

*"And the Manna ceased on the morrow after they had eaten of the old corn of the land; neither had the children of Israel Manna any more; but They Did Eat Of The Fruit Of The Land of Canaan that year." Joshua 5:12 KJV*



Israel's history and the believer's walk of Faith have an interesting parallel. We've often heard the "daily Manna" compared to the believer's daily portion of God's Word, but notice the phrase; "And the Manna ceased on the morrow." The Promised Land does not symbolize Heaven, symbolizes the Victorious Christian Walk. Israel entered Canaan as conquerors for God told them He was preparing the way. "I will send my fear before thee, and will destroy all the people to whom thou shalt come. I will send hornets before thee, which shall drive [them] out from before thee. I will not drive them out from before thee in one year; lest the land become desolate, and the beast of the field multiply against thee. By little and little I will drive them out from before thee, until thou be increased, and inherit the land." We are "more than conquerors through Christ." Jesus Asked His Disciples, "Whom say ye that I Am?" Peter answered, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of The Living God." Jesus answered, "Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." The ROCK Christ Referred to Was Himself, "The Son of the Living God!" He Promised, "I Am Come That they might Have Life, and That they might Have It More Abundantly." Israel's wilderness wanderings represent the process of God's Word purging unbelief. A person can be saved, but still live in unbelief if they fail to grow in Faith. Unbelief keeps you from "Life more abundant." Peter, climbing over the gunwale to tread the sea, looked at the storm, and sank. Israel looked at Canaan's giants and spent another forty years in the desert. Remember the Savior's rebuke? "O thou of little Faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?" Trusting circumstance more than God brings "little Faith. The old corn of the land," I believe, represents your early studies in God's Word, or perhaps the writings of others. There is sustenance in them, but at best it's not a meal, it's leftovers; It is but little sustenance; a helpful reference at times to perhaps a direction of thought, but in the final analysis, it is "old corn." Believers all have the same Textbook and Teacher. Canaan flowed "with milk and honey," but it still had to be gathered. It didn't magically sustain them. It had to be gathered, prepared, and eaten. "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth." Devotionals, like this one are a great start, but are just an appetizer or snack. Snacks are great when needed, but you can't live on them and stay healthy! Why settle for a dry crust of bread when a seven course meal awaits you?

The Word of God sustains the soul,  
Dissolving waves that round us roll,  
Transforming saints to conquerors,  
Who follow their Deliverer! –CGP

Sustenance begins with gathering, but it still has to be prepared, chewed, and swallowed. "Thy Words were found, and I did eat Them; and Thy Word Was Unto me the Joy and rejoicing of mine heart: How Sweet Are Thy Words Unto my taste! Yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!" Victories and failures in the land of "Life more abundant" are directly related to our obedience. Obedience requires Knowledge. "The Fear of the Lord Is the beginning of Knowledge [and] Wisdom." Gather "the fruit of the land" or be without food and have no strength. Don't be afraid to cross the Jordan and gather the "milk and honey" of the "Promised Land." Meditation empowers a believer's Faith "abundantly." Jesus Said, "I Am Come That they might have Life...More Abundantly.' Have not I Commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God Is With thee whithersoever thou goest."

*"This Book of the Law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate Therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to All That Is Written Therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success." Joshua 1:8 KJV*