

Bread of Life 2019-06-02

John 6:48-58...

I am the bread of life. 49 Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. 50 This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. 51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

52 The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"

53 So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. 54 Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. 55 For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. 56 Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. 57 As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. 58 This is the bread that came down from heaven, not as the fathers ate and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever."

Roman Empire discredit Christian movement "cannibals"...CONTEXT!!!!

hungry so return and "follow" Jesus for their physical satisfaction. John 6:25-29

- not rebuke for seeking "free bread," but commands not work (give your life) for what spoils/perishes..... physical, temporary, worldly. Health, success, \$,
 - not *bad* things; just not *ultimate* things....spiritual, eternal things.
 - Look to God to provide as secondary not primary desires.

Begin to understand what Jesus was talking about but looking through Judaism "works" filter.

- What to do to control God so get what we want so lives are comfortable.
 - Feel better if earn God's favor than accepting charity. World religions.
 - Not favor with God by striving but simply believing in One sent. ME

Prove Messiah and worthy of our trust/faith; provide bread like Moses. John 6:30-34, 48-51

- Jesus corrects: God gave bread then (manna) and now (Jesus). John 16:12-15; 1 Corinthians 2:6
 - Manna physical/temporal bread daily sustained but not stop death and it pointed to "true bread from heaven" leads to eternal life.
 - Jesus is not just "giver" of bread, He is living bread from heaven.
- Heart of Christian: We do not climb up to God; bread comes down from heaven.
 - Salvation totally God: beginning to end.....Next week

Jesus was Bread of Life but took literally and miss point so Jesus reveals His Identity. John 6:35-36, 41-42, Exodus 3:14

- Understood His claim: "I am"...Jesus proclaims He is God! 1st of 7 "I AM's"
 - From human, horizontal, perspective that's not possible. Know your mother/father

Couldn't understand Jesus is the bread from heaven He'd been talking about.

- Passover week & eat lamb so Jesus changes bread analogy to flesh/blood! John 6:4, 51-58

- Basis transubstantiation (elements become Jesus body/blood)
 - Communion is remembrance of blessings Jesus bought with body and blood.

- Metaphor. Bread of life, living water, door, true vine, lamb, lion

Metaphor revolting to Jews because Gentiles believed idols partake of their food offering, digest and indwell them. Idea was whole life focused around relationship with this idol.

- Jesus is talking about atonement (51) and the necessary personal response of “partaking” of Jesus by faith in His death, burial, resurrection for eternal life. John 6:53-54, 35

- “Eat” is a verb that is at specific point in time...when saved.
 - Only beneficial if *you* actually eat Bread of life...others can't eat for you.
 - If do “never hunger” again.....eternal security.

Not just forgiveness but personal, dynamic relationship between believer and Jesus.

- Eat living bread picture of receiving Jesus into lives and become united with Him.
 - abide 1st mention in John: mutual indwelling =Jesus lives in us and we in him.

- Like air that is breathed: in person yet at same time, person in it.

Sweet intimacy with Jesus Christ is “bread that satisfies” and births desire to imitate/obey Him out of love. John 6:35, Matthew 5:6, Psalm 34:8

- “never hunger” speaks of eternal security and fullness/satisfaction in Jesus.
 - Greater your hunger (understanding of need) the deeper the sense of satisfaction in His provision and fullness.
- Only in relationship with Jesus Christ will deepest needs be fully satisfied.
 - Unconditional love/acceptance, secure eternity,
- Jesus is bread that gives eternal life, sustains spiritual life and satisfies completely.