

# Jesus - The Bread of Eternal Life

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John 6:48-71

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## Jesus Continues to Teach to Dead Ears

- Crowd was grumbling because of Jesus' teaching...
- they attacked His origins <sup>42</sup>*isn't he just the son of Joseph?*
- Jesus responded with a spiritual assessment<sup>44</sup>

## Jesus Points Us to the Gospel

- Jesus once again calls us to believe in Him<sup>48-51</sup> using OT image: manna<sup>Num11</sup>
- Jesus contrasts manna of wilderness and Him being the true bread<sup>50-51</sup>
- Takes place during Passover feast - deliverance, lamb eaten, blood covering
- When they complain<sup>52</sup>, Jesus pushes harder into spiritual imagery<sup>53-56</sup>
- People missed spiritual like Nicodemus<sup>3:3,9</sup>; woman at well<sup>4:10,11</sup>

## What Was the Meaning of Jesus' Words:*feed on my flesh...*

- To meditate on His Incarnate humanity<sup>Barclay</sup> -NO - future event<sup>51</sup>
- Sacrament of Lord's Supper - RC bad doctrine of transubstantiation. Jesus didn't institute until year later. Opposes idea of Jesus' emphasis of salvation through faith alone<sup>29,35,40,47</sup> - believe not eat to be saved.
- Jesus says His words are spiritual<sup>63</sup>; Salvation by faith<sup>Gn15:6;Rm4:3;Ga3:6;Jms2:23</sup>
- Jesus makes it clear He referred to His Work: *I will give for the life of the world*<sup>51</sup>
- Passover: celebrated deliverance by God; eating of Lamb; blood on doorposts. John<sup>Baptist1:29</sup> declared ***Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.*** Spiritually eating Jesus by faith=salvation!

## A Reminder of Culture and Meaning

- Weeks ago we looked at cultural differences from our concept of food
- Bread=sustenance; Eating food=something had to die
- Jesus' words had meaning - you either eat<sup>believe</sup> me or die: <sup>51</sup>*I am the living bread that came down from heaven... the bread I will give for the life of the world is my flesh*

## Jesus Confronts Unbelief

- Many disciples: *this is a hard saying* Jesus asked if offended at what He said:
- Doctrine of Christ's incarnation<sup>33,38,51</sup> Jesus was God from heaven
- Jesus taught necessity of cross<sup>51</sup> - Jesus does work we can't do - faith alone
- Fallen man needs God's gift of faith<sup>37,39,40,44,45</sup> to have faith in Jesus
- These doctrines may raise your ire - but be careful that is man's pride
- Will you stake your eternity on believing Jesus' words or hold to your ideas?
- Son of God came from glory to humility... to go to the Cross to redeem
- Son of Man ascended<sup>62</sup> to heaven as the God-Man Redeemer<sup>51</sup> & Judge<sup>5:22</sup>
- Jesus words are spiritually discerned<sup>63</sup> Cry out to God for mercy of Spirit!
- Many turned back<sup>66</sup> at these hard words... didn't bother Jesus... He knew<sup>37</sup>
- Jesus asked His 12 disciples: *Do you want to go away as well?*
- What about YOU? Will you listen to Jesus and God's Word?
- John 6 is Jesus teaching God's Plan to redeem a people unto Himself:
  - Exodus 6:6-7 God brought Israel out to redeem them, just like us today
  - Exodus & manna: beautiful picture of what Jesus actually did for sinners
  - God's Plan as Paul wrote to Titus 2:11-14
  - This was God's covenant plan from the beginning: Ephesians 1:3-10
  - Rest in Jesus' work on your behalf in faith
    - to the praise of His glorious grace!