

THE BREAD OF LIFE

JOHN 6:22-35

Text: John 6:35

John 6:35

³⁵ *And Jesus said unto them, **I am the bread of life**: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.*

Introduction:

As this great chapter opens, we find Jesus preaching to a hungry multitude. As He finishes His message, He is aware that they are in need of food for their bodies, so, He does that which only God Himself could do.

He takes 5 small loaves, and 2 small fishes and feeds a multitude that probably neared 15,000 people. After all the people were satisfied the disciples took up 12 baskets filled with the fragments of this miracle.

One basket for every doubting disciple!

This remarkable miracle served as a life sized illustration for a sermon that Jesus was about to preach, a portion of which we have just read. In this passage, we are presented with a new portrait of the

Lord Jesus Christ. In this passage, Jesus is presented as The Bread of Life.

This is an interesting portrait of the Lord, since bread is a substance known and used by every society on the face of the earth.

From the American who goes the store to buy his bread to the savage who cooks his daily ration of bread on a stone beside his fire, bread is consumed by people everywhere.

By the same taken, most people enjoy their bread.

While some like meat and others don't, or some like greens and others don't, most people like bread.

Bread is one of the few foods that can be tolerated by most digestive systems. Also, bread has a satisfying quality that few other food products have.

Any way you slice it, bread is good and it is a food that most people need, use and enjoy.

When all this is taken together, it becomes clear why the Lord is portrayed as The Bread Of Life.

Notice:

1. THE LORD IS THE SOURCE OF LIFE

John 1:3

³ All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

All plant and animal life

All human life

Genesis 1:26-31

²⁶ And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. ²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. ²⁸ And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. ²⁹ And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so. ³¹ And God saw every thing that he

had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

In Him was and is life.

John 1:4

⁴In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

John 14:6

⁶Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

The Bible places a high regard for life.

Today however there is a departure from that position.

- Abortion

- Euthanasia

We must remember that life is from the Lord and should be sacred.

2. THE LORD IS THE SUSTAINER OF LIFE

Bread is vital to sustain life

Illustration:

The Jews come to Jesus and request a miracle, (What did they call the feeding of the multitude?), and they remind Jesus of the Old Testament miracle of the Manna.

They tell Jesus that Moses gave the children of Israel Manna, and they want to know what He is going to do.

Christ's response is to remind them that Moses was not responsible for the Manna, but that it was the provision of God.

He goes on to tell them that the true bread from Heaven is a person. In fact, it is the Lord Himself who is the Bread of Life, v. 33.

What the Lord is saying is that the Manna was a type of Himself.

Notice the various ways that the Manna speaks of the Lord.

- It Was Small

Exodus 16:14

*¹⁴ And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness there lay a **small** round thing, as small as the hoar frost on the ground.*

This speaks of Christ's humility.

He wasn't born in a king's palace, but in a manger.

He never employed the riches at His disposal, but lived a poor life all the time he was in this world, Mark 8:20.

Mark 8:20

²⁰ And when the seven among four thousand, how many baskets full of fragments took ye up? And they said, Seven.

He came this way in order to identify Himself with the sinners He came to save.

- It Was Round

Exodus 16:14

¹⁴ And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness there lay a small round thing, as small as the hoar frost on the ground.

This speaks of Christ's eternal nature.

The Lord did not have His beginning in Bethlehem, He has always been, John 1:1.

John 1:1

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God!

There has never been a time when He wasn't; there will never be a time when He will not be!

He is the I AM!

- It Was White

Exodus 16:13-14

¹³ And it came to pass, that at even the quails came up, and covered the camp: and in the morning the dew lay round about the host. ¹⁴ And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness there lay a small round thing, as small as the hoar frost on the ground.

This reminds us of the sinless, holy nature of the Lord Jesus Christ. He was born without sin, lived without sin and died without sin. He was absolutely impeccable in His character. Jesus is the sinless Son of God (1 Pet. 2:22; 2 Cor. 5:21).

1 Peter 2:22

²² Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:

2 Corinthians 5:21

²¹ For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

- It Came at Night

Exodus 16:13-14

¹³ *And it came to pass, that at even the quails came up, and covered the camp: and in the morning the dew lay round about the host.* ¹⁴ *And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness there lay a small round thing, as small as the hoar frost on the ground.*

The Lord came to a world lost in spiritual darkness and gave them light and life.

- It Was Misunderstood By Those Who Found It

Exodus 16:15

¹⁵ *And when the children of Israel saw it, they said one to another, It is manna: for they wist not what it was. And Moses said unto them, This is the bread which the LORD hath given you to eat.*

They called it Manna which means, "What is it?"

The Lord Jesus was misunderstood by the very people He came to save (John 1:11; John 10:20).

John 1:11

¹¹ *He came unto his own, and his own received him not.*

John 10:20

²⁰ And many of them said, He hath a devil, and is mad; why hear ye him?

By the way, He is still misunderstood today!

He is more than a teacher, a prophet, a poor unfortunate man who got Himself killed.

He is the Son of God!

He is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords!

- It Was Sufficient For Every Man's Need

Exodus 16:17-18

¹⁷ And the children of Israel did so, and gathered, some more, some less. ¹⁸ And when they did mete it with an omer, he that gathered much had nothing over, and he that gathered little had no lack; they gathered every man according to his eating.

This reminds us that the Lord is the all-sufficient Savior.

He meets the need of man's soul.

Some go deep in the Christian life, others get in but chose to play around the edges, but wherever you find yourself, as long as it is in the Lord, you will find that He is sufficient to save your soul.

Illustration:

God gave them approximately 240 boxcars of Manna per day for 38 years.

What a God we serve!

- It Was sweet to the Taste

Exodus 16:31

³¹ *And the house of Israel called the name thereof Manna: and it was like coriander seed, white; and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey.*

Those who partook of the Manna found it sweet and satisfying. By the same token, all those who receive Jesus as their Savior find Him to be sweet to the soul and satisfying to the life.

That's why David said in Psalms 34:

Psalm 34:8

⁸ *O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.*

- It Was to Be Shared With the Future Generation

Exodus 16:32

³² *And Moses said, This is the thing which the LORD*

commandeth, Fill an omer of it to be kept for your generations; that they may see the bread wherewith I have fed you in the wilderness, when I brought you forth from the land of Egypt.

The Lord is the same way; He is to be shared with those who cross our path. We are to be certain that we share Him with the next generation, because we are only one generation away from extinction as a people at any given time.

2 Timothy 2:2

² And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

As we can see that the manna was a perfect type of the Lord.

3. THE LORD GIVES SATISFACTION AND SECURITY IN LIFE

John 6:35-40

³⁵ And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst. ³⁶ But I said unto you, That ye also ³⁷ have seen me, and believe not. ³⁷ All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. ³⁸ For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will

of him that sent me.³⁹ And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.⁴⁰ And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

Close:

From these verses, it is plain to see that Jesus Christ is the only hope for the world.

He is what the soul of man needs before it can experience eternal life.

The question that comes to us at this point is this:
What have you done with Jesus?

Have you received Him into your heart and life?

Are you secure in His salvation?

Do you know Jesus "The Bread Of Life" in a personal way?