

Faith is Confidence

“So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God you will receive what He has promised.”

Hebrews 10:35-36

One of our greatest needs is the ability to persevere with confidence. I did a study on the word faith and one of the words used to describe it was confidence. Confidence is a mood changer. There may be reason for you to worry or fear something but when you are confident, you have faith that your God will bring good out of anything you face and provide for you when you step out in faith.

The Israelites, led by Moses, stepped out in faith, leaving Egypt and their homes. Not too far into their trip, the whole community grumbled against Moses and Aaron because they had been able to sit around in their homes and eat all they wanted and never had to worry about where the next meal would come from. Now, out here in the wilderness, they were tired and hungry and longing for the good old days. Exodus 16:18-20 tells us of the provision of manna. The Lord supernaturally provided thin frost-like flakes on the ground for them to gather every morning and evening. They could have as much as they wanted but they were not to keep it overnight.

The Lord could have told them to keep as much as they wanted for as long as they wanted but He did not. He only allowed them to keep one day's provision because He wanted to teach them to trust in Him. Have you ever wanted to hit the big lottery and never have to worry about money again? I believe the Lord wants to teach us all the manna principle. Trust in His daily provision. Don't get too secure by hoarding or storing. As many learned in the Bernie Madoff scheme, it can be gone in a day. Do you have confidence in the Lord? Can you wake up every day knowing that He will provide for you? Where do you find it hardest to trust Him?

In Exodus 16:20 we find that some of the Israelites paid no attention to Moses and kept some of the manna until the next morning. But when they woke up to use it they found that it was full of maggots and smelled bad. Have you ever seen God do something in your life only to find that you abused the blessing? When we operate out of fear we are usually not generous. When we are worried about loss we hoard, keep or pull back. The Lord wants a people who are at liberty. When you have confidence in the Lord you don't worry about your assets. When you persevere through the tough times with faith in the hand of God and remain generous, you will receive what He has promised.

I know that when I operate out of fear I can expect God's loving reproof. Have you ever wondered where that invisible hole is in your finances? We can have

fresh manna or manna with maggots. It all depends on how trusting you are. It depends on how giving you are. It depends on how confident you are in the Lord's daily provision for you. Don't throw away your confidence in fear. Pray with Agur, a writer in Proverbs: "Keep falsehood and lies far from me; give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread." (Proverbs 30:8)