The Crisis of Hunger: The Two Great Sins of Israel: That of Grumbling and Disobedience (Unbelief)

Exodus 16: 01-15

I. The crisis of hunger

- a. The people reached the desert of Sin
- b. The people grumbled against God's servants
 - The reason:
 They had run out of food supplies
 - 2) The depth of their grumbling
 - Would rather have died in Egypt in one of God's plagues
 - Doubted God's goodness and care
- 2. God promised to meet the needs of His grumbling people
 - a. God would provide bread
 - b. God would, however, test their faith
 - 1) By charging them to gather bread every day for that day
 - By commanding that they gather twice as much bread on the sixth day
 - c. God would prove Himself
 - 1) In the evening the Lord would use His provision
 - 2) In the morning the LORD would prove His glory
 - 3) The reason:The people grumbled and complained against Him

- 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.
- 2 In the desert the whole community grumbled against Moses and Aaron.
- 3 The Israelites said to them,
 "If only we had died
 by the LORD's hand in Egypt!
 There we sat around 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."
- 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.
- 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."
- 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,
- 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?"

- d. God gave a warning:
 Grumbling is not against
 God's servants,
 but against God Himself
- e. God laid down the prerequisite for receiving the bread of God:
 The people had to come,
 to draw near God
 - The people obeyed:
 They looked to the cloud (symbolized God's presence)
 - 2) The results:The glory of the Lord shone in the cloud
- f. God restressed the facts
 - 1) He heard the people's grumblings
 - 2) He would meet their needs
 - 3) His purpose:
 That they might know
 that He is the LORD their God
- g. God fulfilled His promise
 - 1) God gave the meat He promised: The quail covered the camp
 - 2) God gave the bread He promised: The manna from heaven
 - The next morning thin flakes covered the ground
 - The Israelites called it manna, meaning "what is it":
 It was the bread promised by God

- 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."
- 9 Then Moses told Aaron,"Say to the entire Israelite community,'Come before the LORD,for he has heard your grumbling.'"
- 10 While Aaron was speaking to the whole Israelite community, they looked toward the desert, and there was the glory of the LORD appearing in the cloud.
- 11 The Lord spoke to Moses,
- 12 "I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites.
 Tell them,
 'At twlight you will eat meat,
 and in the morning
 you will be filled with bread.
 The you will know
 that I am the LORD your God."
- 13 That evening quail came and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp.
- 14 When the dew was gone, thin flakes like frost on the ground appeared on the desert floor.
- 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."