tell them, ‘In the evening you will have meat to eat, and in the morning you will have all the bread you want. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God.’”*

- **Knowing that Israel’s complaining was the result of her lack of faith, because they are relatively immature in their faith. God responded gently and graciously to the grumblings of the Israelites. Rather than to rebuke them for their complaining,**
- **First, He revealed His glory to the Israelites by some special manifestation of Himself in the cloud by which He had been leading them... I am with you in your adversity.**
- **Second, God provided His people with quail and with manna (16:11-14).**

*Ex 16:13 That evening vast numbers of quail flew in and covered the camp. And the next morning the area around the camp was wet with dew. <sup>14</sup> When the dew evaporated, a flaky substance as fine as frost blanketed the ground. <sup>15</sup> The Israelites were puzzled when they saw it. “What is it?” they asked each other. They had no idea what it was. And Moses told them, “It is the food the LORD has given you to eat. <sup>16</sup> These are the LORD’s instructions: Each household should gather as much as it needs. Pick up two quarts for each person in your tent.” <sup>Ex 16:17</sup> So the people of Israel did as they were told. Some gathered a lot, some only a little. <sup>18</sup> But when they measured it out, everyone had just enough. Those who gathered a lot had nothing left over, and those who gathered only a little had enough. Each family had just what it needed. <sup>19</sup> Then Moses told them, “Do not keep any of it until morning.*

- **The manna and quail was miraculously provided ... The manna was provided in such abundance, that limits had to be placed on how much was gathered ... appeared in the morn evaporated in the afternoon**
- **The manna which God provided appears to be very nutritious, as would be required for desert rations, and for the rigorous task of desert travel. he will provide the required nourishment for your tasks also...**
- **When God provided the Israelites with this Miraculous “bread from heaven” ... He also gave instructions as to how this bread was to be gathered and used.**
- **These instructions were intended to test the Israelites as well as to teach them obedience and trust...God provides daily.**
- **so..Any excess Manna from that day was to be disposed of at the end of the day ..In other words, manna could not be stored up or hoarded.**
- **Every Israelite family was required to gather manna for their own needs It may not have had the most exciting flavor, or at least the Israelites eventually tired of it, asking for something more spicy (Numbers 11).**
- **first test of obedience and trust...simple enough but some failed..**

*EX 16: 20 But some of them didn’t listen and kept some of it until morning. But by then it was full of maggots and had a terrible smell. Moses was very angry with them.*

- **not everyone hoarded but some had the tendency they must develop a sense of daily dependence upon God to meet his every need**

*<sup>21</sup> After this the people gathered the food morning by morning, each family according to its need. And as the sun became hot, the flakes they had not picked up melted and disappeared. <sup>22</sup> On the sixth day, they gathered twice as much as usual—four quarts for each person instead of two. Then all the leaders of the community came and asked Moses for an explanation. <sup>23</sup> He told them, “This is what the LORD commanded: Tomorrow will be a day of complete rest, a holy Sabbath day set apart for the LORD. So bake or boil as much as you want today, and set aside what is left for tomorrow.”*

*<sup>24</sup> So they put some aside until morning, just as Moses had commanded. And in the morning the leftover food was wholesome and good, without maggots or odor. <sup>25</sup> Moses said, “Eat this food today, for today is a Sabbath day dedicated to the LORD. There will be no food on the ground today. <sup>26</sup> You may gather the food for six days, but the seventh day is the Sabbath. There will be no food on the ground that day.”*

- **Sabat. Translated literally, sabat means “a change of pace ...The Sabbath is more than external rest of the body; it is inner rest of the soul. and spiritual refreshing, We need rest from the anxiety and strain of our busyness and spiritual refreshing,**
- **Remember these were slaves who had no days off...Remember pharaoh would not release them to have a three day festival to God...not God is giving**
- **But some went out anyway...again not trusting that God will provide...**

*Ex 16: <sup>27</sup> Some of the people went out anyway on the seventh day, but they found no food. <sup>28</sup> The LORD asked Moses, “How long will these people refuse to obey my commands and instructions? <sup>29</sup> They must realize that the Sabbath is the LORD’s gift to you. That is why he gives you a two-day supply on the sixth day, so there will be enough for two days. On the Sabbath day you must each stay in your place. Do not go out to pick up food on the seventh day.” <sup>30</sup> So the people did not gather any food on the seventh day.*

<sup>31</sup> *The Israelites called the food manna. It was white like coriander seed, and it tasted like honey wafers.* <sup>32</sup> *Then Moses said, “This is what the LORD has commanded: Fill a two-quart container with manna to preserve it for your descendants. Then later generations will be able to see the food I gave you in the wilderness when I set you free from Egypt.”* <sup>33</sup> *Moses said to Aaron, “Get a jar and fill it with two quarts of manna. Then put it in a sacred place before the LORD to preserve it for all future generations.”* <sup>34</sup> *Aaron did just as the LORD had commanded Moses. He eventually placed it in the Ark of the Covenant—in front of the stone tablets inscribed with the terms of the covenant.* <sup>35</sup> *So the people of Israel ate manna for forty years until they arrived at the land where they would settle. They ate manna until they came to the border of the land of Canaan.*

- **The pertinent principle is this: Submission to the will of God is more important than the satisfaction of our physical, bodily, needs.**
- God was not imposing needless rules and regulations on the Israelites, as we God’s will always has excellent reasons. some effect now some effect later some effect forever
- God provided the hungry Israelites with a bumper crop of manna, six out of every seven mornings, for forty years.
- **Disobedience of Egypt turned a bread basket into an empty basket. Obedience of the Israelites of this command turned a barren wilderness into a breadbasket.**
- Submission to the will of God is of higher priority than the meeting of our physical needs. keep this in mind as we move forward...
- trust him in the wilderness learning the lesson to be content with daily provision ...then when you are in a more prosperous time and have much more than a day's provision...keep living in Trust and obedience

end

@@@ lets see what we can learn from their experience to apply in our lives...

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Disobedience turned a bread basket into an empty basket. Obedience turned a barren wilderness into a breadbasket. Submission to the will of God is of higher priority than the meeting of our physical needs. keep this in mind as we move forward...

- Egypt was the bread basket of the world, both in the days of Joseph, and in the days of Moses. When Pharaoh, his officers, and the Egyptians disobeyed the command of the Lord to “let His people go” that “bread basket” was virtually emptied. The plagues show the progressive agricultural and economic devastation of that nation. Thus, disobedience to the will of God brought the Egyptians to physical hunger.
- On the other hand, the barren desert was no place to find food, but because the Israelites obeyed God and followed Moses and the guiding cloud, God provided the hungry Israelites with a bumper crop of manna, six out of every seven mornings, for forty years.

<sup>26</sup> Look at the birds. They don't plant or harvest or store food in barns, for your heavenly Father feeds them. And aren't you far more valuable to him than they are? <sup>27</sup> Can all your worries add a single moment to your life?

<sup>30</sup> And if God cares so wonderfully for wildflowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith?

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- Israel was led into the wilderness to be tested by God for forty years (Deut. 8:2). Our Lord was led of God into the wilderness to be tested (including hunger also) for forty days (Matt. 4:1-2).

**The words of our Lord's prayer in the Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 6:9-11).** Our Lord taught His followers to pray,

*MT 6:9 "This, then, is how you should pray:*

*" Our Father in heaven,*

*hallowed be your name,*

*MT 6:10 your kingdom come,*

*your will be done*

*on earth as it is in heaven.*

*MT 6:11 Give us today our daily bread.*

- Given the backdrop of God’s daily provision of manna in the wilderness for forty years, it is almost impossible to conceive of this prayer being unrelated to the purpose of the giving of the manna in Exodus 16. I would
- **The divine daily provision of manna in the wilderness taught the Israelites to look daily to God for their daily sustenance.**

### **The feeding of the five thousand and the resulting discussion and discourse**

- (John 6). The crowds had followed our Lord to a desolate place (dare I say a wilderness? cf. Mark 6:35), where there was no food available.
- Our Lord gave them bread and meat (fish) to eat, just as God had given the Israelites bread and meat (quail) in the wilderness in Exodus 16.

*JN 6:32 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." <sup>33</sup> For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."*

*JN 6:34 "Sir," they said, "from now on give us this bread."*

- The response of the crowd was to look to the Lord Jesus to become a “meal ticket” for them for the rest of their days: “Sir,” they said, “from now on give us this bread” (John 6:34).
- In response, Jesus said, “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. But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe” (John 6:35-36).

**Jesus not only fed the 5,000 to meet their physical needs, He sought to show them their spiritual needs, which He had come to supply.**

**Like the manna in the wilderness, which saved the lives of the Israelites from physical death, He was the “bread of heaven” (a play on words which goes back to the manna which God “rained down from heaven,” Exod. 16:4).**

**Unlike the “bread from heaven” which God gave the Israelites (the manna), the new “Bread from heaven” would give men eternal life. Jesus was not only claiming to be bread, but to be better bread.**

**(1) The Christian frequently must choose between immediate pleasure and eternal blessings.** Self-indulgence inclines one to pursue the former, while self-discipline is required

to gain the latter. Hebrews chapter 11 is filled with the names of those who chose to deny themselves of immediate pleasure for the certainty of God's eternal blessings.

**(2) The Christian who would rid himself of self-indulgence must learn to be content with the condition and the circumstances in which God has placed him** (cf. Phil. 4:10-13; 1 Tim. 6:6-10).

**(3) The Christian who would overcome the tendency toward hoarding must develop a sense of daily dependence upon God to meet his every need**

end

Think about this principle as it helps us to understand our study of the Book of Exodus. Egypt was the bread basket of the world, both in the days of Joseph, and in the days of Moses. When Pharaoh, his officers, and the Egyptians disobeyed the command of the Lord to "let His people go" that "bread basket" was virtually emptied. The plagues show the progressive agricultural and economic devastation of that nation. Thus, disobedience to the will of God brought the Egyptians to physical hunger.

On the other hand, the barren desert was no place to find food, but because the Israelites obeyed God and followed Moses and the guiding cloud, God provided the hungry Israelites with a bumper crop of manna, six out of every seven mornings, for forty years. Disobedience turned a bread basket into an empty basket. Obedience turned a barren wilderness into a breadbasket. Submission to the will of God is of higher priority than the meeting of our physical needs.

**The words of our Lord's prayer in the Sermon on the Mount** (Matt. 6:11). Our Lord taught His followers to pray, "Give us today our daily bread" (Matt. 6:11). Given the backdrop of God's daily provision of manna in the wilderness for forty years, it is almost impossible to conceive of this prayer being unrelated to the purpose of the giving of the manna in Exodus 16. I would suggest to you that the divine daily provision of manna in the wilderness taught the Israelites to look daily to God for their daily sustenance. The Israelites had to trust God very literally for their "daily bread." Those of us who are not living "hand-to-mouth" need to look to God as the source of our life, whether or not we have a supply of food adequate for the week. Dependence is a daily matter, and our prayers should demonstrate this kind of dependence. Whether or not we have a surplus of goods is not the issue, so much as on whom or what we have our sense of dependence. As Paul instructed Timothy, "Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment" (1 Tim. 6:17).

**The feeding of the five thousand and the resulting discussion and discourse** (John 6). The crowds had followed our Lord to a desolate place (dare I say a wilderness? cf. Mark 6:35),

where there was no food available. Our Lord gave them bread and meat (fish) to eat, just as God had given the Israelites bread and meat (quail) in the wilderness in Exodus 16. The response of the crowd was to look to the Lord Jesus to become a “meal ticket” for them for the rest of their days: “Sir,” they said, “from now on give us this bread” (John 6:34). In response, Jesus said, “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. But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe” (John 6:35-36).

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If the parallel is not clear enough, we find that just as the Israelites grumbled in the context of the manna which God gave in Exodus 16 (and later on, cf. Num. 11, esp. v. 6), so, too the Israelites grumbled about our Lord as the “bread from heaven”: At this the Jews began to grumble about Him because He said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven” (John 6:41). The New Testament therefore shows us that the “bread of heaven” is the instrument of God’s salvation. The former “bread of heaven” preserved men’s physical lives. The final “bread of heaven” is Him who saves men's souls from eternal death. This He has done by giving His life as a sacrifice. It is no wonder that one of the two symbols present at the Lord’s Table which we partake of each Sunday is bread.