

The Gospel of St. John

John 6:22-40

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- Just too much to say about John 6.
 - Deity of Christ
 - Compassion of God consistently shown
 - Response of true disciples
 - Response of false disciples
 - Don't waste your life - what are you working for?
 - Sovereign plan of God, mystery of conversion
 - Does this foreshadow and establish transubstantiation Eucharist?
 - Powerful preaching of Jesus
 - Salvation and eternal life - Believe. Believe. Believe.

Believing:

- There is nothing in which you can be employed that is more acceptable to God than
 - Yielding to the evidence set before you
 - Acknowledging Jesus as Messiah, the Son of God, and the savior of sinners
 - Recognizing that Jesus is present in your life, yielding to him Lordship of your life.
 - Trusting what Jesus says
 - Obeying his commandments - respond
- This is what it means to believe!

Verses 30:

- Give us some proof that you are from God.
Why should we believe you?
- Now this is where I say the crowd is deluded!

Read:

- Luke 16:31, Mark 15:32, Matt 12:39-42
- Now something greater than manna is here!
- Unbelief is never satisfied, no matter the evidence.

Verses 31:

- What the scriptures taught these folks:
- Ex 16:4
- Ne 9:15
- Ps 78:24
- Ps 105:40

Verses 31:

- Exodus 16 - neat read. People still grumbling. Has anything changed?
- Manna tasted very much like corn flakes -- like ground coriander seed mixed with honey.
- Imagine eating corn flakes morning, noon and night for forty years, and thinking that was wonderful!
- The word "manna" itself means, "What is it?"
- Can you imagine eating "What is it" for forty years, every day, without fail, and then looking back on that as a great experience?

Verses 32-33:

- Important! Listen up! Pay attention! (amen, amhn, amen). Let me make this as clear as possible!
- First, God, not Moses, gave you the bread/manna.
- Second, it was not the true bread from heaven, only a symbol or foreshadowing of the *true* bread.

Verses 32-33 (cont'd):

- God has now given them real/true bread from heaven, nourishment of which he spoke - the fulfillment of the manna symbol.
- True bread was for the whole world, including the Gentiles.
- Forget the symbol of manna, God is giving you the *true* bread from heaven right now!
- Matt 5:6
- Didn't the manna "give life"? Read v.49

Verse 34:

- They are still thinking physical bread. Let that bread be our constant nourishment.
- John 4:13-15; 24-26.

Verse 35:

- Come on folks, don't you understand yet? Let me see if I can make this perfectly clear. *I am the bread of life!* And this is how you get the bread of life. Come and Believe!!

Verse 35 (cont'd):

- Never hunger and never thirst - spiritual meaning? (there is a universal hunger for spiritual food - something more!)
- Food for your soul not your body.
- Perfectly satisfied in you spirit - guilt removed, judgment removed, peace of mind, sins blotted out, rest, true happiness, a perfectly wonderful future, righteousness
- Matt 5:6

Verse 35 (cont'd):

- Jesus was always making parallels between the physical and the spiritual worlds as analogies.
 - Bread/manna eating - Jesus believing, coming.
 - John 2:19-21; 3:3-4; 4:13-14; 23-24
 - And many others: fishers of men, most if not all his parables are this way (workers, soil, virgins, slaves, etc.) used to describe the spiritual side.

Verse 35 (cont'd):

- 7 great "I am" statements of Jesus:
- John 6:35 I am the bread of life
- John 8:12 I am the light of the world
- John 10:7, 9 I am the door
- John 10:11, 14 I am the good shepherd
- John 11:25 I am the resurrection and the life
- John 14:6 I am the way, the truth, and the life
- John 15:1,5 I am the vine (true)
- John 8:58 ... before Abraham was born, I am.

Verses 36-40:

- “But the fact of the matter is that you have seen the evidence clearly for yourselves and yet you still don't believe me!”
- Jesus almost sounds discouraged
- JESUS' MISSION AND OURS "WAS [IS] FIRMLY ROOTED IN THE OMNIPOTENT SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD." (J. MacArthur)
- "We" are a gift from God the Father to God the Son! We have been given and received as a token of love, a love gift.

Verse 37:

- Thus enters the “mystery of conversion”:
- Fact 1: Not all who see Jesus will come or believe in him.
- Fact 2: All that are chosen will come! “shall come to me”. The chosen are drawn (v. 44) (influenced by God the Holy Spirit)
- Fact 3: All who come are welcome! - “I will in no wise cast out.” Emphatically stated!!

Verses 38-40:

- And another time we get a clear insight of God's will.
- Fact 4: All who come are forever safe!
 - Because Jesus came to do this very thing - the Father's will.
 - It is the Father's will that Jesus will never ever lose anything that he's been given.
 - It is the Father's will that those who believe in Jesus will have everlasting life.
 - Jesus personally will raise believers up at the last day.

Verses 38-40 (cont'd):

- The beauty of these verses culminates in the fact that, as Jude 1 says,
 - “Jude, a bond-servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, To those who are the *called, beloved* in God the Father, and *kept* for Jesus Christ:”
 - we are called and kept for Jesus Christ! Amen!
 - Lose a love gift?

Conclusion:

- Do you see the thread? Believe. Believe. Believe. Believing is described as eating.
- As we read these verses as well as a little later, we see God's absolute sovereignty in man's salvation.
- It is foundational to the Christian Faith!
- I think it expounds on the TULIP acrostic:
 - T (v.36) U (v.37) L (v.40) I (v.44) P (v.34)
- How do you know if you are one of the elect?
- Read v.37.