

The Seal of the Father

John Chapter 6

Puritan Reformed Church - Pastor David Reece

Lord's Day January 21st, Anno Domini 2024

Scripture Reading - Genesis 20

Acceptable Sacrifice of Praise - Ps 19

- 1) **Erecting & Entering the Tabernacle** - God with us, The Logos Tabernacling Among Men & Faith in Christ as the Doorway of Entry into the Tabernacle **(1:1-28)**
 - a) Prologue - 1:1-18
 - b) Prelude to Jesus' public ministry (1:19-51)
 - i) The Testimony of John the Baptist Pointing to Jesus (1:19-28)
- 2) **The Brazen Altar for Sacrifices** (Exodus 27:1-8) - Behold the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world - Christ our Substitute **(1:29-51)**
 - i) John the Baptist's public witness concerning Jesus (1:29-34)
 - ii) Jesus gains his first disciples (1:35-42)
 - iii) Jesus gains two more disciples, Philip and Nathanael (1:43-51)
- 3) **The Brazen Laver of Water** - Cleansing & Spiritual Renewal by Christ **(John 2-3)**
 - i) **Sign 1:** Ceremonial Cleansing Pot: Water into Wine (John 2:1-11)
 - ii) Jesus clears the temple (2:12-17)
 - iii) Jesus replaces the temple (2:18-22)
 - iv) Inadequate faith (2:23-25)
 - v) Jesus and Nicodemus (3:1-21)
 - vi) John the Baptist's continuing witness concerning Jesus (3:22-36)
- 4) **The Table of Shewbread Loaded with 12 Cakes and Chalice** - Spiritual nourishment from the living bread **(John 4-7)**
 - a) Jesus and the Samaritan woman (4:1-42)
 - b) **Sign 2:** Healing the Official's Son (John 4:43-54)
 - c) **Discourse on Authority - Sabbath & RPW** (John 5:1-47)
 - i) **Sign 3:** Healing the Paralytic at Bethesda (John 5:1-15)
 - ii) **Jesus' response to opposition (5:16-47)**
 - (1) **The relation of Jesus to his Father (5:16-30)**
 - (2) **The witnesses concerning Jesus (5:31-47)**

d) **Discourse on Power - Providence & Salvation**

- i) **Sign 4:** Feeding the 5,000 (John 6:5-14)
- ii) **Sign 5 & I AM 0?:** Walking on Water (John 6:16-24)
- iii) **I AM 1:** I Am the Bread of Life (John 6:35, 48)

TEXT OF JOHN

IV. The Table of Shewbread Loaded with 12 Cakes and Chalices - Spiritual nourishment from the living bread (John 4-7)

- a) **Jesus & the Samaritan Woman - 4:1-42**
- b) **Sign 2: Healing the Official's Son - 4:43-54**
- c) **Discourse on Authority - Sabbath & RPW - 5:1-47**
 - i) **Sign 3: Healing the Paralytic at Bethesda - 5:1-15**
 - ii) **Jesus' response to opposition - 5:16-47**
 - (1) **The relation of Jesus to his Father - 5:16-30**
 - (2) **The witnesses concerning Jesus - 5:31-47**
- d) **Discourse on Power - Providence & Salvation - 6:1-71**
 - i) **Sign 4: Feeding the 5,000 (John 6:1-15)**

6:1 After these things Jesus went over the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. 2 Then a great multitude followed Him, because they saw His signs which He performed on those who were diseased [sick]. 3 And Jesus went up on the mountain, and there He sat with His disciples.

4 Now the Passover, a feast of the Jews, was near. 5 Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?" 6 But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do.

7 Philip answered Him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little."

8 One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him, 9 "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?"

10 Then Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. 11 And Jesus took the

loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted. 12 So when they were filled, He said to His disciples, "Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost." 13 Therefore they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten. 14 Then those men, when they had seen the sign that Jesus did, said, "This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world."

15 Therefore when Jesus perceived that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him king, He departed again to the mountain by Himself alone.

- 2) 200 denarii - 8 month's wages - about a day's wage, about 280 days wages in a year
- 3) Crowd - 5,000 men - patriarchy - total crowd maybe 10,000-20,000 or more
- 4) V. 11 - giving thanks before eating
 - a) Lord's Prayer - WSC - 98-107
- 5) Elijah in 2 Kings 4 - The widow's oil, resurrecting her son, purifying the pot of stew, and the 20 loaves feeding 100 men.
- 6) Frugality, provision, non-presumption upon God - collecting the remains
- 7) V. 15 - Avoidance of being made a King by unworthy followers
- 8) Seeking communion with God and rest from the presence of men

ii) Sign 5 & I AM 0?: Walking on Water (John 6:16-21)

16 Now when evening came, His disciples went down to the sea, 17 got into the boat, and went over the sea toward Capernaum. And it was already dark, and Jesus had not come to them. 18 Then the sea arose because a great wind was blowing. 19 So when they had rowed about three or four miles [Lit. 25 or 30 stadia], they saw Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near the boat; and they were afraid. 20 But He said to them, "It is I [Note - this is an I am Statement]; do not be afraid." 21 Then they willingly received Him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land where they were going.

- 9) V. 20 - I AM statement
- 10) Walking on Water in the midst of the sea and storm
- 11) Do not be afraid - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge & wisdom - the perfect love of God casts out fear - assurance of God's mercy toward you makes God a comfort
- 12) Once they knew who it was they let him into the boat willingly and either quickly completed the journey or else were supernaturally moved there.

iii) I AM 1: I Am the Bread of Life (John 6:22-71 [esp. 35, 48])

22 On the following day, when the people who were standing on the other side of the sea saw that there was no other boat there, except that one which His disciples had entered, and that Jesus had not entered the boat with His disciples, but His disciples had gone away alone— **23** however, other boats came from Tiberias, near the place where they ate bread after the Lord had given thanks— **24** when the people therefore saw that Jesus was not there, nor His disciples, they also got into boats and came to Capernaum, seeking Jesus. **25** And when they found Him on the other side of the sea, they said to Him, “Rabbi, when did You come here?”

26 Jesus answered them and said, “Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled. **27** Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him.”

13) Avoids answering the Question - addresses their motive for finding him

14) Bread of this world as the Good rather than Bread of Life as the Good

15) The focus of Labor - The food that perishes and the food which endures

16) The Father has set His seal on Him

28 Then they said to Him, “What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?”

29 Jesus answered and said to them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent.”

17) In order to do the works of God you must have faith, and God sovereignly controls who has faith.

30 Therefore they said to Him, “What sign will You perform then, that we may see it and believe You? What work will You do? **31** Our fathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’ ”

18) The sign is not more important or more authoritative than the reality.

19) This is trying to use the mission to make a profit - get temporary food by claiming to want the everlasting food.

32 Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, Moses did not give you the bread from heaven, but My Father gives you the true bread from heaven. 33 For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

- 20) The physical bread from physically above vs the everlasting bread from the reign of God
- 21) Exodus 16 - interesting Sabbath connection
- 22) Jesus as the reality of the bread - the shew bread and the Lord's Supper and the mana are all signs of this reality

34 Then they said to Him, “Lord, give us this bread always.”

- 23) They do not know what they are asking for - see the following

35 And Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst. 36 But I said to you that you have seen Me and yet do not believe. 37 All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means [certainly not] cast out. 38 For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. 39 This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. 40 And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

- 24) V. 35 - I am statement - I am the bread of Life
- 25) Hunger and thirst - connect back to Chapter 4 with Samaritan woman - Jesus: the object and satisfaction of man's desire
- 26) V. 36 - Seeing Him in the flesh and the signs and yet not believing the truth about Him.
- 27) V. 37 - Unconditional Election, Effectual Calling, Irresistible Grace, Regeneration, Preservation of the saints, Perseverance of the Saints
- 28) The Father gives the Elect to the Son
- 29) V. 38 - Christ Subject to the Command & Decree of the Father by the Intra-Trinitarian Covenant
- 30) V. 39 - The Command of the Father to perform the Decree of the Father - Preservation of the Saints, Resurrection unto life of the sheep
- 31) V. 40 - Summary - All who see and believe have everlasting life, all who have everlasting life will be resurrected unto life.

41 The Jews then [grumbled] complained about Him, because He said, “I am the bread which came down from heaven.” 42 And they said, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How is it then that He says, ‘I have come down from heaven’?”

32) See point 23 and V. 34

33) They do not understand the claim and think the claim contradicts His birth to Mary and adoption by Joseph.

43 Jesus therefore answered and said to them, [Stop grumbling]“Do not murmur among yourselves. 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. 45 It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’ Therefore everyone who hears and has learned¹ from the Father comes to Me. 46 Not that anyone has seen the Father, except He who is from God; He has seen the Father. 47 Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life. 48 I am the bread of life. 49 Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and are dead. 50 This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that one may eat of it and not die. 51 I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.”

34) V. 44 - Power of God in Salvation, Golden Chain

35) V. 45 - The Promise of the New Cov - Jer 31:34, Micah 4:1-4

36) V. 46 - Christ Alone or all who believe?

37) V. 47-48 - Object of Faith is Christ as revealed

38) V. 48 - Eating takes the form of seeing and believing - seeing is seeing with the mind (understanding) and believing is thinking that what is understood is true.

39) V. 49-51 - contrast of the two breads

- a) Jews Vs Jesus
- b) Rome Vs Protestant
- c) Bread Vs Word

¹ TR - has heard and learned

52 The Jews therefore quarreled among themselves, saying, “How can this Man give us His flesh to eat?”

53 Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, 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 eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. 55 For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. 56 He who eats 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 he who feeds on Me will live because of Me. 58 This is the bread which came down from heaven—not as your fathers ate the manna, and are dead. He who eats this bread will live forever.”

59 These things He said in the synagogue as He taught in Capernaum.

40) Realism

60 Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard this, said, “This is a [difficult] hard saying; who can understand it?”

61 When Jesus knew in Himself that His disciples [grumbled] complained about this, He said to them, “Does this [make you stumble] offend you? 62 What then if you should see the Son of Man ascend where He was before? 63 It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life. 64 But there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who would betray Him. 65 And He said, “Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father.”

41) Flesh Vs Spirit

66 From that time many of His disciples went [Or away; lit. to the back] back and walked with Him no more. 67 Then Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you also want to go away?”

68 But Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. 69 Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

70 Jesus answered them, “Did I not choose you, the twelve, and one of you is a devil?” 71 He spoke of Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon, for it was he who would betray Him, being one of the twelve.

42) Apostasy

DOCTRINE - Providence & the Golden Chain