

Where's Your Chair?

Exodus 16 13-21



He let it fall in the midst of their camp and round about their tents.
So they ate and were well filled, for he gave them what they desired.
Psalm 78:28-29

Praising:

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren
land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful
hand:
bread of heaven, feed me now
and evermore.

Reading:

Exodus 16:13-21
Bread from heaven

Quail in the evening and bread in the morning are miraculously on the wilderness menu for Israel. Moses helps Israel identify the bread which is of a form and appearance never seen before. Moses is careful to repeat the Lord's command that they should lift from the ground as much as each person needs. The gathering begins and no one is

left out, collecting as much as they require. They are not to save any for the next day, but to Moses' obvious frustration a number ignore this instruction. Those who do put some aside discover their folly very quickly as overnight the manna breeds worms and turns inedible. Essentially it is an exercise in day-to-day living for Israel which begins new every morning and which requires faith and trust on a basic hand-to-mouth level.

Listening:

Praying:

Free us Lord from the spoiling, corrupting power of excess

- where plenty and abundance make things seem cheap and disposable
- where availability and affluence give way to over-indulgence and greed
- where choice and variety generate difference, one-upmanship and jealousy

Father: I want it and so often I can have it. And once I do have it, it doesn't feel so special and I want something else, and on it goes. And all the while Christ is offering me everything. Amen

Doing:

Friday, 19 August 2016