

## **Quail**

Numbers 11

by Don Falkos

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The people of Israel began to complain about their hardships. The Lord was angry and sent a raging fire through the outskirts of the camp. Many died. Moses prayed to the Lord, and the fire stopped.

Then the Israelites began to crave the good things of Egypt. They complained, "We used to have plenty of meat and fish and all the fresh vegetables we wanted. Now all we ever see is manna. Why did we ever leave Egypt?"

Moses said to the Lord, "I can't lead these people. They behave like children. They keep asking for meat. Where am I supposed to get enough meat to feed them all? If this is what I have to look forward to, why don't you just kill me right here and now – put me out of my misery!"

Then the Lord said, "Bring me seventy good, respected men. I will give them the same Spirit I have given you, and they will share the burden of leadership with you. Then tell the people that tomorrow I will give them meat, lots of meat. They will be eating it for a month until they grow sick of it."

When the Lord poured out the Spirit on the men Moses had gathered, they all began to prophesy. Moses proclaimed, "I wish all the Lord's people were prophets, filled with the Spirit of God."

The Lord sent a wind that brought quail from the sea. The people went out and caught huge numbers of quail. They now had the meat they had been craving. But while they were gorging themselves on it, the Lord struck them with a severe plague and many died.