

## Psalm 78

“The Food of Their Fancy”

### 1 Corinthians 10:1-6 (ASV)

“For I would not, brethren, have you ignorant, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; and were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; ***and did all eat the same spiritual food***; and did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of a spiritual rock that followed them: and the rock was Christ. **Howbeit with most of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness. (Their bodies were scattered in the wilderness. NKJV)** Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.”

### Numbers 11:4-6

“And the mixed multitude that was among them lusted exceedingly: and the children of Israel also wept again, and said, Who shall give us flesh to eat? We remember the fish, which we did eat in Egypt for nought; the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlic: but now our soul is dried away; there is ***nothing at all save this manna to look upon.***”

### The Food Of Their Fancy/Desires

- **Exodus 16:3**, “*And the children of Israel said to them, ‘Oh, that we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and when we ate bread to the full!’*”
- God had provided for them; to this time, they had manna, and God had provided quail, but they longed for more than just the simple way in which God had fed them.
- (Matthew 6:31-32)

### The “Food” of OUR Desire

- There are things that we had to leave behind in our deliverance from bondage, the sin in our life. Do we long for those things?
- Israel left behind pots of meat and cucumbers and onions and melons and garlic!
- We left behind (**1 Corinthians 6:9-11**) ~*Fornication, Idolatry, Adultery, Homosexuality, Thievery, Covetousness, Drunkenness, Reviling, Extorting ... and such were some of you ...*

### The “Food” of OUR Desire

- 2 Timothy 3:1-5 (ASV), “But know this, that in the last days grievous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, haughty, railers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, implacable, slanderers, without self-control, fierce, no lovers of good, traitors, headstrong, puffed up, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God; ***holding a form of godliness, but having denied the power thereof*** from these also turn away.”

### ... But Denying Its Power

- 2 Timothy 3:5, *"having a form of godliness but denying its power."*
- This is what Israel demonstrates for us in this lesson!
- Psalms 78:19-20
- ***Can God ...?***
- Numbers 11:18-23, *"Has the Lord's arm been shortened?"*

### Thankfulness Is Important

- Romans 1:21 (NKJV), *"although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened."*
- Psalms 23 counters that mindset (*What can God provide?*)
  - *"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want."*

### The Battle For Our Minds

- James 4:1-4
- James 1:4-8 (13, 17-18)
- Jesus and Paul give us examples of persistent faithfulness in God's ability to hear our prayer and provide sufficiently for our needs.
  - Mark 14:34-41
  - 2 Corinthians 12:7-10
    - Could this response be said of Israel in the wilderness?
    - *"My grace is sufficient for you."*

### No Trust in God's Salvation

- Psalms 78:21-25
- Even though he satisfied their needs with manna, "bread from heaven;" this was not sufficient for them.
- John 6:30-36
  - God has given us the True bread of Heaven in the form of Jesus. And how do the people respond still? Is the world satisfied with being fed bread from heaven in what Jesus brought and offered to all mankind?

### *He gave them their desire.*

- **Psalms 78:29-31**
- Numbers 11:31-34
- Whether it is 50 pounds or 450 gallons worth, they gathered **FAR MORE** than could be eaten, not trusting the Lord when He said they would be fed.
- *They yielded to their cravings (Numbers 11:34)*
- James 1:14, *"But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death."*

### *In spite of this they still sinned ...*

- **Psalms 78:31-33**
  - He slew them and, *"In spite of this they still sinned, and did not believe in His wondrous works. Therefore their days He consumed in futility, and their years in fear."*
- Matthew 13:57-58
- **1 Timothy 6:3-9**, *"Now godliness with contentment IS great gain ... And having food and clothing with these we shall be content."*

## Conclusion

- God has given us an opportunity to have great gain in this life and escape the life of futility that Israel suffered in their unbelief.
- **Ecclesiastes 12:13-14**, *“Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man’s all. For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil.”*