

How to Keep God's Presence in your Life Part 3

In our previous sections we spoke about what was inside the ark of the covenant, the three more things that were associated with God's presence according to **Hebrews 9:4**, **"and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant;"** therefore the following are the things that were associated with God's presence:

1. *The golden pot that had manna.*
2. *Aaron's rod that budded.*
3. *The tables of the covenant.*

We spoke about the tables of the covenant and about Aaron's rod that budded, and we will proceed now to speak about the golden pot that holded the manna:

The golden pot that had manna: When the people of God left Egypt under the leadership of Moses, the Lord led them into the desert where there was no food for them to eat. Therefore they grumbled against Moses and Aaron because they did not have food to eat: ***"1 And they took their journey from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came unto the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after their departing out of the land of Egypt. 2 And the whole congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness: 3 And the children of Israel said unto them, Would to God we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh pots, and when we did eat bread to the full; for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger."*** (Exodus 16:1-3 KJV) God heard them grumbling and decided to rain down to them bread from Heaven and send them quail to eat meat: ***"4 Then said the LORD unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no. 5 And it shall come to pass, that on the sixth day they shall prepare that which they bring in; and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily. 6 And Moses and Aaron said unto all the children of Israel, At even, then ye shall know that the LORD hath brought you out from the land of Egypt: 7 And in the morning, then ye shall see the glory of the LORD; for that he heareth your murmurings against the LORD: and what are we, that ye murmur against us? 8 And Moses said, This shall be, when the LORD shall give you in the evening flesh to eat, and in the morning bread to the full; for that the LORD heareth your murmurings which ye murmur against him: and what are we? your murmurings are not against us, but against the LORD. 9 And Moses spake unto Aaron, Say unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, Come near before the LORD: for he hath heard your murmurings. 10 And it came to pass, as Aaron spake unto the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and, behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. 11 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 12 I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel: speak unto them, saying, At even ye shall eat flesh, and in the morning ye shall be filled with bread; and ye shall know that I am the LORD your God. 13 And it came to pass, that at even the quails came up, and covered the camp: and in the morning the dew lay round about the host. 14 And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness there lay a small round thing, as small as the hoar frost on the ground. 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." (Exodus 16:4-15 KJV) The Israelites needed to eat to sustain their body and living to continue to serve God and walk the journey to reach the Promised Land. The Lord answered that need and He gave them the manna, the food that would sustain them and their families in their journey in the desert. They were saying about that bread, ***"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."*** The Hebrew Word for 'Manna' means 'what is it?' **Many times you have need and the Lord will answer and bring to you what you need, but you should recognize it and accept it.**

The Lord also gave them quails in answer to their grumbling and we know what had happened to them after they ate the meat, ***"32 And the people stood up all that day, and all that night, and all the next day, and they gathered the quails: he that gathered least gathered ten homers: and they spread them all abroad for themselves round about the camp. 33 And while the flesh was yet between their teeth, ere it was chewed, the wrath of the LORD was kindled against the people, and the LORD smote the people with a very great plague. 34 And he called the name of that place Kibrothhattaavah: because there they buried the people that lusted."*** (Numbers 11:32-34 KJV) **You might ask God and forced yourself on Him to give you certain things, and He may give you because you keep insisting, but you must know that what you ask is harmful to you. Many times we give our children things like chocolate, chips, candies, soft drinks, etc, because they like them, but these things are harmful and not helpful because they will close their appetite from eating vegetable and rice and meat that are essential for them to eat in order to grow.**

Even to the adult, bread or rice with vegetables and some meat will sustain and strengthen the heart of man to go on and do his daily work. Over eating of certain food like meat and fat will cause to them hypertension, cholesterol and heart diseases.

"16 This is the thing which the LORD hath commanded, Gather of it every man according to his eating, an omer for every man, according to the number of your persons; take ye every man for them which are in his tents." (Exodus 16:16 KJV) One Omer is equal to two liters, so God put a limit of how much each should collect and that was a guard against greed.

"17 And the children of Israel did so, and gathered, some more, some less. 18 And when they did mete it with an omer, he that gathered much had nothing over, and he that gathered little had no lack; they gathered every man according to his eating." (Exodus 16:17-18 KJV) So from this the Lord showed them that He was the one who was on control; even if you are greedy and will gather much God will not bless your greediness and makes you have too much. In the same way if you are a person who is content of what you have then God will bless it and multiply it, and finally what you have will not be too little. God wants you to be content and obedient to Him so His presence will stay with you: ***"6 But godliness with contentment is great gain."*** (1 Timothy 6:6 KJV)

"19 And Moses said, Let no man leave of it till the morning. 20 Notwithstanding they hearkened not unto Moses; but some of them left of it until the morning, and it bred worms, and stank; and Moses was wroth with them." (Exodus 16:19-20 KJV) They kept to the next day because they did not trust that God shall give them food in the next day. **What you read above does not tell you not to budget and save because the Scripture it teaches you to save. As**

well as the Scripture does teach you that even if you have saving, or money capital or big income that shall not replace God's presence in your life and to depend upon God who is the only person on earth who will feed you and satisfy you. God wants your eyes on Him and not on the people or even on what you have, *"15 The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season. 16 Thou openest thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing."* (Psalm 145:15-16 KJV) Because you may depend on people and even you may depend on yourself and on what you have but you will not be satisfied unless you receive them from God.

"14 And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness there lay a small round thing, as small as the hoar frost on the ground." (Exodus 16:14 KJV) The Israelites needed to gather and pick up the manna from the ground, so they needed to stoop and kneel down and pick up what they are going to eat from the soil. God intended to do that to humble them. *"19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return."* (Genesis 3:19 KJV)

"21 And they gathered it every morning, every man according to his eating: and when the sun waxed hot, it melted." (Exodus 16:21 KJV) They needed to wake up early every day to gather otherwise they will not find it. God was teaching them to be diligent and guarded them against laziness. In the same way God will send you your food but you need to be diligent, to wake up early and gather your needs.

"22 And it came to pass, that on the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for one man: and all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses. 23 And he said unto them, This is that which the LORD hath said, To morrow is the rest of the holy sabbath unto the LORD: bake that which ye will bake to day, and seethe that ye will seethe; and that which remaineth over lay up for you to be kept until the morning. 24 And they laid it up till the morning, as Moses bade: and it did not stink, neither was there any worm therein. 25 And Moses said, Eat that to day; for to day is a sabbath unto the LORD: to day ye shall not find it in the field." (Exodus 16:22-25 KJV) The pastoral care of Moses was even extended to instruct the people what to eat and what to prepare for their food. The responsibility of the church is to give instructions about the daily living of each and every one of the church members, so that God's presence will be there with us as individuals and as a church.

"26 Six days ye shall gather it; but on the seventh day, which is the sabbath, in it there shall be none." (Exodus 16:26 KJV) Six days you work but the seventh day is a rest day for your physical body and for your family and for you to gather with the other members of the church to worship Him together, to study His Word and to serve Him, *"2 And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. 3 And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made."* (Genesis 2:2-3 KJV) You will receive blessing if you keep the seventh's day rest.

"27 And it came to pass, that there went out some of the people on the seventh day for to gather, and they found none. 28 And the LORD said unto Moses, How long refuse ye to keep my commandments and my laws?" (Exodus 16:27-28 KJV) If you break the seventh's day rest then you are nullifying the importance of God's presence in your life. If you work more

and use the seventh day for overtime, then you will work and labor and you will find no fruit on what you labor. *"29 See, for that the LORD hath given you the sabbath, therefore he giveth you on the sixth day the bread of two days; abide ye 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."* (Exodus 16:29-30 KJV)

"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." (Exodus 16:31 KJV) As you endeavor to keep God's presence then your food will be sweet and your life will be peace.

"32 And Moses said, This is the thing which the LORD commandeth, Fill an omer of it to be kept for your generations; that they may see the bread wherewith I have fed you in the wilderness, when I brought you forth from the land of Egypt. 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. 34 As the LORD commanded Moses, so Aaron laid it up before the Testimony, to be kept. 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. 36 Now an omer is the tenth part of an ephah." (Exodus 16:32-35 KJV) *"12 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) The Lord commanded them to keep a jar of manna, not to preserve the manna but to remind them about the principles of how to keep and value God's presence in their lives in providing for them all their needs, and how to handle their provision to them.

My dear and beloved: *"2 And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no. 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."* (Deuteronomy 8:2-3 KJV) The Lord allows hardship in your life to teach you and to train you on principles of how to keep God's presence and value that in your life. Remember also when the Lord would bless you do not forget to live on the same principles that you were living when you were in need.

Let us now come to God, committing ourselves to the principles that we received in this message in order to keep His presence in our lives. Let us confess and renounce all our sin in order to reconcile with Him and bring His presence back to us.

Let us pray

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the Cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word that teaches me your ways and the principles of life that I need to follow as I walk with you. Lord thank you for all the teaching, the rebukes, the corrections, and the admonishments we received in this message.

Repent and renounce all your sins. Renounce your pride, arrogance and lack of humility. Repent and renounce your grumbling and murmuring, and repent of your fights and quarrels with those who are over you in the Lord, who disciplined you and taught you the Word of God. Repent of your ungratefulness. Repent of your laziness and your non willingness to wake up early and work. Repent of your greed. Repent of eating much and eating unhealthy food. Repent of breaking of the Sabbath, the day of rest and worship. Repent of trusting people, trusting material things and trusting yourself to meet your needs and not trusting God and obeying His Word, who can meet all your needs. Repent and renounce being yoked with non believers, having many friends, and wasting your time on games, News and Media. Repent and renounce your disobedience to God's Word and commands. Repent and renounce your lack of daily Bible reading and lack of prayers. Repent of doing your own will and plan. Repent of your non willingness to serve God and suffer for Him. Lord I repent, forgive me, I renounce the following sins _____ .

Lord I commit myself to the principles that we received in this message, of how to keep your presence in my life, and to trust you that you will provide all my needs. Lord I am committing myself to be diligent, working to earn my food and living, trusting you that as I obey your Word then you will provide for me all my daily needs. Lord I commit myself to be grateful and content to all what you had given to me. Lord I commit myself to be persevering during the trials that you allowed in my life. Lord I commit to you the following problem to solve it _____. Lord guide me and guard me to walk always in your ways and to value your presence in my life. Lord I am willing to serve you and suffer for your cause and purpose. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.

Lord thank you for my Brothers and Sisters who repented of their sins, and committed their lives to follow your Word and trusting you that you will provide all their needs. Lord do wonders and miracles in their lives, aid them and solve their problems to be aware of your presence in their lives. Lord continue to provide for them, making their lives good testimonies to others to follow you.

Lord help us as your church to continue to teach your Word and to proclaim your will to your people. Lord trusting you that you will continue to provide for our families, members and workers, and to continue to sustain us with healthy food to serve you. Lord refill us once again with your Holy Spirit, and lead us to evangelize and reach new people and serve them, to make new disciples and train new workers, planting new Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord prepare us for your coming to go with you when you come. Lord we pray for more people to get water baptized and receive the Holy Spirit baptism. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God', Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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