

Deuteronomy 29:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Ye have not eaten bread, neither have ye drunk wine or strong drink: that ye might know that I am the LORD your God.

Analysis

Ye have not eaten bread, neither have ye drunk wine or strong drink: that ye might know that I am the LORD your God. Absence of normal food and drink (bread, wine) emphasized dependence on God's supernatural provision (manna, water from rock). Unusual provision methods taught Israel that God, not agriculture, sustains life.

The purpose clause that ye might know that I am the LORD your God reveals pedagogical intent. The wilderness experience taught theology - specifically that Yahweh is Israel's covenant God who provides for His people. Miracles served educational purpose.

Deprivation of normal comforts taught valuable lesson: humans do not live by bread alone but by every word from God's mouth (Deuteronomy 8:3). Material provision comes ultimately from God, whether through normal or supernatural means.

Jesus quotes this passage when tempted to turn stones to bread, affirming that trust in God's word matters more than satisfying physical hunger through inappropriate means.

Historical Context

For forty years, Israel ate manna and drank water provided miraculously rather than growing crops and making wine. This unusual diet distinguished them from all other nations and emphasized complete dependence on God.

Upon entering Canaan, manna ceased and normal agriculture resumed, showing that God's provision methods change but His faithfulness continues.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What does unusual provision teach about who truly sustains life?
2. How did lacking normal food educate Israel about dependence on God?
3. What does 'man does not live by bread alone' teach about spiritual priorities?
4. How does Jesus' use of this principle when tempted apply to believers?
5. Why does God sometimes provide through supernatural means rather than normal processes?

Interlinear Text

לֶחֶם	לֹא	אָכַלְתֶּם	יַיִן	וְשִׁכָּר	לֹא
bread	H3808	Ye have not eaten	wine	or strong drink	H3808
H3899		H398	H3196	H7941	
שְׁתִּיתֶם	לֹא	לֵמַעַן	תֵּדַע וְ	כִּי	אֲנִי
neither have ye drunk		H4616	that ye might know	H3588	H589
H8354			H3045		
יְהוָה	אֱלֹהֵיכֶם:				
that I am the LORD	your God				
H3068	H430				

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 8:3 (References Lord): And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.

Ephesians 5:18 (Parallel theme): And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;