

Jesus is the Manna

Later in their travels in the wilderness, the Children of Israel would grumble about the manna:

Numbers 11:5-6 - "We remember the fish, which we did eat in Egypt freely; the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlick: But now our soul is dried away: there is nothing at all, beside this manna, before our eyes."

In the same way, the Jews grumbled when Jesus said He was the bread that came down from heaven:

John 6:31-35 - "Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat. Then Jesus said unto them, 'Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world.' ... And Jesus said unto them, 'I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.'"

John 6:41 - "The Jews then murmured at him, because he said, 'I am the bread which came down from heaven.'"

John 6:51 - "I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."

Later in John 6 Jesus links this bread with his Last Supper:

John 6:53-56 - "Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. ... He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him."

The type of the unleavened bread at Passover merges with the type of the manna in the communion of the Lord's Supper.

The Manna could not be eaten until it was ground and baked into cakes, a process that foreshadows the cross.