

Verse 21 shows us that the gathering was to be every morning, early, before the sun waxed hot, for then it melted.

Here may be seen two lessons: first, the time for seeking Christ is in early youth, before we get hardened by the sin and evil of the world, as seen in *Ecclesiastes* xii. 1.

Secondly, to live on Christ must be a daily feeding,—the prayers and religious privileges of the Sunday will not suffice us for the rest of the week. Daily grace is needed for daily trial, and daily growth; daily prayer for daily strength: it is 'pray without ceasing'; a course so opposite to the religion of the world, who put on religion as a Sunday coat, that is carefully put away in the dark during the week, until the next Sunday comes round. If, through carelessness or hardness of heart sinners neglect to thus gather the manna early—now in this accepted time (*2 Corinthians* vi. 2)—the time may come in this life even, when the wrath of God will wax hot against them, and it will melt from their view, so that when they awake in eternity they will, like the rich man in *Luke* xvi. 24, thirst for the water of life in agony, but no drop will be then found to ease their torment.

In verse 24 there is the contrast to verse 20. When the manna was gathered for the use of the Sabbath day that was given to the Jews (verse 29), it did not breed worms. There was no finding the manna on that day. The word Sabbath means rest, and this is the word used in the Greek, in *Hebrews* iv. 9, translated in our version "rest" indicating the great day of rest that is to come for all the children of God during eternity. Thus if we gather manna now, in this our day of grace, it will last us during the eternal sabbath above: it will not corrupt, as is seen in this verse 24. But if we do not so gather, in preparation for this sabbath, but do as some of

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