

Who is the Biblical Jesus

- Part 6

Jesus, Our Daily Provider—and the Danger of Building Golden Calves

Dr. Hans Petter Thue

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1. Jesus Is Our Faithful Provider—Not Only in Crisis, But Every Day

Jesus was the real, big Provider in the desert when the Israelites walked for 40 years.

This is a basic truth we must understand, believe, and rest in: Jesus is our daily Provider.

We often face needs—physical, emotional, and spiritual—but the Bible reminds us clearly:

Jesus is not only aware of our needs—He cares deeply and is faithful to provide.

Think about it:

He fed the multitudes with just five loaves and two fish.

He sustained over 2 million people in the wilderness every single day for 40 years—with manna, quail, water from the rock, and protection.

Today, He continues to nourish our lives with grace, strength, peace, wisdom, and daily provision.

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This truth is so important: He is there—actively taking care of us, giving us everything we truly need.

- We need grace to stay close to Jesus.
- We need strength to stand against spiritual battles.
- We have daily needs—and Jesus teaches us to rely on Him daily, not just in moments of crisis.
- He invites us to trust Him for our daily bread, because He is the source of every good and perfect gift (James 1:17).

His provision is not only material—it includes peace that guards our hearts, wisdom for decisions, and hope that anchors our souls.

Therefore, it's vital to understand:

We must not only come to Jesus in crisis.

We must also come to Him when life is good, when everything seems perfect—and give Him thanks.

We give thanks in the storm and in the calm, because:

Crisis and problems are temporary,
But God's promises—and Jesus' faithful care—are
based on everlasting, unbreakable covenants.

- The Lord cannot lie (Titus 1:2).
- He is the Truth (John 14:6).
- He stands by His Word (Psalm 119:89).

That's why it's so powerful to read Scripture together—to remind one another of who God is.

2. Biblical Foundation: Matthew 6 – Do Not Worry, But Trust

Let's read from Matthew 6:25–27 and 31–34:

“Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life—what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body—what you will put on.

Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?

Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them.

Are you not of more value than they?

Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?...

Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'

For after all these things the Gentiles seek.

For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

You see? The Lord has already prepared everything we need.

The only thing required from us is to release our trust through prayer:

- "Heavenly Father, give me my daily bread."
- "Thank You, Lord, that You are providing."
- "Thank You that You will give me my daily bread today."

- “Thank You for blessing me this day.”

This attitude of thanksgiving is more powerful than constant asking.

We should give thanks more than we make requests.

3. Jesus in the Wilderness: The Manna Miracle

Now let's go back to Exodus 16:1–5—where we see Jesus as the Provider in the desert.

After leaving Egypt, the whole congregation of Israel came to the Wilderness of Sin (between Elim and Sinai), on the 15th day of the second month after their exodus.

The people complained against Moses and Aaron:

“Oh, that we had died by the hand of the Lord in Egypt... when we sat by the pots of meat and ate bread to the full! For you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger!” (Exodus 16:3)

This is so common today!

Christians constantly complain:

- “Oh, it’s so bad!”
- “I’m so worried!”
- “I don’t know what to do!”
- “How can this happen?”

But complaining is not the fruit of the Spirit—it’s the fruit of the flesh (Galatians 5:19–21).

Yet listen to the Lord’s response:

“Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you.

The people shall go out and gather a certain portion every day, that I may test them—whether they will walk in My law or not...

At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread—and you shall know that I am the Lord your God.” (Exodus 16:4, 12)

Two meals a day. Every day. For 40 years.

That is unimaginable faithfulness.

In the evening: quail covered the camp.

In the morning: dew fell—and under it was manna, “a small round substance, fine as frost on the ground” (Exodus 16:14).

They didn’t know what it was—so they said, “What is it?” (In Hebrew: “Man hu?” → Manna)

Moses told them:

“This is the bread which the Lord has given you to eat. Gather according to each one’s need—one omer per person.” (Exodus 16:15–16)

It was precise. Personal. Daily.

And here’s the staggering scale:

One omer = 3.6 liters

- For 2 million people → 7.2 million liters of manna daily
- In one year: 2,628 million liters
- In 40 years: 105,120 million liters (105.12 billion liters)

I once asked my computer to visualize this.

It created an image: a pyramid 100 meters high, with each side 1,775 meters long—and people standing beside it looked like tiny ants.

That's how vast God's provision is!

I've seen this in real life.

One man once asked me, "How much money have you spent preaching the gospel?"

I never counted—but that year, I used over 500,000 Norwegian kroner for travel, flights, and ministry—yet my salary was only 350,000, and I had a family!

When I showed him the numbers, he said:

"This is impossible... Only God can do this."

Yes! God multiplies what we surrender to Him.

4. The Great Deception: The Golden Calf

But then comes the terrible tragedy in the desert—Exodus 32.

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While Moses was on the mountain receiving the Ten Commandments (written by God's own finger on stone tablets), the people grew impatient.

“When the people saw that Moses delayed... they gathered around Aaron and said, ‘Come, make us gods that will go before us! As for this Moses... we don't know what has become of him!’” (Exodus 32:1)

Think about this:

Jesus Himself was with them!

He was in the pillar of cloud by day
In the pillar of fire by night

The Angel of the Lord—pre-incarnate Christ—led them
(1 Corinthians 10:4; Exodus 13:21; 14:19)

Yet they ignored His presence and demanded a visible, man-made idol.

Aaron said:

“Break off the golden earrings... from your wives, sons, and daughters.” (Exodus 32:2)

This is symbolic:

Earrings represent words that tickle the flesh—
Comforting, flattering, sensual messages that appeal to
our carnal desires, not to holiness.

They gave their gold.

Aaron melted it and made a golden calf.

Then they declared:

“This is your god, O Israel, who brought you out of
Egypt!” (Exodus 32:4)

How blind!

Jesus was standing right there—the One who parted the
Red Sea, destroyed Pharaoh’s army, rained manna, and
led them by fire and cloud—yet they made a mute idol
and called it their savior.

Modern parallel:

Today, many say:

“Jesus guided the doctor’s hands in surgery.”

But the truth is:

We are already healed by His stripes (1 Peter 2:24).

Jesus doesn't need doctors to heal—He is Jehovah Rapha, the Healer!

When we attribute God's miracles to human means, we diminish Christ's finished work—just like Israel replaced the living God with a golden statue.

Then Aaron built an altar and proclaimed:

“Tomorrow is a feast to the Lord!” (Exodus 32:5)

And what happened?

“The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.” (Exodus 32:6)

This sounds like many modern church services:

- Loud music
- Dancing
- Emotional highs
- Entertainment instead of holiness

Pastors, prophets, and apostles are building golden calves today:

- By planting churches based on human vision, not heavenly revelation
- By building altars of equipment, stages, lights, and programs
- By never going up the mountain to receive God's blueprint

Compare this to how Springs Of Revival began:

15 years of waiting on prophetic words

5 years of dedicated intercession with a prayer team in Norway

Only in 2009 did the Lord give the name, logo, mission, and proclamation

Officially launched in 2010—after divine instruction, not human initiative

That's the difference: Moses waited on the mountain.

Others demand idols down below.

5. God's Wrath and Moses' Intercession

The Lord told Moses:

“Go down! Your people... have corrupted themselves...
They have made a molded calf and worshiped it...
I have seen this people—they are stiff-necked!
Let Me alone—My wrath will burn hot, and I will
consume them!” (Exodus 32:7–10)

God was righteously angry—and rightly so!

He had:

- Delivered them with mighty power
- Given them manna, water, protection
- Led them toward the Promised Land
- Yet they turned away immediately

But Moses interceded:

“Lord, why should Your wrath burn against Your
people—whom You brought out of Egypt?

Why should the Egyptians say, ‘He brought them out to
harm them’?

Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel—to whom You swore, ‘I will multiply your descendants... and give them this land forever.’” (Exodus 32:11–13)

God relented—not because Israel deserved it, but because of His covenant faithfulness.

This reminds us:

God’s promises are eternal—especially concerning Israel (Romans 11:29).

6. Judgment, Repentance, and Consecration

Moses came down the mountain—two tablets of stone in his hands, written by God’s own finger.

Joshua heard noise and said, “It sounds like war!”
But Moses replied: “It’s singing” (Exodus 32:17–18).

When he saw the calf and the dancing, Moses’ anger burned—

He threw down the tablets and shattered them at the mountain’s base.

Then he:

- Burned the calf
- Ground it to powder
- Scattered it on water
- Made Israel drink it (Exodus 32:20)

He confronted Aaron:

“What did these people do to you that you have brought such great sin upon them?” (Exodus 32:21)

Aaron blamed the people:

“They gave me gold... I threw it in the fire—and out came this calf!” (Exodus 32:24)

But Moses saw the truth:

Aaron had failed to restrain the people—so sin ran wild.

Then Moses stood at the camp entrance and cried:

“Whoever is on the Lord’s side—come to me!” (Exodus 32:26)

All the sons of Levi gathered to him.

He declared:

“Thus says the Lord: ‘Put your sword on your side—go through the camp... and kill—every man his brother, companion, and neighbor.’” (Exodus 32:27)

About 3,000 men died that day.

Then Moses said:

“Consecrate yourselves today to the Lord—for every man has opposed his son and brother—so He may bestow on you a blessing.” (Exodus 32:29)

This is profound:

- 3,000 died under the Law—which condemns (2 Corinthians 3:7)
- 3,000 were saved on Pentecost—under Grace, when the Holy Spirit came (Acts 2:41)

The Law brings death. Grace brings life.

7. Application for Today: Don't Build Golden Calves

We can repeat Israel's sin today—even while Jesus is present among us.

In the beginning, we felt His presence deeply—“Oh, the power!”

But over time, it became normal... we stopped treasuring His presence

We started chasing feelings, experiences, atmospheres

When we live by feelings, we always need more:

- “We need another conference!”
- “We need a longer prayer meeting!”
- “We need more worship!”

But Jesus has already given us everything (2 Peter 1:3).

The problem isn't lack of presence—it's lack of faith.

Beware of manipulation:

- Music that speeds up to induce trance-like states (I've seen this in India—clapping faster until people fall in the flesh)
- Dancing with rapid foot movements—a practice borrowed from African ancestral worship, now used in churches

- Repetitive chanting (“Jesus, Jesus...”) becoming a mantra—like in occult practices
- Financial pressure: “Give \$1,000 to receive your blessing!”

These are all golden calves—idols of manipulation that replace pure faith in the Word.

True power comes from:

- The spoken Word
- Obedience to Scripture
- Walking in the Spirit—not the flesh

Don’t be afraid to walk away—like I did from that meeting in India.

We said:

“We don’t play games with people. We don’t build golden calves.”

8. Final Call: Walk in Faith, Not Feelings

I carry a burden—because I see so many churches:

- Building altars to entertainment

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- Manipulating emotions instead of transforming spirits
- Producing temporary highs, not eternal change
- People leave feeling happy, but unchanged in their spirit.

That's flesh, not faith.

Remember:

You are always in God's full armor (Ephesians 6)—you don't "put it on" daily; you live in it.

You are a warrior of Christ, covered by the army of Almighty God

You have all authority in Jesus' name (Luke 10:19)
What more do you need? Nothing!

So:

- Walk in faith
- Walk in the Spirit
- Preach the clean Gospel
- Make disciples
- Transform society

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In the mighty name of Jesus—our Provider, our Savior,
and our King.

Amen. God bless you richly.