

Old Testament Shadows of the Christ

The Manna of God – Exodus 16:1-15; John 6

God Sent Manna...

To a Carnal and Faithless People

- ◆ **Shadow:** Manna was sent in response to Israel's carnality and faithlessness – Ex. 16:1-3
 - ◆ Israel complained against Moses and Aaron, even God, questioning His deliverance and His ability to provide for their needs.
 - ◆ God responded by sending manna, bread from heaven in the dark of night – 16:11-14
- ◆ **Substance:** Jesus, the bread of life, was sent to a carnal and faithless people.
 - ◆ Christ was to come at a time of great spiritual darkness – Isa. 9:2, 6; Jn 1:4
 - ◆ Israel saw Jesus as a means of fulfilling their desires of the flesh – Jn. 6:10-15, 25-27

S
H
A
D
O
W

S
U
B
S
T
A
N
C
E

God Sent Manna...

To Test His People

S
H
A
D
O
W

- ◊ **Shadow:** Manna in the wilderness was a test of their faith in God to provide for their daily needs – Ex. 16:4-5
- ◊ **Substance:** Jesus, the bread from heaven, was sent as a test of God's people.
 - ◊ Jesus, God's Son, was sent to see if they would hear Him – Matt. 21:33-44
 - ◊ Israel as a whole would fail to hear, fail to believe – John 6:36
 - ◊ Like faithless Israel who died in the wilderness, those who fail to believe in the Son of God, the manna of God, will die spiritually – John 8:24

S
U
B
S
T
A
N
C
E

God Sent Manna...

To A People Without Understanding

- ◆ **Shadow:** When God's manna from heaven was sent, the people asked, "What is it?" – Ex. 16:15, 4, 11-12
 - ◆ This was despite God telling them what He would do – 16:4
 - ◆ This was despite God telling when it was coming and what it was for – 16:11-12
- ◆ **Substance:** Jesus came to those who did not know Him.
 - ◆ This was despite God telling them *who* was coming (Isa. 9:6), *where* He would be born (Mic. 5:2), the *signs* He would do (Isa. 35), and that His work would be *spiritual* (Isa. 61).
 - ◆ The Jews failed to perceive that Jesus is the Christ – Jn. 6:27-36
 - ◆ We may wonder in amazement at these Jews; but are we so different?

S
H
A
D
O
W

S
U
B
S
T
A
N
C
E

God Sent Manna...

To A People Who Would Reject It

- ◊ **Shadow:** Despite the manna's good taste (Ex. 16:31), and God providing it daily and freely (16:35), Israel came to loathe and reject it – Num. 21:4-9
 - ◊ Israel had shown this same lack of faith before, bringing much death – Num. 11
 - ◊ Here again God's wrath and death was upon them. Yet, God showed grace through the creation of a bronze serpent to look upon and be saved.
- ◊ **Substance:** Jesus was sent to a people who would reject Him.
 - ◊ The Jews grumbled at Jesus's claim to be the bread of life – Jn. 6:35, 40-43, 47-52
 - ◊ The Jews rejected His call to accept Him as the only spiritual food they needed – 6:53-60, 66
 - ◊ The Jews rejected Jesus as their Savior and crucified Him – Jn. 3:13-16

S
H
A
D
O
W

S
U
B
S
T
A
N
C
E