



Numbers 11:4-6, 10-20

The rabble with them began to crave other food, and again the Israelites started wailing and said, *“If only we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we ate in Egypt at no cost—also the cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions and garlic. But now we have lost our appetite; we never see anything but this manna!”*

Moses heard the people of every family wailing, each at the entrance to his tent. The LORD became exceedingly angry, and Moses was troubled. He asked the LORD, “Why have you brought this trouble on your servant? What have I done to displease you that you put the burden of all these people on me? Did I conceive all these people? Did I give them birth? Why do you tell me to carry them in my arms, as a nurse carries an infant, to the land you promised on oath to their forefathers? Where can I get meat for all these people? They keep wailing to me, ‘Give us meat to eat!’ I cannot carry all these people by myself; the burden is too heavy for me. If this is how you are going to treat me, put me to death right now—if I have found favor in your eyes—and do not let me face my own ruin.”

The LORD said to Moses: “Bring me seventy of Israel’s elders who are known to you as leaders and officials among the people. Have them come to the Tent of Meeting that they may stand there with you. I will come down and speak with you there, and I will take of the Spirit that is on you and put the Spirit on them. They will help you carry the burden of the people so that you will not have to carry it alone.

“Tell the people: ‘Consecrate yourselves in preparation for tomorrow, when you will eat meat. The LORD heard you when you wailed, “If only we had meat to eat! We were better off in Egypt!” Now the LORD will give you meat, and you will eat it. You will not eat it for just one day, or two days, or five, ten or twenty days, but for a whole month—until it comes out of your nostrils and you loathe it—**because you have rejected the LORD**, who is among you, and have wailed before him, saying, “Why did we ever leave Egypt?”’”

This is the Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God!**



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What's wrong with us?

**Addiction:** a consuming desire, to need desperately, uncontrollably

We are torn between a craving to have and the despair of having it

**Sin is not just an act, it is a POWER.**

1. We Know What to Do
2. We know the Consequences of doing it
3. We can't stop do it.

*"I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it." Romans 7:18-20*

**Sin is a spiritual ADDICTION**

*"Sin turns the heart into a fire." Jonathan Edwards*

1. **Distress** – a need is satisfied through an addictive agent (fuel)
2. **Delivery** – agent that satisfies the distress, "we remember"
3. **Denial** – cannot think objectively, "food without cost"
4. **Devastate** – loss of control, "now we have lost our appetite"

**Our addiction is defined by our "If Only..."**

*You cannot be truly good until you've face up to the part of you that is truly evil" GK Chesterton*

*"And now, with the help of God, I shall become myself..." Augustine*



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