

THE GREAT WENCHOSTER BIBLE

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

11:4 The rabble among them had an strong craving; and the Israelites also wept exceedingly, and said, "If only we had meat to eat!

11:5 We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; and though the air was filled with many odours (let the reader understand) they were tasty.

11:6 But now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at which goeth not well with hummus or falafel."

11:10 Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents for there was much belching within. And without. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses placed a large veil across his nose and was displeased.

11:11 So Moses said to the LORD, "Why have you treated your servant super-badly? Why have I not found favour in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me?

11:12 "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 on her paps, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors? To begin with, I don't have any paps.

11:13 "And another thing: Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, 'Give us meat so that we may make lamb curry and stew and kebabs to eat!"

11:14 "I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me, and their breath stinks like unto the Nile when it turned to blood. And that's just the men.

11:15 "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. Sniff."

11:16 So the LORD said to Moses, "Oh cut it out! Stop this melodramatic hyperbole. Gather for me sixty-nine -- no, make that seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people, and officers over them; and after they have visited the place of easement, and wiped according to the Law, bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.

11:24 So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and after they were relieved, and wiped, he placed them all around the tent.

11:25 Then the LORD came down in the cloud, as was his want, and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, their breath became sweet and their gastric rumblings ceased, (but not all;) and they prophesied. But it was only temporary relief and they soon began to spew forth hellish vapours again.

11:26 Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Cyril, also known as Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. Obviously.

11:27 And a young man ran and told Moses, "Oy! Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp, and promising divers meats and comfits."

11:28 And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "Well? My lord Moses, stop them!"

11:29 But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, and smell better, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them! And what the bloody hell are comfits?"

