

# SOUL FOOD

JUNE 4, 2017

## DEUTERONOMY 8:1-20

## REMEMBER THE LORD YOUR GOD

Have you ever taken the time to enumerate the many ways that God has provided for you, especially when the going was really tough? Have you ever prayed for real needs to be met and then see God work to provide what you needed in wonderful, mysterious, and unexpected ways? As Moses was preparing God's people to enter the Promised Land, he wanted them to never forget what God had done? Scripture teaches us that God's mercies are a wonderful motivation to live as "living sacrifices" before the Lord.

God is jealous FOR us. He does not want us to miss out on His richest and choicest blessings. So, God does test His people and He disciplines His people as a father disciplines and trains up the children He dearly loves. Testing reveals to us what is in our hearts. Through these means we discover idols that we never knew were there. I am sure God's people struggled with the idols of comfort and ease as they wandered through the wilderness and had to be fed miraculously by God with manna that fell from the sky. God wanted His people to keep His commandments so that life would go well with them and live in the prosperity of His blessed Kingdom.

Out of the wilderness experience would come glorious blessings in the land to which God was leading them. As you read Moses' description of this place you cannot help but be amazed at the grandeur and splendor that would be theirs. In the midst of such plenty would God's people continue to faithfully follow Him? They were told to be very careful to not forget the Father and His love and care for them. God knew that they could easily become enamored with their current blessings and forget the giver of those blessings. Let us never forget God's love, deliverance, and provision.

Think of how God has blessed you with your job that enables you to support your family and meet their needs. You might have had the thought every now and then that you deserve the pay you get because of your hard work. Well, you do, in a sense, deserve the wages you get because of the hours of work you have performed. However, never forget God's grace and mercy that enable you have the job and work in the first place. **"Beware lest you say in your heart, 'My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth.'"** Do not forget that God gives you the power to get wealth so that He may continue to demonstrate His faithfulness to you.

Remember the Lord your God and love people and use things. Do not allow yourself to love things and use people.