

Tuesday's Touch ...#17

...from Pastor Ed ...May 19, 2009

Daily Manna

(please read Exodus 16:14-21)

And He humbled you, and allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna ...that He might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of the LORD... Duet. 8:16

[LORD,] You also gave Your good Spirit to instruct them, and did not withhold Your manna from their mouth... Nehemiah 9:20

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat of the hidden manna. Rev. 2:17

We are absolutely dependent upon our Lord for the grace required to live each day for His glory and purpose. His mercies are new every morning (Lam. 3:22-23). His provision comes with a portion specifically measured for each child, that the labor, needs, and temptations of each day may be faced faithfully and joyfully. But these mercies come as manna with the morning dew. It is critical that we go and gather the day's portion ere the noonday sun melts it, or the passing of the day defiles it (Ex.16:20-21).

But how self-destructive we are that the flesh often rebels and we find it too difficult or inconvenient to go and gather our manna! We may even lose our taste for it altogether, much preferring to gorge ourselves with the leeks and onions of Egypt, or the quail of this world (Num. 11:4-6, 18-20). And in so doing we only increase our own difficulty and fail to appropriate the very grace given to overcome our besetting sins this day; the grace to serve Him fruitfully in our appointed endeavors; and the grace to know the love, joy and peace of His abiding Spirit. This effectual working of Christ in our 'inner man' comes only by first feeding upon Him who is our Bread sent down from heaven (John 6:32-33).

Having worked a second full-time job for many of the years since entering the ministry, I well know the challenge and difficulty of seeking Him early and gathering each day's 'manna'. But, dear friends, so indispensable is this

to our Christian life that we must make it a priority above all else. Neither yesterday's nor tomorrow's grace is fitted for today. If we are to love Him with all our heart, soul, and mind, than we must make whatever schedule changes or sacrifices required to accommodate a priority time with Him daily. Do we grasp the shame of allowing so much holy manna to have melted, or to have bred worms and rotted?

I have esteemed the words of His mouth more than my necessary food (Job 23:12).

O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsts for thee, my flesh longs for thee in a dry and thirsty land. ...Thy lovingkindness is better than life... Psalm 63:1,3

I love those who love me; and those who seek me early shall find me. Prov. 8:17

Lord Jesus,

You are our Bread sent down from heaven. Grant us to feed upon you early, day by day. Holy Spirit reveal ever more of the Living Word to us through your written Word. Grant us in prayer and meditation to gather much manna, and to have nothing left over. Holy Father, give us this day our daily bread.

Feasting on the riches of His glory,

Amen

To comment, add a friend, or to ask more information about the salvation offered to us in Christ, please respond to: Tuesdays_Touch@SpringwoodChapel.com or pastored@SpringwoodChapel.com

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