



# Way Point Chronicles

Traveling through the Old Testament by Chronological Stories

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## Way Point 34

### The Bread and Water Diet

Story of the Manna and Water from the Rock

## Travel Log

Personal Notes

The children of Israel have crossed the Red Sea by the miraculous provision of God as He dried up the land. God had protected them with a cloud by day and fire by night until the crossing. This cloud and fire would continue to lead them during the next few years. This is known as the shekinah glory cloud of God. This was the visual and laminating presence of God's presence.

We find additional insight of this leading of God by the cloud in *Numbers 9:15-17; 21-22* **And on the day that the tabernacle was reared up the cloud covered the tabernacle, namely, the tent of the testimony: and at even there was upon the tabernacle as it were the appearance of fire, until the morning. 16 So it was alway: the cloud covered it by day, and the appearance of fire by night. 17 And when the cloud was taken up from the tabernacle, then after that the children of Israel journeyed: and in the place where the cloud abode, there the children of Israel pitched their tents. ... 21 And so it was, when the cloud abode from even unto the morning, and that the cloud was taken up in the morning, then they journeyed: whether it was by day or by night that the cloud was taken up, they journeyed. 22 Or whether it were two days, or a month, or a year, that the cloud tarried upon the tabernacle, remaining thereon, the children of Israel abode in their tents, and journeyed not: but when it was taken up, they journeyed.**

There is some disagreement about how long this cloud would remain with them. Some say until they came to the river the second time with Joshua and the Ark of the Covenant lead them into the Promised Land. Others say only until Aaron's death. Notice the following from Adam Clark.

Neither Jews nor Gentiles are agreed how long the cloud continued with the Israelites. It is very probable that it first visited them at Succoth, if it did not accompany them from Rameses; and that it continued with them till they came to the river Jordan, to pass over opposite to Jericho, for after that it appears that the ark alone was their guide, as it always marched at their head. See Jos 3:10-11, etc. But others think that it went no farther with them than Mount Hor, and never appeared after the death of Aaron. We may safely assert that while it was indispensably necessary it continued with them, when it was not so it was removed. But it is worthy of remark that the ark of the covenant became its substitute. *Clarke*

At this point in time they are making their way to the river of Jordan

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for their first opportunity to enter the land promised to Abraham and his descendants. God is leading them along by the hand of Moses.

With all these people the supply of food and water was enormous. May I say also that the murmuring was great as well? Notice with me our story in the Bible account.

## I- Murmuring Children:

*Exodus 16:1-3 And they took their journey from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came unto the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after their departing out of the land of Egypt. 2 And the whole congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness: 3 And the children of Israel said unto them, Would to God we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh pots, and when we did eat bread to the full; for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger.*

They are singing the same song that they had before about having it better in Egypt and wanting to be back there. They blamed Moses and Aaron for their predicament.

## II- Promise and Provision of Manna:

*Exodus 16:4 Then said the LORD unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no. 5 And it shall come to pass, that on the sixth day they shall prepare that which they bring in; and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily.*

God gives instruction to Moses to relay to the people about gathering the provision He was going to supply them with. They are instructed to gather two times as much on Friday to supply them on the Sabbath. God never intended for them to starve but wanted them to learn to trust Him and not themselves.

Let's let the Bible advance the story for us at this point.

*Exodus 16:6 And Moses and Aaron said unto all the children of Israel, At even, then ye shall know that the LORD hath brought you out from the land of Egypt: 7 And in the morning, then ye shall see the glory of the LORD; for that he heareth your murmurings against the LORD: and what are we, that ye murmur against us? 8 And Moses said, This shall be, when the LORD shall give you in the evening flesh to eat, and in the morning bread to the full; for that the LORD heareth your murmurings which ye murmur against him: and what are we? your murmurings are not against us, but against the LORD. 9 And Moses spake unto Aaron, Say unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, Come near before the LORD: for he hath heard your murmurings. 10 And it came to pass,*



Coordinates:

*Exodus 16:1-22; 31-36; 14:1-7*

Sights to See:

- 1- God wants us to learn to trust Him as we journey through life.
- 2- God's provision still is provided by His hand day by day.
- 3- The natural man has a tendency to complain no matter the situation.
- 4- Jesus is the Bread of Life that supplies our spiritual needs and nourishment.
- 5- The water from the rock was a supernatural event that provided for Israel.
- 6- Christ is the Rock of our salvation, our hope and our anchor.
- 7- The greatest need of humanity is pictured for us in the bread and water provided for Israel in the wilderness that graphically portrays Christ.
- 8- Thank God for the Bread and Water of Life.



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as Aaron spake unto the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and, behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. 11 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 12 I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel: speak unto them, saying, At even ye shall eat flesh, and in the morning ye shall be filled with bread; and ye shall know that I am the LORD your God. 13 And it came to pass, that at even the quails came up, and covered the camp: and in the morning the dew lay round about the host. 14 And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness there lay a small round thing, as small as the hoar frost on the ground. 15 And when the children of Israel saw it, they said one to another, It is manna: for they wist not what it was. And Moses said unto them, This is the bread which the LORD hath given you to eat. 16 This is the thing which the LORD hath commanded, Gather of it every man according to his eating, an omer for every man, according to the number of your persons; take ye every man for them which are in his tents. 17 And the children of Israel did so, and gathered, some more, some less.

The provision of God lay about them each day as they awoke. They were charged with gathering what they needed. This reminds us that God's provision is from day to day. They had to learn to trust Him each day.

**Exodus 16:18** And when they did mete it with an omer, he that gathered much had nothing over, and he that gathered little had no lack; they gathered every man according to his eating.

The provision was enough for all to have and lack nothing. Notice however, they did not trust Moses when he told them to not try to save some of it.

**Exodus 16:19** And Moses said, Let no man leave of it till the morning. 20 Notwithstanding they hearkened not unto Moses; but some of them left of it until the morning, and it bred worms, and stank: and Moses was wroth with them. 21 And they gathered it every morning, every man according to his eating: and when the sun waxed hot, it melted. 22 And it came to pass, that on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for one man: and all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses.

God put in place a mechanism that forced them to trust Him each day. If they tried to horde it up it spoiled and was wormy. Beside why have rotten bread when you can have a fresh loaf each day. The provision of the Sabbath day was preparation for the giving of the Sabbath to Israel for a day to keep.

### III- Bread of Life:

The fleshing out of the purpose and picture of the bread in the wilderness if wrapped up in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life. **John 6:32-35** Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. 33 For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world. 34 Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread. 35 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

