



Spiritual Lessons from the Life of Moses

Lesson 9- God
provided
Manna

Exodus 16

<https://d3h6k4kfl8m9p0.cloudfront.net/stories/PIDbOjryanTSIM9gDRKhQw.jpg>

(1) Background: The Israelites set out from Elim and came to the Desert of Sin.

(2) Watch video Chap 16, Bible Movie app, start – end.

<https://biblemovie.subspla.sh/6a1de50>

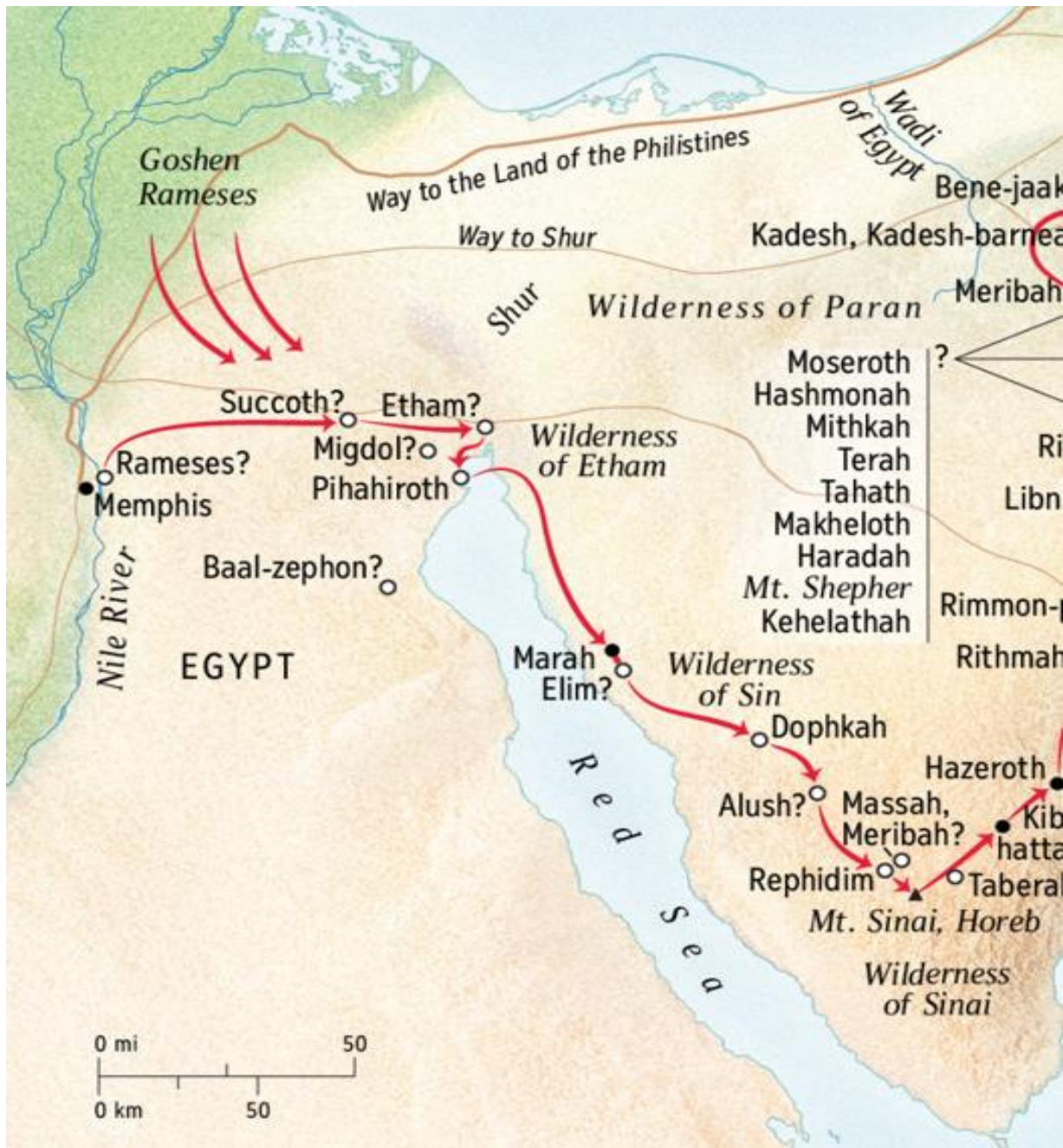
Please watch with discretion as parts of the movie may be inaccurate.

Question: Why did the Israelites complain and how did God satisfy them?



Exodus 16 v 1-36

They then set off from Elim towards Mount Sinai through the Desert of Sin.



From Elim through the Desert of Sin to Mt Sinai

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Exod 16:2

In the desert they became very hungry and started grumbling to Moses and Aaron.



Exod 16:3

'In Egypt we had plenty of food,' they complained bitterly. 'You have brought us out into the desert to die of starvation.'



Exod 16:4

The Lord told Moses, 'I am going to rain down bread from heaven for six days each week. On the sixth day people should gather twice as much. On the seventh day there will be no bread from heaven as it is a special day for them to rest.'



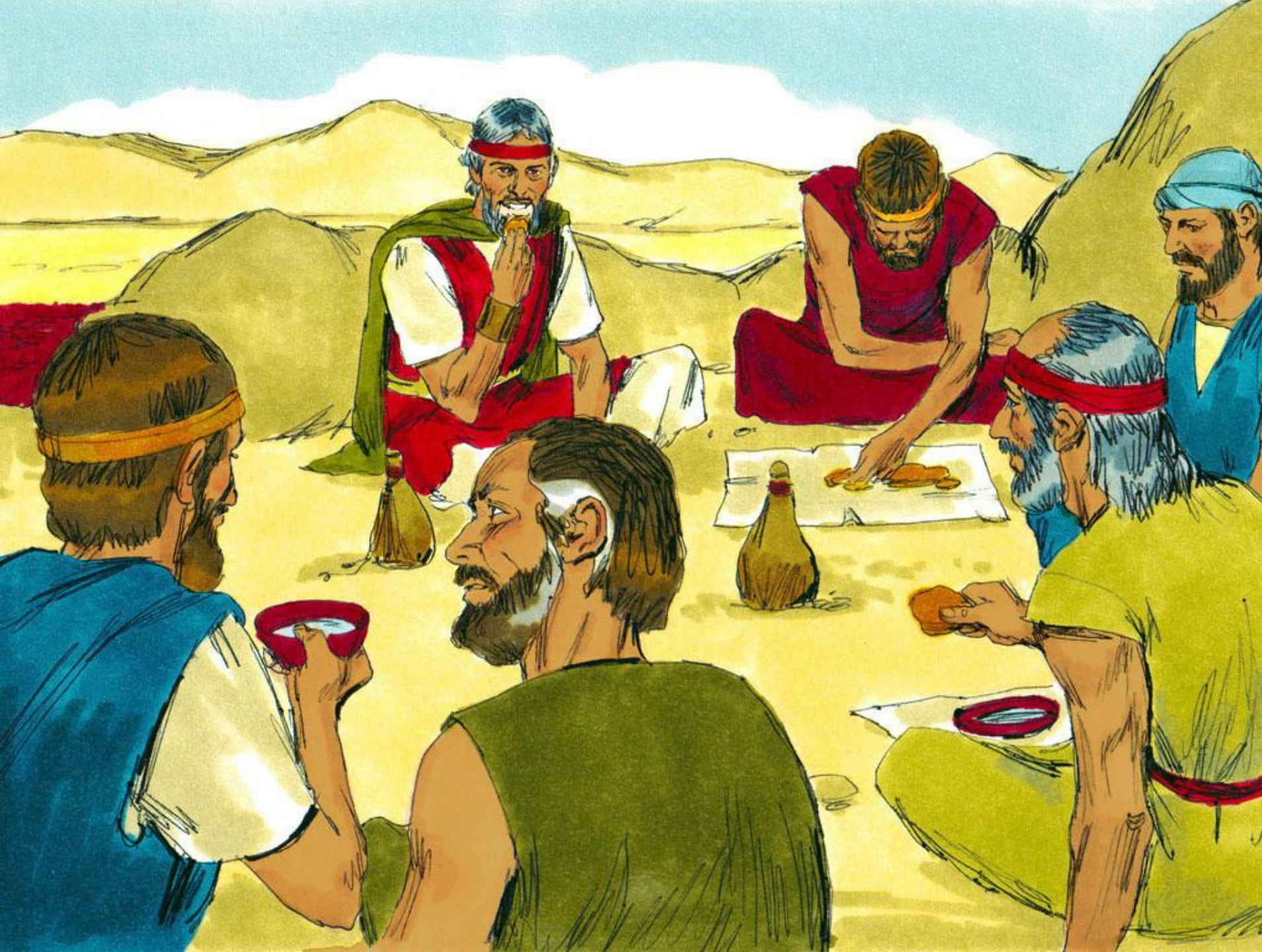
Exod 16:6

Moses and Aaron announced, 'God has heard your grumbling and is sending meat this evening and all the bread you need in the morning. Then you will know that he is the Lord who provides. Who are we? Your grumbling is not against us but God.'



Exod 16: 10

Aaron told the crowd to come before God. As they looked toward the desert they saw the glory of the Lord appearing in the cloud. The Lord promised Moses He was sending meat that evening and bread in the morning.



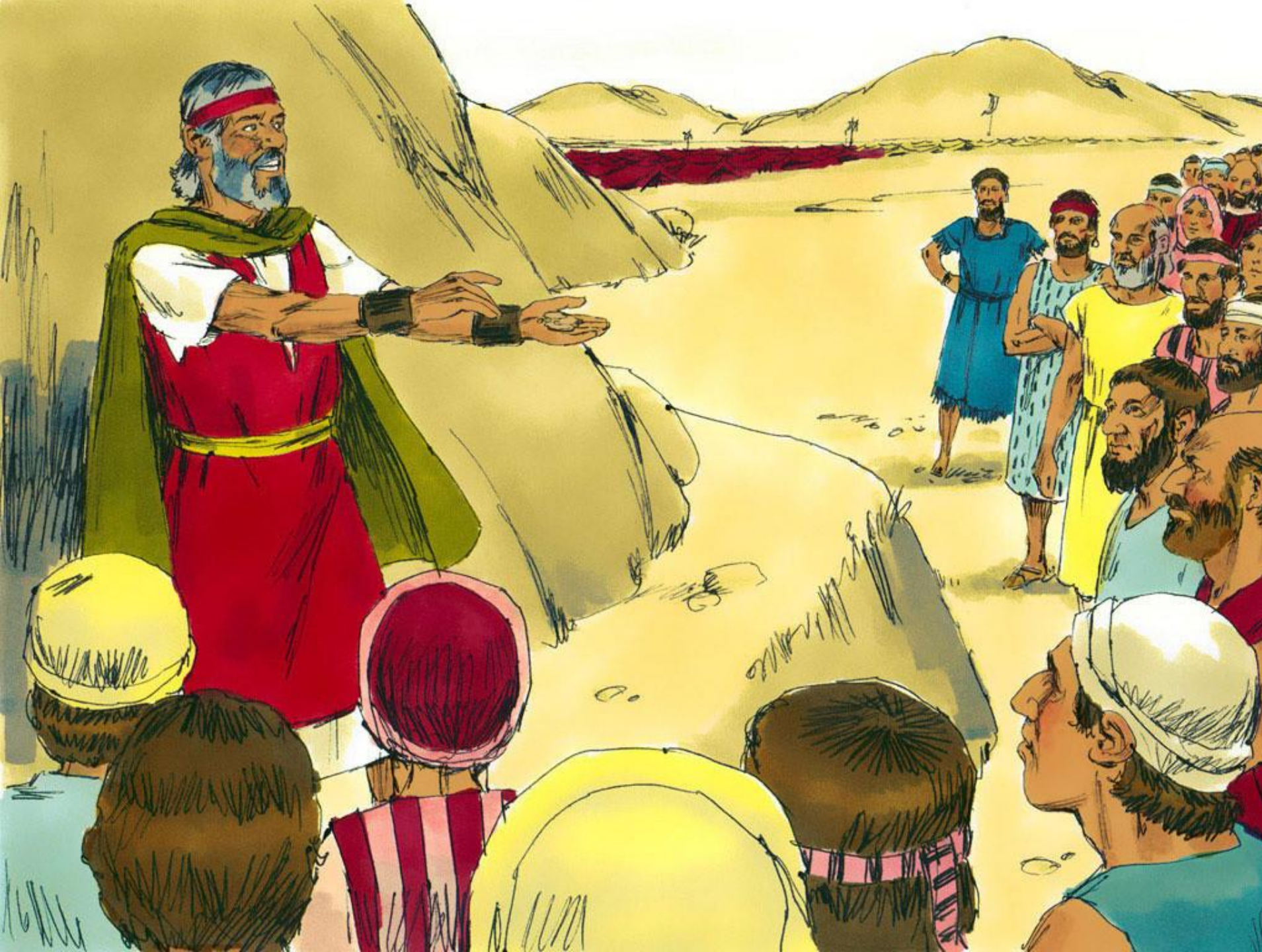
Exod 16:13

That evening a large flock of birds called quail landed near the camp. The hungry people caught them and ate the delicious meat.



Exod 16:13

The next morning there was a layer of dew on the ground which dried up and became like thin flakes of frost on the ground. 'What is it?' they asked Moses. The Hebrew word for it is 'manna'.



Exod 16:16

'This is the bread from heaven God promised,' Moses explained. 'Everyone should gather as much as they need. Don't collect more than you need and store it overnight.'



Exod 16:31

Everyone started gathering the 'what is it?' (manna). It was white like coriander seed and tasted like wafers made with honey.



Exod 16: 21-23

Moses explained they were to gather just enough for five days. Only the sixth day they were to gather twice more than they needed as there would be no manna on the seventh day.



Exod 16:

Most people obeyed God and gathered enough food for that day.



Exod 16: 20

Some however were greedy, disobeyed God, gathered more than they needed and stored it overnight. The next morning it was full of maggots and smelt horrible.



Exod 16: 22

On the sixth day most people gathered twice as much as God had told them.



Exod 16:

On the seventh day the extra manna was still fresh and they could eat it.



Exod 16: 29

Some however went out looking for manna but there was none. 'God has declared the seventh day as a special day of rest,' warned Moses. 'Everyone is to stay where they are and rest.'



Exod 16: 35

The Israelites travelled on towards mount Sinai. (They were to eat manna everyday for the 40 years they were wandering in the wilderness).

30 days after departing Egypt, the Israelites complained of lack of food.

Exod 16:1-3

Despite complaints, God still fed the Israelites meat in the evening and bread in the morning.

Exod 16:4-9

Exodus 16:3

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.



The quails came in the evening providing meat.

Manna came in the morning as bread.

Exod 16:11-15

- The manna were to be gathered each day as much as each one needed.
- Manna was not to be stored till the following morning.
- Some stored till the next morning and it turned bad.
- **Spiritual Lesson:** The Israelites are to learn to trust God for each day's provision, and obtain the provision according to God's instruction. God will provide their "daily bread".

- On the 6th day, they were to gather for 2 days' needs for manna.
- This shows that God wanted them to keep the Sabbath holy and not gather manna on the Sabbath day.
- Some went to gather manna on the Sabbath day and found none.
- **Spiritual Lessons:**
- Some did not trust God to provide:
 - Manna daily – resorted to saving Manna for the next day.
 - Sufficient Manna – resorted to collecting Manna on the Sabbath.

- Why didn't they trust God? Not long ago, the Israelites had witnessed God's power in the 10 plagues, crossing of the Red Sea and leading by the pillar of cloud and fire.
- Reasons:
 - Fear ("What if...")
 - Israelites wanted to be in control – Control of tomorrow's supply of food.
 - Israelites wanted security – secured in the supply of food for tomorrow.
 - Etc...

Now what for us?

- We too:
 - Have Fear
 - Want control
 - Want security

- Our fear
 - Is our savings enough for retirement?
 - Will we be in good health and strength?
 - “What if...”
 - Etc...

- Due to our fear, we seek control and security



- We amass wealth and properties
- We are much like the Israelites seeking more Manna.
- God's lesson to the Israelites was to trust God for "daily Manna".
- In the same way, we have to trust God for our needs.

- We have to trust God to provide, according to His Will:
 - Good health and strength
 - Sufficiency in savings
 - Good working environment
 - Good bosses, colleagues and clients
 - Good jobs
 - Peace in the family and country
 - Good support and love from family and friends
 - Others...
- Amassing wealth and properties will not ensure the above.

- When the Israelites did not trust God by collecting more Manna, God reprimanded them:

“How long will you refuse to keep my commandments and instructions?” Exodus 16:28

- We also have to keep God’s commandments and instructions by:
 - Obeying God’s Word,
 - Not to work on the Lord’s Day, except for works of mercy and necessity,
 - To remember how God has provided for our needs in the past. In His will and timing, He will also provide our future needs.
 - Not to depend on material possession as our security, but to depend on God. Our wealth comes from God.

S/N	Location	Complaints	God's action	Now what for us?
1.	Pi Hahiroth Exodus 14:2	That Moses brought the Israelites out to the wilderness to die. [They were hemmed in between the Red Sea and the Egyptian army]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parted the Red Sea for the Israelites to cross safely. • Destroyed the Egyptian army when they cross the Red Sea. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When we are in difficult situations, God is in control. • God will hear the cry of the righteous and deliver us.

S/N	Location	Complaints	God's action	Now what for us?
2.	Marah (Exod 15:23)	No water for 3 days. Bitter water at Marah.	God turned the bitter to sweet water.	Pray and trust God.
3.	Elim	NIL	God led them to Elim to rest. There were 12 springs and 70 palm trees.	After a trial, God will deliver us to a place of rest.

S/N	Location	Complaints	God's action	Now what for us?
4.	Desert of Sin (Exod 16:1)	<p>Not enough food.</p> <p>[store overnight manna. Collect manna on the Sabbath]</p>	<p>(a) Manna in the morning (b) Quail in the evening</p> <p>[The manna turned bad the next morning. No manna to be collected on the Sabbath.]</p>	<p>Pray and trust God.</p> <p>[The Israelites had little trust in God. So are we guilty of little trust.]</p>