

### **Exodus 16:11-17 (NIV)**

11 The LORD said to Moses, 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.'" 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. 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.'" 17 The Israelites did as they were told; some gathered much, some little.

How would you survive if you were wandering in the desert? What would you eat? How would you make it? As an individual, you may have the chance of finding enough food and water to support yourself for an extended stay in the desert; but try finding enough food and water for two million people! Humanly speaking, this wasn't possible. Moses appeared to be leading the children of Israel on a suicide march through the wilderness of Sinai.

But for God, all things are possible. God provided for his chosen people. In their tough circumstances, he brought their food to them! He gave them bread in the morning and meat in the evening. He brought flocks of quail for them to eat every evening. He gave them bread from heaven, called manna, which appeared every morning. Just like the miracle of Jesus, when he fed the multitudes, each person could eat as much as they needed. The bread would never run out! So great is God's providence for his people.

Today, we don't find the ground covered with bread. We don't have flocks of birds that come for us to eat them. But in no way does that mean that God has stopped providing for us! We in the United States live in a land of plenty! We can go to the local store and buy everything that we need to live and more. There is bread and meat and so many other delicious varieties of food that God gives us for our enjoyment and nourishment. He has blessed us with the resources to feed our families and live our lives in relative ease.

Yet, we too can be found grumbling and complaining about these great blessings. Like Israel, we can be found to take God's great blessings for granted. God forgives us for these times of sin and rebellion. He sent his Son, Jesus, as our greatest blessing. Jesus never complained or wasted or was dissatisfied with his Father's blessings. He perfectly lived for us so that he could forgive us for our weaknesses. Dear Christian, your God will provide! It's part of who his is. Put your trust in the Lord! Thank him for his rich blessings!