

xodus 16

Verses 1-3

Then they set out from Elim, and all the congregation of the sons of Israel came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after their departure from the land of Egypt. ² The whole congregation of the sons of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³ The sons of Israel said to them, “Would that we had died by the Lord’s hand in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat, when we ate bread to the full; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

The wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai

See Map 1605



On the 15th day of the 2nd month after their departure from the land of Egypt

Two months after they left Egypt

See chart 1610

Exodus	Event	Year 1 - 1446	Place
12:2	New Calendar	1-1-01	Egypt
12:3	Select a lamb	1-10-01	Egypt
12:37	The Exodus from Egypt	1-15-01	Rameses
14:21-22	Crossing of the Red Sea		Red Sea
15:23	Bitter water		Marah
15:27	12 springs and 70 palm trees		Elim
16:1	Manna and quail	3-15-01	The Desert of Sin
17:1	no water, Amalekites defeated		Rephidim
18	Judges appointed		Near the Mountain of God
19:1	Camped in front of the mountain	4th month	The Desert of Sinai
20	The ten commandments		The Desert of Sinai
21-23	Laws and regulations		The Desert of Sinai
24	Covenant confirmed	40 days and nights	The Desert of Sinai
25-31	Tabernacle envisioned		The Desert of Sinai
32	Golden Calf	Month 5 or 6	The Desert of Sinai
34	New stone tablets	Month 6 or 7	The Desert of Sinai
36-39	Time to Build the Tabernacle	5 to 6 months	The Desert of Sinai
Exodus	Event	Year 2 - 1445	Place
40:1	Set up the Tabernacle	1-1-02	The Desert of Sinai

The whole congregation murmured against Moses and against Aaron

This was the 3rd time that Israel had murmured since they left Egypt

The other two times were at the following places:

1. The Red Sea crossing Exodus 14:10-12
2. Bitter water at Marah Exodus 15:24

Would we had died by the hand of Jehovah in the land of Egypt

Many readers have cried barrels of tears over their exaggeration. ☺

When we sat by the pots of meat, when we ate bread to the full

It had only been two months since they left Egypt with large herds of livestock.

And they still had herds because they are mentioned in the next chapter

See Exodus 17:3

Verses 4-8

⁴ Then the Lord said to Moses, “Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a day’s portion every day, that I may test them, whether or not they will walk in My instruction. ⁵ On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily.” ⁶ So Moses and Aaron said to all the sons of Israel, “At evening you will know that the Lord has brought you out of the land of Egypt; ⁷ and in the morning you will see the glory of the Lord, for He hears your grumbings against the Lord; and what are we, that you grumble against us?” ⁸ Moses said, “*This will happen* when the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening, and bread to the full in the morning; for the Lord hears your grumbings which you grumble against Him. And what are we? Your grumbings are not against us but against the Lord.”

The people shall go out and gather a day’s portion every day

By gathering only one day's ration, God could test Israel to see if they would trust him to provide on a daily basis and if they would obey his rules.

On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily

Moses and Aaron told the people about gathering twice as much on day 6 but they did not explain why at this point in time

At evening you will know that the Lord has brought you out of the land of Egypt and in the morning you will see the glory of the Lord

The Lord will give them meat in the evening and bread in the morning

Your grumblings are not against us but against the Lord

The sons of Israel said Moses and Aaron brought them out into the wilderness to kill the whole assembly with hunger. Moses says, No, God brought you out.

Yes, Moses and Aaron were the leaders but Israel being freed from Egypt was an act of God and God alone

Verses 9-12

⁹ Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to all the congregation of the sons of Israel, ‘Come near before the Lord, for He has heard your grumblings.’” ¹⁰ It came about as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the sons of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. ¹¹ And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ¹² “I have heard the grumblings of the sons of Israel; speak to them, saying, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread; and you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

Come near before the Lord, for He has heard your grumblings

If someone said that to you, would you expect good or bad news?

Sure, they were hungry, but how about having a little faith

They had walked thru the Red Sea on dry ground just 2 months ago

They looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud.

God mentions their grumblings but treats them with kindness

There was no rebuke for their behavior at this point in time

At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread; and you shall know that I am the Lord your God

Feeding 3 million people is not a problem for the only true God

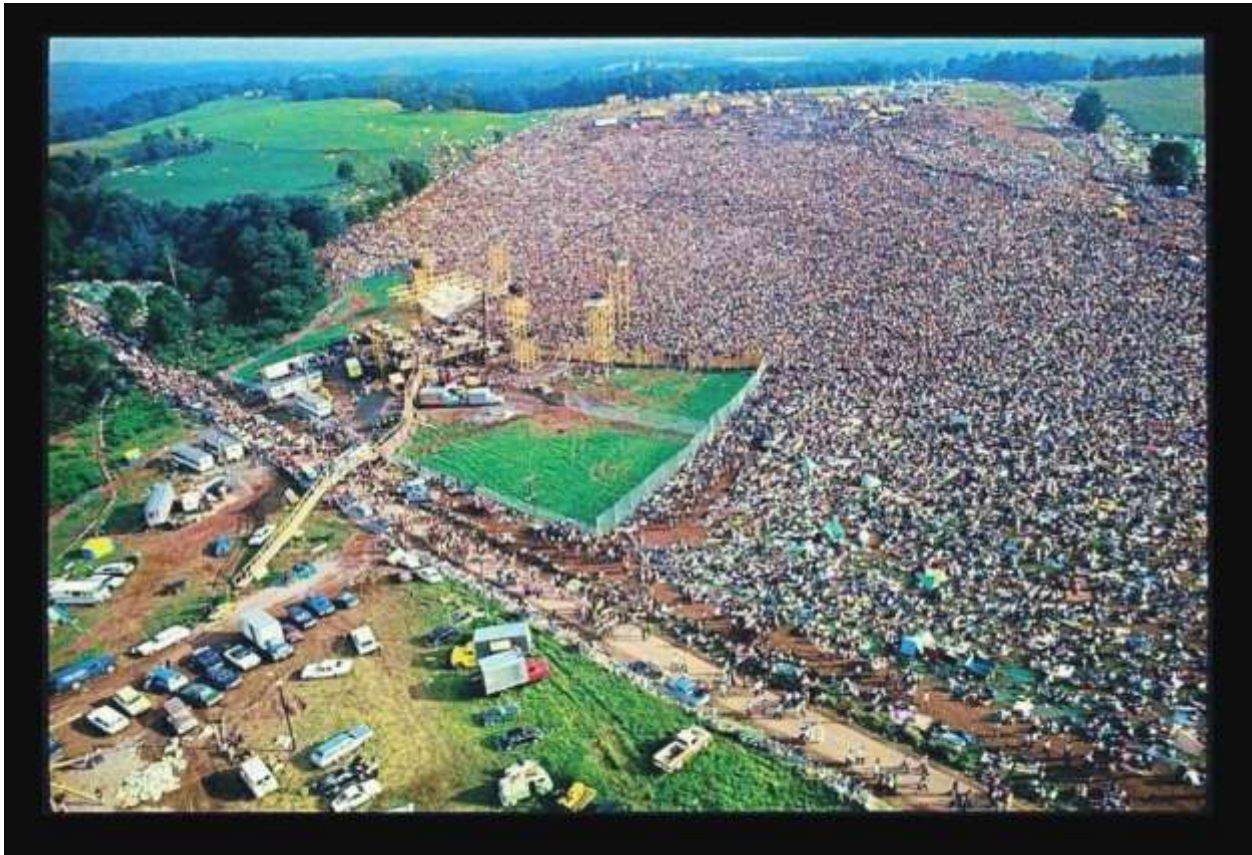
Verses 13-15

¹³ So it came about at evening that the quails came up and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. ¹⁴ When the layer of dew evaporated, behold, on the surface of the wilderness there was a fine flake-like thing, fine as the frost on the ground. ¹⁵ When the sons of Israel saw *it*, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, “It is the bread which the Lord has given you to eat.

13 So it came about at evening that the quails came up and covered the camp

The quail must have come in huge numbers considering the number of people

See pic 1615



This is a crowd of 400,000 at Woodstock in 1969. The people of Israel were 6 times this size. Again, not a problem for God

In the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew evaporated, behold, on the surface of the wilderness there was a fine flake-like thing, fine as the frost on the ground.

This manna was a recurring miracle

There is no natural explanation that can explain it

It appeared on God's promise

It appeared 6 days a week but not on the Sabbaths

It would spoil if kept till the next day, except if it was a Sabbath

It feed 3 million people per day

It disappeared when they entered Canaan 40 years later

And Moses said to them, “It is the bread which the Lord has given you to eat.

Interestingly, it could be baked or boiled (see verse 23)

Verses 16-21

¹⁶ This is what the Lord has commanded, ‘Gather of it every man as much as he should eat; you shall take an omer apiece according to the number of persons each of you has in his tent.’” ¹⁷ The sons of Israel did so, and *some* gathered much and *some* little. ¹⁸ When they measured it with an omer, he who had gathered much had no excess, and he who had gathered little had no lack; every man gathered as much as he should eat. ¹⁹ Moses said to them, “Let no man leave any of it until morning.” ²⁰ But they did not listen to Moses, and some left part of it until morning, and it bred worms and became foul; and Moses was angry with them. ²¹ They gathered it morning by morning, every man as much as he should eat; but when the sun grew hot, it would melt.

You shall take an omer for each person

There was no need for hoarding

¹⁹ Moses said to them, “Let no man leave any of it until morning.” ²⁰ But they did not listen to Moses, and some left part of it until morning, and it bred worms and became foul

We don't know how many disobeyed....it just says some

They gathered it morning by morning, every man as much as he should eat; but when the sun grew hot, it would melt.

Give us this day our daily bread.

Verses 22-26

²² Now on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for each one. When all the leaders of the congregation came and told Moses, ²³ then he said to them, “This is what the Lord meant: Tomorrow is a Sabbath observance, a holy Sabbath to the Lord. Bake what you will bake and boil what you will boil, and all that is left over put aside to be kept until morning.” ²⁴ So they put it aside until morning, as Moses had ordered, and it did not become foul nor was there any worm in it. ²⁵ Moses said, “Eat it today, for today is a Sabbath to the Lord; today you will not find it in the field. ²⁶ Six days you shall gather it, but on the seventh day, *the Sabbath*, there will be none.”

Now on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread

The people did as Moses had instructed but they didn't know why they were to collect twice as much on Friday

So the rulers of the people went to Moses for an explanation

Tomorrow is a Sabbath observance

The first occurrence of the word "Sabbath" is right here in Exodus 16:23

The reason for keeping the Sabbath was their deliverance from slavery

See Deuteronomy 5:15

Six days you shall gather it, but on the seventh day, *the Sabbath*, there will be none

The double portion on day six would last two days

This way the people could observe the Sabbath

Verses 27-30

²⁷ It came about on the seventh day that some of the people went out to gather, but they found none. ²⁸ Then the Lord said to Moses, “How long do you refuse to keep My commandments and My instructions? ²⁹ See, the Lord has given you the Sabbath; therefore He gives you bread for two days on the sixth day. Remain every man in his place; let no man go out of his place on the seventh day.” ³⁰ So the people rested on the seventh day.

It came about on the seventh day that some of the people went out to gather, but they found none

Again we have no idea how many broke the Sabbath

Interestingly, they were rebuked but no discipline was handed out

Then the Lord said to Moses, “How long do you refuse to keep My commandments and My instructions?”

We know from history that it would be for about 1,500 years

From 1446 BC to 28 AD

The only reason the breaking of the O.T. Law stopped was because Christ's death did away with the Law and a New Covenant was instituted.

Let no man go out of his place on the seventh day

The Sabbath was meant to be a day of rest

Verses 31-36

³¹ The house of Israel named it manna, and it was like coriander seed, white, and its taste was like wafers with honey. ³² Then Moses said, “This is what the Lord has commanded, ‘Let an omerful of it be kept throughout your generations, that they may see the bread that I fed you in the wilderness, when I brought you out of the land of Egypt.’” ³³ Moses said to Aaron, “Take a jar and put a full omer of manna in it, and place it before the Lord to be kept throughout your generations.” ³⁴ As the Lord commanded Moses, so Aaron placed it before the Testimony, to be kept. ³⁵ The sons of Israel ate the manna forty years, until they came to an inhabited land; they ate the manna until they came to the border of the land of Canaan. ³⁶ (Now an omer is a tenth of an ephah.)

It was like coriander seed, white, and its taste was like wafers with honey

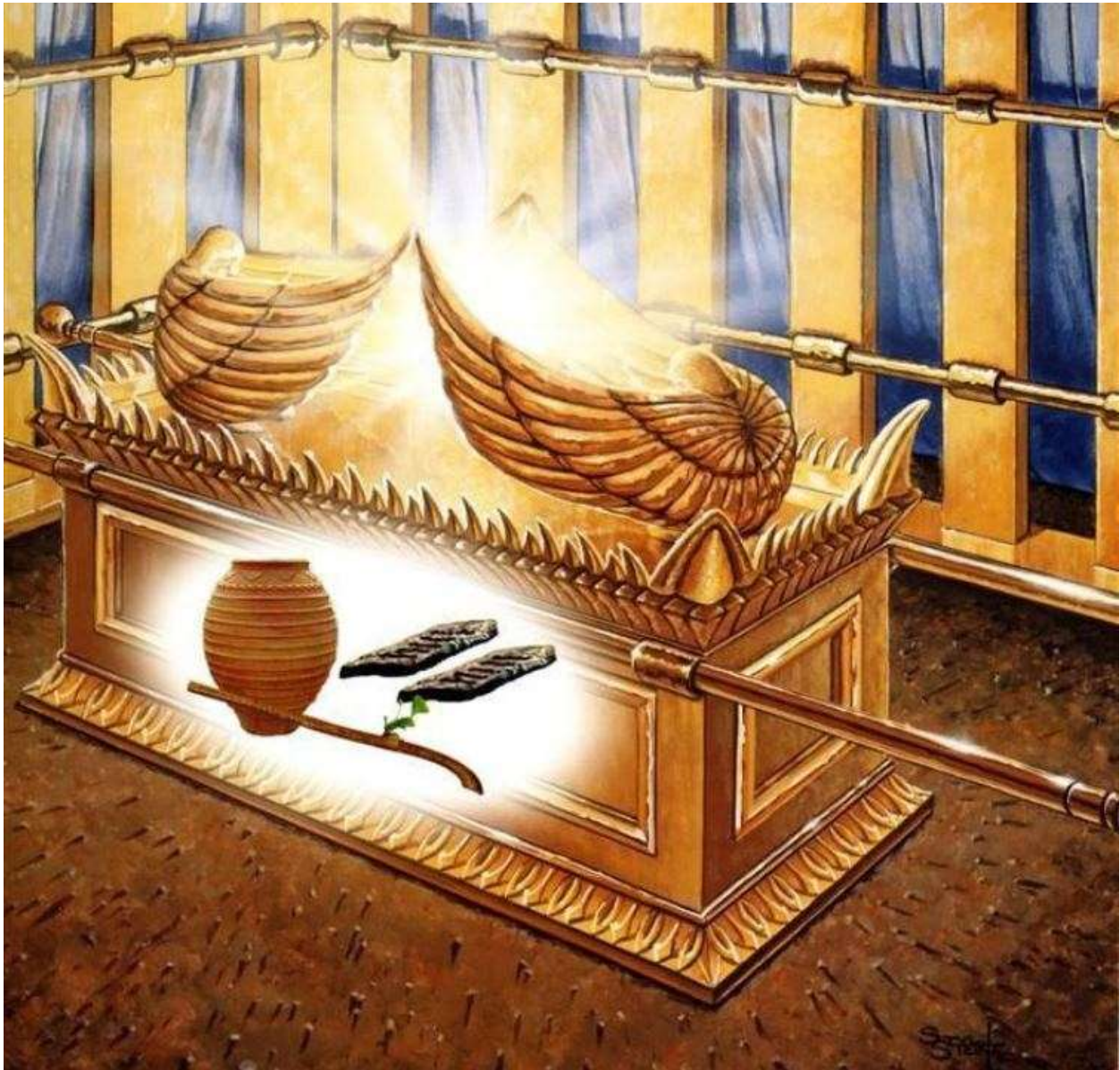
Coriander Seeds are dried seed or fruit that has a sweet taste with a touch of citrus

See pic 1620



Moses said to Aaron, “Take a jar and put an omerful of manna in it, and place it before the Lord to be kept throughout your generations

See Pic 1625



The ark will not be made for another 6 to 8 months but the manna was put in a jar right then and would later be put in the ark

See Hebrews 9:4

They ate the manna until they came to the border of the land of Canaan

The manna started after they had been in the wilderness for 2 months

It will stop appearing 40 years later in 1406 BC

Previously, we talked about how events in the Old Testament were a physical representation of a spiritual reality in the New Testament

The 1st one was in chapter 12

1. At the 1st Passover the blood of the lamb saved the 1st born from physical death and in the New Testament the blood of Christ saved us from spiritual death

The 2nd one is here in chapter 16

2. Here God gives the people manna, bread from heaven, as physical food and in the New Testament God gave us Christ, as spiritual food from heaven.

See John 6:26-35

The physical comes first and then the spiritual

See 1 Cor. 15:42-49