

GOSPEL OF JOHN
JESUS CHRIST, THE BREAD OF LIFE
JOHN 6:26-60

Introduction

We saw how in the first 13 verses of this Chapter, **Jesus multiplied loaves and fishes to provide a multitude a meal in the desert!** According to *verse 14*, there were some that saw at least some of the significance of this miracle! This miracle pointed to the fact that Jesus was the Prophet (i.e. Messiah) that had been prophesied to come into the world in the Old Testament.

However, these folks missed the point of **why Jesus the Messiah had come into the world!** When Jesus multiplied the bread and fish, their minds went back to Moses day when the LORD sustained their forefathers in the wilderness with manna from heaven! (*Read vs 26-31*)

Jesus gave them a free meal in the desert and so the next day they came back looking for Jesus again and hoping for another free meal! Kind of like how the Israelites went out each day to collect their manna for the day! In fact we see them bring that Old Testament story up in *verse 31*.

Understand that **bread was considered a staple food of that day—i.e. a basic dietary item.** A person can survive physically a long time on just bread and water. **Bread was such a basic food item in that day that it became synonymous for food in general.** So Jesus is using bread here as a metaphor to communicate spiritual truth!

I. WE SEE THAT JESUS CHRIST IS THE SOURCE OF ENDURING BREAD! (6:26-27)

Here we see that the multitude had been so taken up with the satisfaction of their immediate physical needs in the desert that they did not perceive the real significance of what Jesus had done! To them it was just a free meal that was now gone!

When Jesus multiplied the bread and fish, **they realized nothing more than a temporary satisfaction of their bodily hunger!** Their desire in seeking Jesus again was wrong because it was just a desire for more bread and fish and NOT a desire for Jesus Himself and what He truly came for!

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Jesus drew a distinction here between the physical, material bread that is necessary for physical life but is temporary in its satisfaction and the Spiritual Bread that He gives that yields everlasting satisfaction!

Jesus is THE ONLY SOURCE of that Spiritual Bread that ENDURES unto everlasting life!

Endureth = “to stay” (in a given place, state, relation or expectancy)
Jesus says that it “endureth unto everlasting life!”

These folks failed to see that what is important in the ultimate end of life is that which is SPIRITUAL, not that which is MATERIAL!

When we partake of Jesus Christ by believing on Him, trusting Him and receiving Him, He meets our deepest need and stays with us for all eternity! He promises to never leave us or forsake us!
JESUS CHRIST ALONE IS THE SOURCE OF ENDURING BREAD!

II. WE SEE THAT JESUS CHRIST IS THE TRUE BREAD FROM HEAVEN! (6:27, 32)

“Sealed” = “to stamp (with a signet or private mark)...to attest”

God the Father showed His approval of Jesus Christ as the True Bread!

A. There Was The Attestation Given At His Baptism!

Matthew 3:16-17 16 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: 17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

B. There Was The Attestation Given At His Temptation!

(Matthew 4:1-11)

He was led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil, whom He successfully resisted by the Word of God and then He was ministered to by angels!

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It is not without significance that the very first temptation of Jesus involved physical hunger and the temptation to make His own bread.

Matthew 4:4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

- C. There Was The Attestation Given Through His Teaching!**
Luke 4:32 And they were astonished at his doctrine: for his word was with power.

Matthew 7:28-29 28 And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: 29 For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

- D. There Was The Attestation Given Through His Miracles!**
John 20:30-31 30 And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: 31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

- E. There Was The Attestation Given At His Transfiguration!**
Matthew 17:5 ...behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

- F. There Was The Attestation Given At His Crucifixion!**
Matthew 27:54 Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God.

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- G. There Was The Attestation Given At His Resurrection!**
Romans 1:4 And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:

Vs 32... "True" = "Truthful; not concealing"
Jesus both WAS and IS the real deal!

There have been many imitators who have come and gone and there will be many more imitators until Christ's coming! But only Jesus is genuinely Who He said He was!

WE SEE THAT JESUS CHRIST IS THE SOURCE OF ENDURING BREAD...THE TRUE BREAD FROM HEAVEN...

III. WE SEE THAT JESUS CHRIST IS THE LIFE-GIVING BREAD! (6:33-35)

There are some great things that Christ says in this Chapter about His being *the Bread of Life!*

The statement by Jesus here in *John 6:35*– "*I am the Bread of Life*" is the first of seven "*I AM*" statements that Jesus declared about Himself that are all found in John's Gospel! In all seven of these statements, Jesus combines the statement "*I AM*" with some tremendous metaphors which express some aspect of His saving relationship toward the world!

- A. Jesus, The Bread Of Life, Imparts Satisfying, Spiritual Life To The Hungry Soul!**

That gnawing hunger in man's life that he tries to satisfy cannot be satisfied with anything else! (*Vs 34*)

The world will try to satisfy that gnawing hunger, but the world and nothing in the world can satisfy that hunger!

Not fame, not fortune, not feasting, not festivities or fun, not friends, and not fornication...those things bring only futility!

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Jesus, The Bread Of Life, Imparts Satisfying, Spiritual Life To The Hungry Soul!

- B. Jesus, The Bread Of Life, Imparts Supernatural Life To The Hungry Soul!**
The life that Jesus imparts to us is literally, out of this world! He describes it as *eternal life, everlasting life, resurrection life, His life*— that’s *Supernatural life*, Amen!

Our natural life in this world eventually brings forth death!

IV. WE SEE THAT JESUS CHRIST IS THE DIVINE BREAD!

- A. He Is Divine In His Source! (Vs 32, 41-42)**
My Father giveth you the True Bread from Heaven!
Jesus is the Gift of God! Again, this Bread is literally “*out of this world*”! “*It’s heavenly!*”
- B. He Is Divine In His Mission! (Vs 33)**
To give life unto the world!

V. WE SEE THAT JESUS CHRIST IS THE LIFE-SUSTAINING BREAD! (6:40)

He gives life unto the world...everlasting life!

VI. WE SEE THAT JESUS CHRIST IS THE LIVING BREAD! (6:47-51)
HE LIVES!

VII. WE SEE THAT JESUS CHRIST IS THE MISUNDERSTOOD BREAD! (6:52-60)

Matthew 5:6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

When Jesus says those who **come** to Him will never hunger and those who **believe in** Him will never thirst, He is saying that He will satisfy our hunger and thirst to be made righteous in the sight of God.

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Conclusion

Jesus is that Bread of Life that is:

...Needed by all.

...Brought to all.

...Free for all.

...Sufficient for all.

Isaiah 55:1-3 1 Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. 2 Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness. 3 Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.

Isaiah 55:6-7 6 Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: 7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.