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God's provision

Luke 12:24

"Look at the birds of the sky that neither sow nor reap, and have no barn or storehouse, yet God feeds them. How much more valuable you are than the birds!"

Matthew 6:25-26

"So I tell you, don't worry about your life what you will eat or drink, or what you will wear for your body. Isn't life more than food? Isn't your body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the sky that neither sow nor reap, nor store up in barns, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. You are not so much more valuable than birds!"

Philippians 4:19

"Our God shall supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

These verses emphasize God's provision and care, instructing people not to worry too much about material life, but to trust God to provide for them. They express believers' trust and gratitude to God. In the Christian faith, God is seen as a fatherly provider who cares for every life he creates.

Let us pray together

Father, we thank you for your timely provision and grace every day.

You are the creator of the universe, endowed with infinite wisdom and compassion.

We thank you for giving us life and being to experience this beautiful world.

O God, grant us peace and relief,

Lead us to find the way of liberation when we are confused and depressed,

so that we can see the hope of light in darkness,
Give us strength and courage when we are weak and tired.
Every day you give us our daily needs of food, water and shelter,
Allowing us to survive and grow. You have cared for us with endless love,
Let us find support in times of trouble and happiness in times of joy.
We know that your supply far exceeds our needs and your mercy and grace never fails.
In our tiny existence, you have been silently taking care of us.
Thank you for giving us the opportunity to share your love and care with others.
God, may you give us endless love and tolerance,
enabling us to treat the faults of others with compassion,
May we spread love and hope and help those in need,
In the light of love, let peace and harmony spread across the globe.
In this world, we hope we can also be your loving representatives, spreading love and hope to others.
Please guide our steps so that we can walk on the path of righteousness and love.
Help us understand the needs of others and respond with compassion and love.
Father, please continue to protect us so that we can firmly rely on your strength.
When we need strength to face challenges, may your hand support us so that we will not fall.
May your will be manifested in our lives so that we can be witnesses to your glory.
We give you all glory and praise your holy name forever.
Thank you for hearing our prayers.
We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

Exodus CHAPTER 16

Ex. 16:1 The whole Israelite community set out from Elim and came to the Desert of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had come out of Egypt.

Ex. 16:2 In the desert the whole community grumbled against Moses and Aaron.

Ex. 16:3 The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the LORD’s hand in Egypt! There we sat round pots of meat and ate all the food we wanted, but you have brought us out into this desert to starve this entire assembly to death.”

Ex. 16:4 Then the LORD said to Moses, “I will rain down bread from heaven for you. The people are to go out each day and gather enough for that day. In this way I will test them and see whether they will follow my instructions.

Ex. 16:5 On the sixth day they are to prepare what they bring in, and that is to be twice as much as they gather on the other days.”

Ex. 16:6 So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you will know that it was the LORD who brought you out of Egypt,

Ex. 16:7 and in the morning you will see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your grumbling against him. Who are we, that you should grumble against us?”

Ex. 16:8 Moses also said, “You will know that it was the LORD when he gives you meat to eat in the evening and all the bread you want in the morning, because he has heard your grumbling against him. Who are we? You are not grumbling against us, but against the LORD.”

Ex. 16:9 Then Moses told Aaron, “Say to the entire Israelite community, ‘Come before the LORD, for he has heard your grumbling.’”

Ex. 16:10 While Aaron was speaking to the whole Israelite community, they looked towards the desert, and there was the glory of the LORD appearing in the cloud.

Ex. 16:11 The LORD said to Moses,

Ex. 16:12 “I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites. Tell them, ‘At twilight you will eat meat, and in the morning you will be filled with bread. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God.’”

Ex. 16:13 That evening quail came and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp.

Ex. 16:14 When the dew was gone, thin flakes like frost on the ground appeared on the desert floor.

Ex. 16:15 When the Israelites saw it, they said to each other, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread the LORD has given you to eat.

Ex. 16:16 This is what the LORD has commanded: ‘Each one is to gather as much as he needs. Take an omer for each person you have in your tent.’”

Ex. 16:17 The Israelites did as they were told; some gathered much, some little.

Ex. 16:18 And when they measured it by the omer, he who gathered much did not have too much, and he who gathered little did not have too little. Each one gathered as much as he needed.

Ex. 16:19 Then Moses said to them, “No-one is to keep any of it until morning.”

Ex. 16:20 However, some of them paid no attention to Moses; they kept part of it until morning, but it was full of maggots and began to smell. So Moses was angry with them.

Ex. 16:21 Each morning everyone gathered as much as he needed, and when the sun grew hot, it melted away.

Ex. 16:22 On the sixth day, they gathered twice as much — two omers for each person — and the leaders of the community came

and reported this to Moses.

Ex. 16:23 He said to them, “This is what the LORD commanded:

‘Tomorrow is to be a day of rest, a holy Sabbath to the LORD. So bake what you want to bake and boil what you want to boil. Save whatever is left and keep it until morning.’”

Ex. 16:24 So they saved it until morning, as Moses commanded, and it did not stink or get maggots in it.

Ex. 16:25 “Eat it today,” Moses said, “because today is a Sabbath to the LORD. You will not find any of it on the ground today.

Ex. 16:26 Six days you are to gather it, but on the seventh day, the Sabbath, there will not be any.”

Ex. 16:27 Nevertheless, some of the people went out on the seventh day to gather it, but they found none.

Ex. 16:28 Then the LORD said to Moses, “How long will you refuse to keep my commands and my instructions?

Ex. 16:29 Bear in mind that the LORD has given you the Sabbath; that is why on the sixth day he gives you bread for two days.

Everyone is to stay where he is on the seventh day; no-one is to go out.”

Ex. 16:30 So the people rested on the seventh day.

Ex. 16:31 The people of Israel called the bread manna. It was white like coriander seed and tasted like wafers made with honey.

Ex. 16:32 Moses said, “This is what the LORD has commanded: ‘Take an omer of manna and keep it for the generations to come, so they can see the bread I gave you to eat in the desert when I brought you out of Egypt.’”

Ex. 16:33 So Moses said to Aaron, “Take a jar and put an omer of

manna in it. Then place it before the LORD to be kept for the generations to come.”

Ex. 16:34 As the LORD commanded Moses, Aaron put the manna in front of the Testimony, that it might be kept.

Ex. 16:35 The Israelites ate manna for forty years, until they came to a land that was settled; they ate manna until they reached the border of Canaan.

Ex. 16:36 (An omer is one tenth of an ephah.)

Chapter 16 of Exodus in the Bible tells the story of how God provided manna and quail for the Israelites in the wilderness.

The Israelites complain about being hungry, so God sends them manna, a type of bread that falls from heaven every morning. He also provides quail for them to eat in the evening. God commands the Israelites to gather enough manna for each day, with the exception of the day before the Sabbath, when they are to gather enough for two days. However, some of the Israelites try to gather more than they need, but the extra manna spoils and becomes worm-infested.

Moses explains that the manna is a sign of God's provision for His people and a test of their obedience. He commands the people to keep the Sabbath holy, and they are to gather enough manna for two days before the Sabbath, so that they do not need to work on that day.

The chapter ends with the Israelites journeying to a place called Rephidim, where they face a new challenge: a lack of water. The people once again grumble and complain, but God instructs Moses to strike a rock with his staff, and water miraculously flows out of the rock, providing for the people's needs.

The key verses Chapter 16 of Exodus in the Bible

Exodus chapter 16 describes how God provided manna and quail for the Israelites to eat during their journey in the wilderness. Here are some key verses from Exodus chapter 16:

1. "In the evening you will know that it was the Lord who brought you out of Egypt, and in the morning you will see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your grumbling against him" (Exodus 16:6-7): These verses indicate that God's provision of manna and quail was not only to sustain the Israelites, but also to demonstrate his power and care for his people.

2. "Then the Lord said to Moses, 'I will rain down bread from heaven for you. The people are to go out each day and gather enough for that day. In this way I will test them and see whether they will follow my instructions'" (Exodus 16:4): This verse explains how God

instructed the Israelites to gather manna each day, and highlights the purpose of this test of obedience and faith.

3. "So they gathered it every morning, each person according to their need. Then the sun grew hot and it melted away" (Exodus 16:21): This verse describes the practical details of how the Israelites collected the manna, and how it was a daily provision that could not be hoarded or stored.

4. "The Israelites ate manna forty years, until they came to a land that was settled; they ate manna until they reached the border of Canaan" (Exodus 16:35): This verse highlights the duration of God's provision of manna for the Israelites, and how it sustained them for their entire journey in the wilderness.

Overall, Exodus chapter 16 emphasizes God's provision and care for his people, while also testing their obedience and faith through the daily collection of manna. The chapter also sets the stage for the ongoing relationship between God and the Israelites during their wilderness journey.

Here's a reflection on Exodus chapter 16:

Exodus chapter 16 continues the narrative of the Israelites' journey through the wilderness after their deliverance from Egypt. In this chapter, the Israelites grumble against Moses and Aaron due to their lack of food, and God responds by providing them with manna and quail.

One of the central themes in this chapter is God's provision and faithfulness in the midst of uncertainty. The Israelites find themselves in a desert, devoid of food and resources, and they begin to complain and grumble. However, God hears their cries and responds by providing manna, a type of bread from heaven, and quail for them to eat. This miraculous provision sustains the Israelites throughout their time in the wilderness.

The provision of manna not only meets the physical needs of the Israelites but also serves as a test of their obedience and trust in God. They are instructed to gather only enough manna for each day, except on the sixth day when they are to gather twice as much to prepare for the Sabbath. This teaches them to depend on God's daily provision and to trust that He will provide for their needs.

Another important theme in this chapter is the call to trust and obey God's commands. The Israelites are given specific instructions regarding the gathering and consumption of the manna.

Some disobey and try to hoard the manna, but it spoils and becomes inedible. This highlights the importance of trusting in God's provision and following His instructions.

Reflecting on Exodus chapter 16, we can draw several lessons for our own lives. Firstly, it reminds us of God's faithfulness and provision in times of need. Just as God provided manna for the Israelites in the wilderness, He also provides for us in our daily lives. It may not always be in the form we expect, but God is faithful to meet our needs according to His perfect wisdom and timing.

Secondly, this chapter teaches us the importance of contentment and trust in God's provision. The Israelites' grumbling and desire for more food demonstrate a lack of trust and gratitude. In our own lives, we may also face moments of discontentment or a sense of scarcity. However, we are called to trust in God's provision and be content with what He has given us, knowing that He is faithful to provide for our needs.

Furthermore, Exodus chapter 16 emphasizes the significance of obedience and following God's instructions. The Israelites were given specific guidelines regarding the gathering and consumption of the manna, and those who disobeyed faced consequences. Similarly, in our own lives, obedience to God's commands and instructions is vital for our spiritual growth and well-being. It is through obedience that we align ourselves with God's will and experience the blessings He has in store for us.

In conclusion, Exodus chapter 16 highlights God's provision and faithfulness to the Israelites in the wilderness. It calls us to trust in God's daily provision, to be content with what He provides, and to faithfully follow His commands. By reflecting on these lessons, we can cultivate a heart of gratitude, deepen our trust in God's provision, and walk in obedience to His Word.