



that I speak to you are spirit and they are life” (John 6:23). With this Jesus made it clear His disciples do not *eat His flesh* in a literal sense—we feed upon Him by following His word. It is Jesus’ teachings that are the **“Bread”** that can sustain us.

How’s your diet these days? Are you fat and full with the **“pots of meat”** this world has to offer? Or are you feeding each day upon the nourishment of God’s word? We would do well to remember—**“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God”** (Matthew 4:4)



Faithful Sayings Issue 15.29 July 21, 2013

4700 Andrews Ave.
Amarillo TX 79106
806-352-2809
www.olsenpark.com

Welcome Visitors

We are so glad that you joined us today.
Please come again.

● Let us know if you have any questions.

ISSUE

15.29

BULLETIN OF
THE OLSEN
PARK CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Faithful Sayings

July 21,
2013



Services

Sunday: 9:30 AM
10:20 AM
6:00 PM
Wednesday: 7:00 PM

Elders:

Pat Ledbetter
Jeff Nunn
Kyle Pope

Deacons:

Dean Bowers
Eddie Cook
Steve Dixon
Jack Langley
Neil Ledbetter
Brady McAlister
Walker McAnear
Lance Purcell
Rusty Scott

Evangelists:

Kyle Pope
Andrew Dow

“The Bread of Heaven”

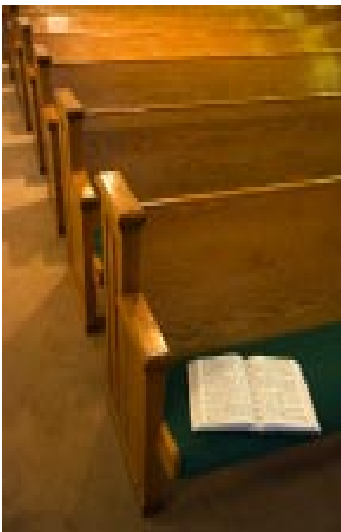
By Kyle Pope

It must have been a disturbing experience! After coming out of bondage in Egypt, being chased by Egyptian armies, then finally achieving freedom only to find before you a harsh and untamed wilderness. The book of Exodus tells us that when the children of Israel came to this condition they **“Mur-mured against Moses and Aaron”** and foolishly said to them **“Oh, that we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and when we ate bread to the full! For you have brought us out into this wil-**



dernes to kill this whole assembly with hunger” (NKJV).

In spite of the foolishness of these near-sighted and ungrateful people, the Lord provided for them. The provision, however, came in a most unusual form. Do we remember what happened? The Lord gave them, **“Bread from**



Olsen Park church of Christ

heaven” (Exodus 16:4) and quail for meat. The Bible tells us that this “Bread” seemed unusual to the children of Israel. The name they gave to it reflected the question they asked when they first saw it. The Bible tells us they asked—**“What is it?”** (Exodus 16:15) and came to be called—**“Manna”** (16:31) which in Hebrew literally means “What?”

We can understand their question. This **“bread from heaven”** did not look like ordinary bread. When the morning dew would lift, the Bible tells us that it covered the surface of the ground, **“As fine as the frost on the ground”** (Exodus 16 :14). Even so, this was just what they needed to sustain them during their time in the wilderness. The lesson to them, and to us is that sometimes the things God gives us to provide for our need may not be what we expect.

We can see this same lesson in the New Testament. The gospel of John tells us Jesus proclaimed, **“I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world”** (John 6:51). Who would ever have imagined that what

mankind needed was a Savior **“God... manifested in the flesh”** (1 Timothy 3:16), to die for the world? Yet that was exactly what all of us needed!

As with many things, sometimes we may not even realize what we truly need. Jesus came into a world that was enslaved to the captivating power of sin and declared, **“Whoever commits sin is a slave to sin”** (John 8:34). Thanks be to God that by sending Jesus into the world as the **“Bread from heaven”** He gave mankind a means to be freed from sin through His blood on the cross.

How does a person partake of this **“Bread?”** Some in the world have believed that eating the bread set aside to remember the Lord’s death imparts a special blessing to those who eat it. Some argue that the memorial bread miraculously becomes the actual body of Jesus when it is eaten. While the Bible commands Christians to observe this memorial (1 Corinthians 11:23-26) as it also



commands us to assemble (Hebrews 10:24-25), to sing (Colossians 3:16), to give (1 Corinthians 16:1-2), to pray (1 Thessalonians 5:17) and to teach (Matthew 28:19-20), a careful study of Jesus words reveals that He was not talking about eating His actual body. In the gospel of John as some began to turn away from Him because He taught them to *eat His flesh*, He declared, **“It is the spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words**