

Exodus 16:35

And the children of Israel ate manna forty years, until they came to an inhabited land; they ate manna until they came to the border of the land of Canaan.

Have you ever messed up? I know that we all have. But have you ever sinned to the point that you thought that God wanted nothing more to do with you, and you thought that God would not even take care of you anymore; therefore your thoughts turned towards, why bother to ask God for His help? I think we have all been there, done that, some will even say, “*I have the T-shirt and the hat*”. But we always know that God has forgiven us, and that He will always take care of us.

What, you don't know that? Read today's verse again and as you do, I want us all to note one very important part of this verse, which is the first half of the sentence where it says that, “*the children of Israel ate manna forty years*”. You read that and maybe you're thinking, “*So what*”. Well, if you have ever read from the books of Exodus to Joshua in the bible, then you know that this is huge, because God did exactly what He promised to do, which was take care of the Children of Israel, and He promised to feed them with manna while they were in the wilderness, which God did for forty years until they entered the Promised Land.

† **Joshua 5:12** *Then the manna ceased on the day after they had eaten the produce of the land; and the children of Israel no longer had manna, but they ate the food of the land of Canaan that year.*

But once again, this is huge, because for forty years, the Children of Israel did nothing but complain and they rebelled at times against God and His servant, Moses. Yet, even though they did, God still provided for them for forty years. Read that again:

God still provided for them for forty years!

God didn't say: *oh you doubted Me and spoke against Me so now get your own food in the wilderness you are on your own, so just starve and die of thirst*. No, God provided for them despite their rebellion and complaints, and even their doubts.

That should be huge for you to, because what God does for us is not based upon how good we are that day
or how good you treated your spouse or kids
or how many times you went to church
or how much you served in the church or somewhere else
or how much you tithed
or not lying to anyone at all today

or not based upon you not having evil thoughts and words towards that person who cut you off on the freeway, or....

No, it's based upon God's goodness, not ours, because if it were based upon our goodness, we would be homeless, skinny, starving people, and dying really young. But we don't because everything is based upon God's love for us, His children. Didn't Jesus remind us of God's love for us, when He said: ***For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"*** Luke 11:10-13

Did you catch Jesus' first words in this sentence "***For everyone who asks receives***" "***everyone***" that includes you and I, no matter what we did or didn't do. God does not tell us that we sinned therefore don't come to Him anymore with our requests. No, but: ***On the other hand, if we admit our sins—make a clean breast of them—he won't let us down; he'll be true to himself. He'll forgive our sins and purge us of all wrongdoing.*** 1 John 1:9 (MSG)

We all know this next verse and we can all quote it.

✠ ***Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.***

So, if we are saved by grace and not works, what makes you think that you have to do works then for God to take care of His own children, the one who He purchased us with the blood of His Son, Jesus?

So, this is a reminder for those of you today who have messed up, and think God has stopped loving you, or you think that God will stop taking care of you. Confess your sins to the Lord and He will forgive you. And with that forgiveness, He will also still take care of you, just like He has all your life. And if you forget to confess your sin to Him, He will still take care of you, because He is faithful, even when we are not and HE is God and He loves you!

✠ ***Deuteronomy 32:3-4 (NLT2) I will proclaim the name of the LORD; how glorious is our God! He is the Rock; his deeds are perfect. Everything he does is just and fair. He is a faithful God who does no wrong; how just and upright he is!***

✠ ***Hebrews 10:23 (KJV) Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)***