

Doctrine of Manna

1. Manna refers to a delightful food given to the nation of Israel by God to sustain them during their wilderness dessert.
 - *Exodus 16:15 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.*

2. In as far as manna refers to Christ who is the Bread of Heaven there is a wonderful analogy. In grace God has given us His Son to be our Savior and Sustainer of life.
 - *John 6:32 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. 36 But I said unto you, That ye also have seen me, and believe not. 37 All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.*

3. The taste of the manna was sweet like honey.
 - *Exodus 16:31 And the house of Israel called the name thereof Manna: and it was like coriander seed, white; and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey.*

4. The Word of God is like manna in this regard, it is sweet to the taste.
 - *Psalms 119:103 How sweet are thy words unto my taste! Yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!*

5. God wanted the children of Israel to always remember His divine provision of manna.
 - *Exodus 16:33 And Moses said unto Aaron, Take a pot, and put an omer full of manna therein, and lay it up before the LORD, to be kept for your generations.*

6. God wants His children to always remember the doctrines of divine grace.
 - *Psalms 119:11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.*

7. Manna sustained the children of Israel during their wilderness journey.
 - *Exodus 16:35 And the children of Israel did eat manna forty years, until they came to a land inhabited; they did eat manna, until they came unto the borders of the land of Canaan.*

8. The Bread of Heaven and the Word of God will sustain the Christian during their pilgrimage on earth.
 - *Psalm 119:165 Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them. 166 LORD, I have hoped for thy salvation, and done thy commandments. 167 My soul hath kept thy testimonies; and I love them exceedingly. 168 I have kept thy precepts and thy testimonies: for all my ways are before thee.*

9. Whether or not the people continued to appreciate the divine gift of manna depended upon the heart of the people. The time came when the heart of the people came to hate God's provisions.
 - *Numbers 11:6 But our soul is dried away: there is nothing at all, beside this manna, before our eyes.*

10. Whether or not the Word of God is loved or hated depends upon the heart's attitude towards it.
 - *Psalm 119:159 Consider how I love thy precepts: quicken me, O LORD, according to thy lovingkindness. 160 Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.*

11. Prior to Israel receiving the manna from God He humbled them and caused them to be hungry.
 - *Deuteronomy 8:3 And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.*

12. Sometimes the Lord will cause people to want His Word by causing there to be a famine of spiritual teaching.
 - *Amos 8:11 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD:*

13. Despite their ingratitude, God continued to provide spiritual nourishment for His people.
 - *Nehemiah 9:20 Thou gavest also thy good spirit to instruct them, and withheldest not thy manna from their mouth, and gavest them water for their thirst.*

14. Though the physical manna of the wilderness did not give eternal life, Christ as the true Bread of Heaven can give eternal life.
 - *John 6:31 Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat.*

- *John 6:49 Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead.*
- *John 6:58 This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live forever.*

15. To be able to eat of the hidden manna was to enjoy the blessings of the reign of the Messiah.

- *Revelation 2:17 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.*