

# Weaving the Word

*Holy Manna Towla'*

July 07, 2019

**Welcome to where we're learning to detest spiritual stagnation!**

**What do you do with all the spare time you've been given?**

Don't act like you don't have tons of it. **All the craziness and chaos is our own doing.**



**We can't blame our busyness on the Lord.**

We're looking at Jesus through the lens of the offering of each leper that He healed, as commanded by Moses, and for a testimony of Jesus.

(Mk 1:44) **Each offering contained crushed towla' – a very specific scarlet worm used to make dye and to symbolize our sin becoming like snow and wool.** (Is 1:18)



**[Jesus said]** When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am the one I claim to be – John 8:28 NIV



And they crucified Him ... [and] Jesus cried out ... "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" – Mark 15:34 NKJ



A psalm of David. My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? ... I am a worm **[towler]**, and not a man, – Psalm 22:1, 6 NIV

... man who is a maggot **[the children of towla']**, and the son of man who is a worm **[towler]**! – Job 25:6 ESV



He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; ... – 1 Peter 2:24 NIV



Likewise a towla' attaches to a tree, loses the use of her legs (thus *becoming a worm*), forms an upside down cup, and pours out her life as food. **The towla' dies on a tree so her children can live.** Over three days she turns snowy white. And a woolly patch where she's attached is pierced, and her body is broken, as a door for her children.



This was commanded to be included in each leper's offering.

**Isaiah says that *all* of God's children are covered in leper-sin.** (Is 1:6)



Which is only removed in Christ, who ...

... took bread, gave thanks and broke it ... saying, "This is my body given for you;" – Luke 22:19 NIV

Because, the One who said **“I am a towla’,”** also said **“I am the living bread.”** Not only does towla’ match the Biblical description of *manna*, but **day-old manna birthed towla’ babies,** (Ex 16:20, 24) which *only come* from *towla’ mamas*, which lose the use of their legs and can’t crawl. Which means **the manna that God blew in from the sky (like hail) was towla’!**



[Jesus said] the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world. ... Your forefathers ate the manna [literally, the “What is it?”] ... yet they died. But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, [as opposed to the sky] which a man may eat and not die. [You want to know what it is?] I am the living bread that came down from heaven. ... This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world. ... The Spirit gives life; the flesh [without the Spirit] counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. – John 6:33, 49-51, 63 NIV

For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. – Revelation 19:10 NKJ

And **there’s no guessing allowed.** That’s the *first rule* of faith:

Know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, [Those are vain imaginations corrupting His testimony like maggots in the manna] for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit ... – 2 Peter 1:20-21 NAS

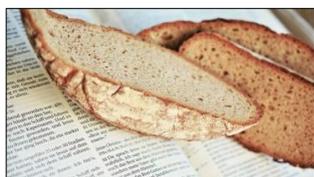
**And the stink of day-old manna represents spiritual stagnation.**

If anyone turns a deaf ear to my instruction, even their prayers [which rise to God like incense (Rev 8:4)] are detestable. – Proverbs 28:9 NIV

Well, **it appears lazy prayers stink to high heaven!** Whereas, the freshly crushed towla’ was fragrant, and tasted like honey. (Ex 16:31)

[God] always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge ... For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing. To the one we are the aroma of death leading to death, and to the other the aroma of life leading to life. – 2 Corinthians 2:14-16a NKJ

Because, **if we really want life, we must die to self.** We must ...



Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children [who aren’t checking religious boxes] and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering ... – Ephesians 5:1-2a NIV

**Are you living a life of love or a lie of love?**



There’s no artificial preservative. Faith, hope, and love must be made fresh, *daily*, by His Spirit in His Word; which, we’re told, *also* tastes like *honey*. (Ps 119:103) **If He isn’t our Daily Bread, He isn’t our Living Bread.** I’m *required* to tell you these things.

When the devil tested Him, Jesus quoted Moses' manna Scripture:

It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God." – Matthew 4:4 NKJ

The Son of God is our Holy Manna-Towla' and the *Living Word!* **And those who won't gather with Him are scatterbrains!** (Mt 12:30) The Lord said to Moses:

The people are to go out each day and gather enough for that day. In this way I will test them and see whether they will follow my instructions. – Exodus 16:4 NIV

I left off last time saying that  **blessings are a test**. And, that's because,  **they always come with instructions**. But *mostly* the test is just to see what we do with them: if we'll humble our heart and  **choose to submit and commit to follow His lead**; or, just  **stumble around doing our own thing**.

We've been *so blessed* with His Spirit and His New Testament.  **Not as a replacement to the Old; but, as a fulfillment**; so we can seek His testimony and *really know* our Holy Manna-Towla'!

We're called to seek and find and to work out our salvation with fear (of the Lord) and trembling (at His Word). But,  **so many prefer to stand and defend what they've worked out for themselves**. I'm required to warn you:  **we're being tested**. So don't you be like them. Know why they wandered for *40 years* with the manna? Because, even though Moses ...

... received living words to pass on to us. ... our fathers refused to obey him. Instead, they rejected him and in their hearts turned back to Egypt. – Acts 7:38-39 NIV

And when the manna stopped, know what happened? The Lord showed up with sword in hand ready to lead His children into battle!

The manna stopped the day after they ate this food from the land;  **[two days after Passover; the day Jesus rose]** ... Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. – Joshua 5:12-14 NIV



You see,  **you're not called to wander; you're called to run!**

**[So]** Let us lay aside ... the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the Author ... – Hebrews 12:1b-2a NKJ

[The Lord said] Write the vision and make it plain ... that he may run who reads it. – Habakkuk 2:2 NKJ

The Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it ... – Proverbs 18:10 NKJ

Run in such a way that you may obtain [the prize]. – 1 Corinthians 9:24-25 NKJ

And when you run, you will not stumble. – Proverbs 4:12b NKJ

Strengthen me according to Your word. ... I have chosen the way of truth ... I will run the course of Your commandments, – Psalm 119:28-32 NKJ

Those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength ... They shall run and not be weary, – Isaiah 40:31 NKJ

But, only if you're willing to be led and fed by the Lord. *That is*, to be **led by His instructions** and **daily fed by His Word**. Both are an exercise in humility, and our growth in wisdom. Plus, *that's* how we *practice* our righteousness. So, **don't try to rely on the stinking leftovers from yesterday. Cast off the self-imposed busy that's holding you back.**

**Detest stagnation in all its putrid, fetid, forms.** And hurry up and wait on the Lord for strength.

Have you ever tried to tell someone about a scene in a movie and forgot the actor's name? And, let's say you're driving, so you can't look it up. We hate that *weak feeling* of *not-knowing*. *"I want to say Kevin Bacon; but that's not right."* Without knowing it, you have a life-and-death decision to make. If you leave it *irritatingly unanswered* and admit you just can't figure it out, you can still tell your story; but, you will have activated a dormant superpower that God wired into us. Your brain is designed to work on its own, behind the scenes, without your even being aware, to *fill in* that *irritating hole*. Two weeks later, you'll be doing something completely unrelated, and: BANG! *"It was Ethan Hawke! Where'd that come from?"*

However, if you had said something like, *"It might've been Kevin Bacon,"* or *"Just say it was Kevin Bacon,"* because you can't stand even the tiniest powerless feeling of not-knowing, you will have deactivated that dormant superpower in your head. Two weeks later, there'd be no: BANG!

And not only that; but, three years later, that movie will come up somewhere, and you'll swear that Kevin Bacon's in it. You'll "remember" seeing him in it. And you'll be proven wrong.

**And you'll never understand how that got planted in your head.**

**God created your brain to work on humility and faith.**

**When we fill in the gaps, we leave no room for His Spirit to work.** Learning to leave the question unanswered is a huge part of the humbling, surrendering, growing process.

**This is how we seek and find and trust and humble ourselves.**

**We must joyfully collect *our* "What is it?" every day.**

**Don't settle for vain imaginations – *yours* or *anyone else's*.** Game on! And no guessing allowed! That's the first and foremost rule of faith; because, it plugs up the process and gums up the whole purpose of prophecy.

**Want to battle stagnation with the sword of the Lord?**

**Then you just run in His Word every day.**

**And let His Spirit fill all those holes in your head.**