

# Exodus 16:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Notwithstanding they hearkened not unto Moses; but some of them left of it until the morning, and it bred worms, and stank: and Moses was wroth with them.

## Analysis

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**Notwithstanding they hearkened not unto Moses; but some of them left of it until the morning, and it bred worms, and stank**—Disobedience brings immediate consequences: worms (טֹלָא, tola') and stench (בַּאֲשׁ, ba'ash). The rotting manna illustrates that God's gifts cannot be preserved by human effort contrary to His command—what is meant for today becomes corruption tomorrow when hoarded in unbelief. The 'some of them' (אֲנָשִׁים, anashim) indicates not universal rebellion but sufficient disobedience to require Moses' anger. This failed hoarding teaches that security comes from God's faithfulness, not accumulated resources. Rotten manna becomes a daily object lesson: trust tested proves trust's absence. The stench makes disobedience public, showing that private unbelief has communal consequences.

## Historical Context

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The rotting manna served as immediate public evidence of disobedience, reinforcing the daily trust God required. No one could secretly hoard without exposed corruption.

## Related Passages

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**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

### Study Questions

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1. What 'rotting manna' in your life reveals attempts to secure tomorrow through disobedient means?
2. How does the stench of hoarded manna picture how private disobedience becomes public shame?

### Interlinear Text

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וְלֹא	שָׁמְעוּ	אֶל	מֹשֶׁה:	וַיֹּזְקוּ	אֲנָשִׁים
H3808	H8085	H413	H4872	H3498	H582
Notwithstanding they	hearkened	and Moses	of them left	but some	
וְעַד	בֹּקֶר	וַיִּבְרָא	תּוֹלַעַ	וַיִּבְרָא	שִׁ
H4480	H5704	H7311	H8438	H887	
of it until the morning	and it bred	worms	and stank		
וַיִּקְצַץ	עַלֶּיָּהּ	מֹשֶׁה:			
H7107	H5921	H4872			
was wroth	and Moses				