

# Up From Slavery

A man / A people / A plan

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FACING FREEDOM:  
INDEPENDENT DEPENDENCY?  
EXODUS 16:18-36

## Exodus 16

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<sup>19</sup> Then Moses said to them, “No one is to keep any of it until morning.”

<sup>20</sup> However, some of them paid no attention to Moses; they kept part of it until morning, but it was full of maggots and began to smell. So Moses was angry with them.

<sup>21</sup> Each morning everyone gathered as much as he needed, and when the sun grew hot, it melted away. <sup>22</sup> On the sixth day, they gathered twice as much—two omers for each person—and the leaders of the community came and reported this to Moses. <sup>23</sup> He said to them, “This is what the LORD commanded:

‘Tomorrow is to be a day of rest, a holy Sabbath to the LORD. So bake what you want to bake and boil what you want to boil. Save whatever is left and keep it until morning.’ ”

<sup>24</sup> So they saved it until morning, as Moses commanded, and it did not stink or get maggots in it. <sup>25</sup> “Eat it today,” Moses said, “because today is a Sabbath to the LORD. You will not find any of it on the ground today. <sup>26</sup> Six days you are to gather it, but on the seventh day, the Sabbath, there will not be any.”

<sup>27</sup> Nevertheless, some of the people went out on the seventh day to gather it, but they found none. <sup>28</sup> Then the LORD said to Moses, “How long will you refuse to keep my commands and my instructions? <sup>29</sup> Bear in mind that the LORD has given you

the Sabbath; that is why on the sixth day he gives you bread for two days. Everyone is to stay where he is on the seventh day; no one is to go out.”<sup>30</sup> So the people rested on the seventh day.

<sup>31</sup> The people of Israel called the bread manna. It was white like coriander seed and tasted like wafers made with honey.<sup>32</sup> Moses said, “This is what the LORD has commanded: ‘Take an omer of manna and keep it for the generations to come, so they can see the bread I gave you to eat in the desert when I brought you out of Egypt.’ ”

<sup>33</sup> So Moses said to Aaron, “Take a jar and put an omer of manna in it. Then place it before the LORD to be kept for the generations to come.”

<sup>34</sup> As the LORD commanded Moses, Aaron put the manna in front of the Testimony, that it might be kept. <sup>35</sup> The Israelites ate manna forty years, until they came to a land that was settled; they ate manna until they reached the border of Canaan.

## Challenges to dependency

1. The desire to enjoy God's blessings according our plans.
  - The problem with hoarding.
    - Laziness
    - Distrust

## Challenges to dependency

### 2. Willful disobedience.

- Wanting the blessings of God on our terms.

### 3. Overlooking the opportunity that is presented by God's call for a Sabbath.

- A time for honor
- A time for rest

## Challenges to dependency

- A test that comes on a weekly basis.
4. Failure to memorialize instances of God's faithfulness.

## To Go . . .

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- Do you have time for God?
- How much time does He desire?
- Do you live in such a way that allows you to receive the blessings that God longs to give?