Man shall not live by bread alone
Study of the Word — Feeding on the Word

1. “Man shall not live by bread alone,
   But by each word which doth proceed
   From God’s own mouth”; these we must eat
   And let them be our life indeed.

2. Not just a body we were made,
   But body, soul, and spirit too;
   The inmost part the spirit is
   To contact God and Him pursue.

3. Just as we need the earthly food
   Our body’s need to satisfy,
   We need the food for spirit too—
   Thyself, Thy Word, its true supply.

4. Thou art the Spirit, and Thy Word
   Thy very Self expressed doth make;
   Thus, it is Spirit as Thyself,
   Which by our spirit we must take.

5. Thus, to receive Thy Word is not
   To read it only with our eyes
   And understand it in our mind,
   But ’tis the spirit’s exercise.

6. Thy Word in spirit we must eat
   And to our inmost part receive;
   ’Tis by our spirit’s exercise
   To pray with what our minds perceive.

7. Thy Word remaining in our mind
   Is only knowledge burdensome,
   But when it to the spirit goes
   Then life and spirit it becomes.

8. ’Tis only when our spirit acts
   To take Thy Word and contact Thee,
   We truly feed upon Thy Word
   And touch Thyself most inwardly.

9. Lord, teach us how to exercise
   Our spirit when Thy Word we read;
   Then will our spirit nourished be
   As thus upon Thyself we feed.

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