

# He's On First

HE: הָא (hu)

SHE: הָא (hee)

WHO: **מי** (mee)

Joshua 5:10

While the people of Israel were encamped at Gilgal,  
they kept the Passover on the fourteenth day  
of the month in the evening  
on the plains of Jericho.

Joshua 5:11-12

And the day after the Passover, on that very day,  
they ate of the produce of the land,  
unleavened cakes and parched grain.

And the manna ceased  
the day after they ate of the produce of the land.  
And there was no longer manna  
for the people of Israel,  
but they ate of the fruit of the land of Canaan  
that year.

# MANNA

## What is it?

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## What is it?

No, seriously:  
“Whatchamacallit?”

## He's On First"

Costello: What's the third person?

Abbot: HU.

Costello: The third person?

Abbot: HU.

Costello: All right, HU's the third person?

Abbot: Right.

Costello: I want to know what the third person is...

Abbot: The third person?

Costello: Right.

Abbot: HU.

Costello: The third person! You know, HEE...

Abbot: Oh, HEE. You're asking about "she"?

## He's On First"

Costello: Just a minute... The third person...

Abbot: Yes?

Costello: Is "who"?

Abbot: No, that's MEE.

Costello: "Who" is?

Abbot: Right.

## He's On First"

Costello: Wait a minute! The third person...

Abbot: Yes?

Costello: She...

Abbot: HEE.

Costello: She and he, right! The third person...

Abbot: HEE HU.

Costello: Stop that with the HU!

Abbot: What, MEE?

# MANNA

## What is it?

No, seriously:  
“Whatchamacallit?”

Exodus 16:11-15

And the LORD said to Moses,  
“I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel.  
Say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat,  
and in the morning you shall be filled with bread.  
Then you shall know  
that I am the LORD your God.”

In the evening quail came up  
and covered the camp,  
and in the morning dew lay around the camp.

Exodus 16:11-15

And when the dew had gone up,  
there was on the face of the wilderness  
a fine, flake-like thing,  
fine as frost on the ground.

When the people of Israel saw it,  
they said to one another, “What is it?”  
For they did not know what it was.

And Moses said to them,  
“It is the bread that the LORD  
has given you to eat.”

Exodus 16:31

Now the house of Israel called its name manna.  
It was like coriander seed, white,  
and the taste of it was like wafers  
made with honey.

Numbers 11:7-9

Now the manna was like coriander seed,  
and its appearance like that of bdellium.  
The people went about and gathered it  
and ground it in handmills or beat it in mortars  
and boiled it in pots and made cakes of it.  
And the taste of it was like the taste of cakes  
baked with oil.

When the dew fell upon the camp in the night,  
the manna fell with it.

Exodus 16:21-24

Morning by morning they gathered it,  
each as much as he could eat;  
but when the sun grew hot, it melted.  
On the sixth day they gathered  
twice as much bread, two omers each.

Exodus 16:21-24

And when all the leaders of the congregation came and told Moses, he said to them, “This is what the LORD has commanded: ‘Tomorrow is a day of solemn rest, a holy Sabbath to the LORD; bake what you will bake and boil what you will boil, and all that is left over lay aside to be kept till the morning.’”

Exodus 16:21-24

So they laid it aside till the morning,  
as Moses commanded them,  
and it did not stink,  
and there were no worms in it.

## The Lessons of Manna:

1. The fact that we are loved and redeemed by God does not mean that we are exempted from life's trials.

1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father  
of our Lord Jesus Christ!  
According to his great mercy,  
he has caused us to be born again  
to a living hope through the resurrection  
of Jesus Christ from the dead,  
to an inheritance that is imperishable,  
undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,  
who by God's power are being guarded  
through faith for a salvation  
ready to be revealed in the last time.

1 Peter 1:3-9

In this you rejoice,  
though now for a little while, if necessary,  
you have been grieved by various trials,  
so that the tested genuineness of your faith –  
more precious than gold that perishes  
though it is tested by fire –  
may be found to result  
in praise and glory and honor  
at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 1:3-9

Though you have not seen him, you love him.  
Though you do not now see him, you believe in him  
and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible  
and filled with glory,  
obtaining the outcome of your faith,  
the salvation of your souls.

1Corinthians 3:12-15

Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold,  
silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw –  
each one's work will become manifest,  
for the Day will disclose it,  
because it will be revealed by fire,  
and the fire will test what sort of work  
each one has done.

1Corinthians 3:12-15

If the work that anyone has built  
on the foundation survives,  
he will receive a reward.

If anyone's work is burned up,  
he will suffer loss,  
though he himself will be saved,  
but only as through fire.

## The Lessons of Manna:

1. The fact that we are loved and redeemed by God does not mean that we are exempted from life's trials.
2. God supplies extraordinary provision for extraordinary situations. In our dependence upon this provision, we learn to trust in him.

Deuteronomy 8:3

And he humbled you and let you hunger  
and fed you with manna, which you did not know,  
nor did your fathers know,  
that he might make you know  
that man does not live by bread alone,  
but man lives by every word  
that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

Matthew 6:27-34

“And which of you by being anxious  
can add a single hour to his span of life?  
And why are you anxious about clothing?”

Matthew 6:27-34

“Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow:  
they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you,  
even Solomon in all his glory  
was not arrayed like one of these.

“But if God so clothes the grass of the field,  
which today is alive  
and tomorrow is thrown into the oven,  
will he not much more clothe you,  
O you of little faith?”

Matthew 6:27-34

“Therefore do not be anxious, saying,  
‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’  
or ‘What shall we wear?’  
For the Gentiles seek after all these things,  
and your heavenly Father knows  
that you need them all.

“But seek first the kingdom of God  
and his righteousness,  
and all these things will be added to you.”

Matthew 6:27-34

“Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow,  
for tomorrow will be anxious for itself.  
Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.”

## The Lessons of Manna:

1. The fact that we are loved and redeemed by God does not mean that we are exempted from life's trials.
2. God supplies extraordinary provision for extraordinary situations. In our dependence upon this provision, we learn to trust in him.
3. But these extraordinary gifts are not intended by God permanently to displace the ordinary means and operations of his grace.

James 2:19-26

You believe that God is one; you do well.  
Even the demons believe – and shudder!  
Do you want to be shown, you foolish person,  
that faith apart from works is useless?

James 2:19-26

Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness” – and he was called a friend of God.

You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone...

## The Lessons of Manna:

1. The fact that we are loved and redeemed by God does not mean that we are exempted from life's trials.
2. God supplies extraordinary provision for extraordinary situations. In our dependence upon this provision, we learn to trust in him.
3. But these extraordinary gifts are not intended by God permanently to displace the ordinary means and operations of his grace.
4. Though the extraordinary provision may cease, come what may, God is with us, and his ordinary, daily provision is ... extraordinary!

Psalm 78:23-25

Yet he commanded the skies above  
and opened the doors of heaven,  
and he rained down on them manna to eat  
and gave them the grain of heaven.  
Man ate of the bread of the angels;  
he sent them food in abundance.

Numbers 11:4-6

Now the rabble that was among them  
had a strong craving.

And the people of Israel also wept again and said,  
“Oh that we had meat to eat!

We remember the fish we ate in Egypt  
that cost nothing, the cucumbers, the melons,  
the leeks, the onions, and the garlic.

But now our strength is dried up,  
and there is nothing at all  
but this manna to look at.”

Revelation 2:17

“He who has an ear, let him hear  
what the Spirit says to the churches.  
To the one who conquers  
I will give some of the hidden manna,  
and I will give him a white stone,  
with a new name written on the stone  
that no one knows  
except the one who receives it.”

T.S. Eliot, "The Four Quartets

Yet the enchainment of past and future  
Woven in the weakness of the changing body,  
Protects mankind from heaven and damnation  
Which flesh cannot endure.

Exodus 16:32-35

Moses said,  
“This is what the LORD has commanded:  
‘Let an omer of it be kept  
throughout your generations,  
so that they may see the bread  
with which I fed you in the wilderness,  
when I brought you out of the land of Egypt.’”

And Moses said to Aaron,  
“Take a jar, and put an omer of manna in it,  
and place it before the LORD  
to be kept throughout your generations.”

Exodus 16:32-35

As the LORD commanded Moses,  
so Aaron placed it before the testimony  
to be kept.

The people of Israel ate the manna forty years,  
till they came to a habitable land.  
They ate the manna till they came  
to the border of the land of Canaan.

Deuteronomy 8:11-20

Take care lest you forget the LORD your God  
by not keeping his commandments  
and his rules and his statutes,  
which I command you today,  
lest, when you have eaten and are full  
and have built good houses and live in them,  
and when your herds and flocks multiply  
and your silver and gold is multiplied  
and all that you have is multiplied,  
then your heart be lifted up,  
and you forget the LORD your God...

Deuteronomy 8:11-20

who brought you out of the land of Egypt,  
out of the house of slavery, who led you through  
the great and terrifying wilderness,  
with its fiery serpents and scorpions  
and thirsty ground where there was no water,  
who brought you water out of the flinty rock,  
who fed you in the wilderness with manna  
that your fathers did not know,  
that he might humble you and test you,  
to do you good in the end.

Deuteronomy 8:11-20

Beware lest you say in your heart,  
“My power and the might of my hand  
have gotten me this wealth.”

You shall remember the LORD your God,  
for it is he who gives you power to get wealth,  
that he may confirm his covenant  
that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

Deuteronomy 8:11-20

And if you forget the LORD your God  
and go after other gods and serve them  
and worship them, I solemnly warn you today  
that you shall surely perish.

Like the nations that the LORD  
makes to perish before you,  
so shall you perish,  
because you would not obey  
the voice of the LORD your God.

Joshua 5:13-14a

When Joshua was by Jericho,  
he lifted up his eyes and looked,  
and behold, a man was standing before him  
with his drawn sword in his hand.

And Joshua went to him and said to him,  
“Are you for us, or for our adversaries?”

And he said, “No;  
but I am the commander  
of the army of the LORD.

Now I have come.”

Joshua 5:14b-15

And Joshua fell on his face to the earth  
and worshiped and said to him,

“What does my lord say to his servant?”

And the commander of the LORD’s army  
said to Joshua,

“Take off your sandals from your feet,  
for the place where you are standing is holy.”

And Joshua did so.

1 Corinthians 15:51-58

Behold! I tell you a mystery.  
We shall not all sleep,  
but we shall all be changed, in a moment,  
in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.

For the trumpet will sound,  
and the dead will be raised imperishable,  
and we shall be changed.  
For this perishable body  
must put on the imperishable,  
and this mortal body must put on immortality.

1 Corinthians 15:51-58

But thanks be to God,  
who gives us the victory  
through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my beloved brothers,  
be steadfast, immovable,  
always abounding in the work of the Lord,  
knowing that in the Lord  
your labor is not in vain!

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

For the Lord himself will descend from heaven  
with a cry of command,  
with the voice of an archangel,  
and with the sound of the trumpet of God.

And the dead in Christ will rise first.  
Then we who are alive, who are left,  
will be caught up together with them  
in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air,  
and so we will always be with the Lord.

John 6:51

“I am the living bread  
that came down from heaven.  
If anyone eats of this bread,  
he will live forever.

“And the bread that I will give  
for the life of the world  
is my flesh.”

John 16:33

“I have said these things to you,  
that in me you may have peace.

“In the world you will have tribulation.  
But take heart!  
I have overcome the world.”