



Numbers 11 (NRSV)

4 The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, 'If only we had meat to eat! 5 We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; 6 but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.'

10 Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the Lord became very angry, and Moses was displeased. 11 So Moses said to the Lord, 'Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favour in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? 12 Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, "Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors"? 13 Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, "Give us meat to eat!" 14 I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. 15 If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favour in your sight—and do not let me see my misery.'

31 Then a wind went out from the Lord, and it brought quails from the sea and let them fall beside the camp, about a day's journey on this side and a day's journey on the other side, all around the camp, about two cubits deep on the ground. 32 So the people worked all that day and night and all the next day, gathering the quails; the least anyone gathered was ten homers; and they spread them out for themselves all around the camp. 33 But while the meat was still between their teeth, before it was consumed, the anger of the Lord was kindled against the people, and the Lord struck the people with a very great plague. 34 So that place was called Kibroth-hattaavah, because there they buried the people who had the craving. 35 From Kibroth-hattaavah the people journeyed to Hazereth.

Way Maker*

Osinachi Kalu Okoro Egbu

You are here, moving in our midst
I worship You, I worship You
You are here, working in this place
I worship You, I worship You

(You are) Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper,
Light in the darkness, my God, that is who You are

You are here, touching ev'ry heart
I worship You, I worship You
You are here, healing ev'ry heart
I worship You, I worship You

You are here, turning lives around
I worship You, I worship You
You are here, mending ev'ry heart
I worship You, yeah, I worship You Lord

Even when I don't see it, You're working
Even when I don't feel it, You're working
You never stop, You never stop working (repeat)

Victory in Jesus

E.M. Bartlett

I heard an old, old story,
How a Saviour came from glory
How He gave His life on Calvary
To save a wretch like me
I heard about His groaning,
Of His precious blood's atoning
Then I repented of my sins
And won the victory

Refrain: Oh, victory in Jesus,
My Saviour forever
He sought me and bought me
With His redeeming blood
He loved me 'ere I knew Him
And all my love is due Him
He plunged me to victory
Beneath the cleansing flood

I heard about His healing,
Of His cleansing power revealing
How He made the lame to walk again
And caused the blind to see
And then I cried, "Dear Jesus,
Come and heal my broken spirit"
And somehow Jesus came and brought
To me the victory [Refrain]

And I heard about a mansion
He has built for me in glory
And I heard about the streets of gold
Beyond the crystal sea,
About the angels singing
And the old redemption story
And some sweet day I'll sing up there
The song of victory! [Refrain]

Food for Thought: Craving the Past (Numbers 11)

- **Introduction: finding fault with what God provides**
 - **Numbers background**
 - **Craving and -algia**
 - **Pathological nostalgia (PN)**

- **(1) PN distorts our retrospective vision**
 - **Slavery is no picnic**
 - **Mis-remembering the past**
 - **Ecclesiastes 7:10**
 - **Missing the miraculous present**

- **(2) PN hinders the progress of God's people in the present**
 - **A distraction from the mission**
 - **"Kill me now" (Moses)**

- **(3) PN precludes participation in the promises of the future**
 - **PN mortality rate in Numbers: 100%**
 - **Graves of Craving**

- **The past can be commemorated, even celebrated, but it must not be perpetuated when God is calling us to a future that He has provided**
 - **Philippians 3: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal. . .**

Doxology

Thomas Ken

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost