

Miracles in the wilderness

Commitment is an amazing thing.

Commitment means investing into something or someone

Commitment means trusting and working with someone

Commitment means sticking with it, even if it gets difficult.

Commitment means

Manna
Bread of Heaven

Exodus 16

16 They set out from Elim, and all the congregation of the people of Israel came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had departed from the land of Egypt. 2 And the whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, 3 and the people of Israel said to them, "Would that we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

4 Then the Lord said to Moses, "Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not. 5 On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily." 6 So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, "At evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, 7 and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your grumbling against the Lord. For what are we, that you grumble against us?" 8 And Moses said, "When the Lord gives you in the evening meat to eat and in the morning bread to the full, because the Lord has heard your grumbling that you grumble against him—what are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the Lord."

9 Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, 'Come near before the Lord, for he has heard your grumbling.'" 10 And as soon as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, they looked towards the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. 11 And the Lord said to Moses, 12 "I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.'"

13 In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp. 14 And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground. 15 When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?"[a] For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat. 16 This is what the Lord has commanded: 'Gather of it, each one of you, as much as he can eat. You shall each take an omer,[b] according to the number of the persons that each of you has in his tent.'" 17 And the people of Israel did so. They gathered, some more, some less. 18 But when they measured it with an omer, whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and

“Would that we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Exodus 16:3

They're complaining.

They're complaining to Moses. It's his fault.

But they don't know God.

They are blaming Moses, because they don't trust him. And they don't know God.

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Exodus 16:8

But part of the purpose for this journey, is for them to discover God. And discover his providence. And discover how he is indeed trustworthy.

Now it's one thing to complain if you don't know God. It's another thing to complain if you DO KNOW God.

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**Trust.
Commitment.**

This is a question of trust.

And a question of commitment.

And for many of us, these are two of the areas where we have the most problems.

So many people say, "I've got trust issues."

"I've got commitment issues."

And they bring those issues, based on hurts in the past, hurts from their families, from people they trust, from situations they've been in, and bring it into their new relationships.

And the Israelites are no different. If you want to talk about baggage, these are people who have been in slavery to the Egyptians for years. And for as many miracles as God has shown them in the deliverance, they are things which have still been forgotten.

What they need is

Soul Nourishment.

Heart Healing.

Someone they can trust.

Someone they can believe in.

Someone who is unfailing and true.

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And the Lord said to Moses, “I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’

Exodus 16:11,12

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Learning who God is.

**Learning that he is
trustworthy.**

**Learning that he is
committed to you.**

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Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves.

John 6:26

25 When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" 26 Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. 27 Do not labour for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal." 28 Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?" 29 Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." 30 So they said to him, "Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform? 31 Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" 32 Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. 33 For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." 34 They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

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John 6:31-33

It's crazy, because years later, they are still thinking about

Moses, still distant from God himself. And here, Jesus, comes and says, God gave that sign. And now God gives another sign.

Bread of God that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.

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Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. 36 But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe.

John 6:35-36

35 Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. 36 But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. 37 All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. 38 For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. 39 And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. 40 For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."

I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die.

I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live for ever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

John 6:48-51

8 I am the bread of life. 49 Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died.
50 This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die.
51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live for ever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. 58 This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread[c] the fathers ate and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live for ever.”

**Do you trust me?
Do you commit to me?**

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**Depth of God's
commitment.**

Jesus is all in.

He commits to us.

God — Father, Son & Holy Spirit — are fully committed to one another, to His own glory, to love.

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, with a new name written on the stone that no one knows except the one who receives it.

Revelation 2:16-17

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Persevering.

But the hope is not that this by our own power. But that hidden manna, given by Christ, or Christ himself, is



Trust & Commitment

Your trust issues.

Your commitment issues. You won't be able to solve them on your own.

But rather, you need a source outside, a life outside, a heart outside your own — someone to teach, heal, restore, your life.

The way you build trust again, is to find someone who is completely trustworthy.

And that is Jesus.

Come to him today, and confess your fears, your doubts, your questions.

But instead of grumbling about what hasn't happened, or your disappointments, or your fears about your future, or your exams...

Come and trust in Him.

Ask the Spirit to change your heart, to the heart of an overcomer.

To give you a heart that is confident in Christ.

There is no one e

**How will you
respond?**

When you are tested in hard times, how will you respond?

God, who has provided for his people, who knows our every need, comes and gives us not normal bread, but supernatural life.