
Detective Dan's (Shorter/Simpler) Version of Bible Story for Big Question 4, Bible Truth 8

The Case of the Never-Forgotten Food *Exodus 16*

(Numbers correspond to Bible story picture pages in Detective Dan's Big Question Box)

1. Rocks and weeds. Weeds and rocks. That's all that the people of Israel could see around them. No water. No food. THIS was a hot, dry, deserty wilderness. WHERE was the beautiful land the LORD promised to give them when He rescued them from Egypt?

2. The people were scared and VERY UPSET! They chose to forget the LORD is always faithful and keeps all His promises. "It would have been better if we had stayed in Egypt," they grumbled. "Now, we're going to die out here in this wilderness."

3. HAD the LORD brought them to the wilderness to die? Of course, not! The LORD loved His people. He had led them to the wilderness to teach them to trust Him. He wouldn't let them die! He knew exactly what they needed, and He would give it to them.

4. Moses called the people together, and said, "The LORD freed you from Egypt. Trust Him to take care of you out here in the wilderness. He is even going to give you meat to eat tonight, and bread to eat in the morning," Moses promised.

5. How could the LORD do this? The people soon found out. Suddenly, there was a loud, flapping noise. The people looked up and saw the sky filled with birds! The LORD had sent thousands and thousands of quail for dinner!

6. The whole camp was thick with quail! The people took the birds and roasted them. Yum! The LORD had been faithful to His promises. Everyone went to bed with a full belly, even out there in the middle of the dry, desert-y wilderness.

7. The morning brought an even bigger surprise. The ground was covered with thin, little flakes of something. "The LORD has sent you bread from heaven," Moses told the people. "Gather up as much as you need. He will give you more tomorrow."

8. What funny-looking bread! But when they tasted it, it was so good. It was sweet like honey. The people called it "What is it?" – or manna, as they say in their language. They gathered it up and cooked with it. Yum, yum, yummy! Bread from heaven!

9. For forty years, the people of Israel lived in the wilderness before settling in the beautiful homeland the LORD promised them. And every single day, the LORD fed them manna from heaven. The LORD was always faithful, through and through... and He still is, even today!