

The Bread of Life

In This Series...

1. We are learning that Jesus makes some amazing claims about Himself. *(Son of God, Messiah, Prophet, Son of Man, Bread of Life)*
2. We know that MANY people say, “Jesus never claimed to be...” and yet, these claims were the reason that He was killed!
“We are not stoning you for any of these,” replied the Jews, “but for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, claim to be God.” - John 10:33

We Want More Bread

“So they asked Him, “What miraculous sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? ³¹Our forefathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written: ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” ³²Jesus said to them, “I tell you the truth, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” ³⁴“Sir,” they said, “from now on give us this bread.” - John 6:30-34

Jesus had just told the crowd that they should believe in Him.

They immediately ask for a miraculous sign.
(Remember that He fed 5,000+ of them the previous day!)

If Jesus was the Prophet and therefore greater than Moses, then He should be able to give greater signs than Moses.

“After the people saw the miraculous sign that Jesus did, they began to say, “Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world.” - John 6:14

Jesus told the crowd that they were wrong in four ways:

1. Moses didn’t feed them, God did.
2. True bread isn’t manna, but what the Father gives daily.
3. The bread of God is a person — *“He who comes from heaven.”*
4. True bread gives life to everyone, not just the Jews.

Again, people only thought literally. They believed Jesus and desired the bread, but did not understand the spiritual implication.

“They said, therefore, unto Him, ‘Sir, continually give us this bread.’” - John 6:34 (Young’s)

I Am that Bread

“Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty. ³⁶But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe. ³⁷All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. ³⁸For I have come down from

heaven not to do my will but to do the will of Him who sent me. ³⁹And this is the will of Him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all that He has given me, but raise them up at the last day. ⁴⁰For my Father’s will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in Him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.” - John 6:35-40

Jesus declared, “I Am the bread of life!” He stated that He solved the issues of hunger and thirst. *(This is the first of the seven “I Ams” in John.)*

Jesus made many amazing statements to the crowd in these few verses, but they only heard one, *“I came down from heaven.”*

We Want Different Bread

“At this the Jews began to grumble about Him because He said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” ⁴²They said, “Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can He now say, ‘I came down from heaven?’” - John 6:41,42

Of all of Jesus’ amazing claims, His declaration concerning His origin seemed to rile them most. (“The Jews”)

The crowd believed that they knew Jesus’ history. (They were, of course, ignorant concerning Jesus’ heritage.)

I Am the Bread of Life

“Stop grumbling among yourselves,” Jesus answered. ⁴⁴“No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day. ⁴⁵It is written in the Prophets: ‘They will all be taught by God.’ Everyone who listens to the Father and learns from Him comes to me. ⁴⁶No one has seen the Father except the one who is from God; only He has seen the Father. ⁴⁷I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life. ⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your forefathers ate the manna in the desert, yet they died. ⁵⁰But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which a man may eat and not die. ⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.” - John 6:43-51

Jesus scolded the crowd for their murmuring. This begins the change of the relationship between Jesus and His followers.

Jesus said that people only come to Him when the Father draws them and that all who do come to Him have life.

The people who ate the manna have died. *(And they died because of unbelief!)*

Jesus focused on life! *(Note the number of times it is mentioned!)*

Two Questions!

1. Do you understand that only Jesus can give life?
2. Do you, at least sometimes, see with your spiritual eyes?

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