

## **Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ The Bread of God, Part 3**

Last time...our second study in the Bread of God teaching by Jesus, which will result in a second major shift in His life and ministry

- the end of His Popularity
- the beginning of the Hostility

The topic: His Deity

The theme: bread, the basic form of human sustenance

This time...the teaching

- continues
  - the Bread of God must be eaten to receive the gift of eternal life
- concludes
  - betrayal and abandonment of most
  - a revelation to a few

A radical teaching and a radical result

We will again be in John 6

Jesus has said, v27, v29, v32-33 connecting “bread” and Himself

v47-50 He that believes on Me... This is the Bread:

Jesus has equated and continues to do so

- “Me” with “that Bread of life”
- “believe” with “eat”
  - “he that believes on Me” with “This is the bread that comes down from heaven that a man may eat and not die”
  - Ezk 3, to eat = “to receive into your heart”, to take to heart

Whosoever will eat/believe on Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, has everlasting life.

Thus says the Lord, I AM, Who cannot lie

A person must believe in Jesus Christ to have eternal life

A person must ingest the Bread of Life to have eternal life

Manna was bread from heaven but it was NOT the Bread of God, Bread of Life, True Bread...because those who ate manna died in the wilderness;

Manna sustained them only for the day, not for eternity...

did not save anyone from eternal death

So why the manna?

Deut 8:1-3, 16

Purpose of the manna was

- character development (humility)
- instructive of the True Bread (latter end...which is now in John 6)

v51 I am the living bread...if any man eat...live forever...my flesh...give:

Now said more directly:

- Jesus is the Living Bread Whose origin is heaven (He is God)  
This is the 6<sup>th</sup> of 7x in this teaching He says He came down from  
heaven (LORD's throne),  
a statement the Jews murmured about in v42
- If any man...man must choose, a personal choice for which he is  
responsible
- eat of this bread...believe on Me
- shall live forever...be "sustained" or "satisfied" forever,  
have/possess everlasting life

Then He includes greater revelation of this mystery of God's Plan of Redemption  
The Bread He will give (v27, v33) (on behalf of, that there may be) life  
to the world is...His flesh/body

What is the only possible motive for such a gift that can be given only in death?  
Love, a selfless act of the will for the benefit of another and at the expense  
of Self  
John 3:16

v52 Jews therefore strove among themselves:

The Jews, the frustrated "king makers" of v14, have already murmured about this  
teaching (v41) but now their objection to it and Him gets more intense  
They quarreled among themselves...with and about Jesus  
Matt 10:34 played out

The Jews, not spiritually discerned, connected the words "eat" and "flesh",  
not "eat" and "believe"  
nor the gift of everlasting life with the giving of His body

Their "understanding" is carnal, not spiritual

Jesus and the Jews are on two radically different wave lengths...  
are talking but not communicating because the "king makers"

- do not believe so they cannot understand
- have grossly misinterpreted His words

They are not hearing/believing what Jesus is saying – He is God their Savior  
(6x in OT) from eternal death

They are challenging Him with much greater vigor...because

- their “understanding” is carnal, not spiritual
- they are hearing His words literally,  
devoid of spiritual depth or Biblical knowledge
- they are not connecting the dots as He plainly did for them
  - “Me” with “that Bread”
  - “believe” with “eat”
- they do not understand what Jesus is saying...because are not v45,
  - not taught of God (Word), rather are taught of men  
(rabbis and commentaries)
  - not learned of the Father, do not know the Father revealed in  
the Word
  - not coming to Jesus  
(Messiah of Gen 22, Is 53, Ps 22, Dan 9:26)

v53    Except ye eat the flesh...drink His blood...no life:  
Jesus is not speaking literally, He is speaking figuratively (in figures of speech)  
Thus says the Lord

Except...unless, this is the only way (Dad’s way of the highway)

Eat/drink/ingest...believe (Ezk 3)

Flesh: body/Bread to be given

Blood: Life (Lev 17:11) to be given

- a. Gen 14:18-20 with Heb 7:1-4  
fellowship, communion
- b. The fulfillment of the Passover Lamb of Exodus from bondage  
John 1:29
- c. what we celebrated this morning  
The communion elements...consumed and ingested...are
  - reminders of the over-arching spiritual mission of the  
Son of God – give His body/life for us to have life
  - speak of the oneness with, the connection with, God by  
faith in Jesus

no life...only death  
unless/except Father’s way

in...ingested/believed

v54-56 Whoso eats My flesh:

Jesus proclaims

Whoso...whosoever chooses, makes a personal choice to...

eat My flesh and drink My blood (figures of speech)...

believe on Me, commit to Me (Heb 11:1)

1. has/possesses eternal life and Jesus will raise him up to everlasting life (v39-40, Hab 2:4)
2. dwells in Jesus (John 1:4) and Jesus in (ingested) Him  
(John 17:20-23)

because

1. His flesh/Body/Bread truly is eternal sustenance
2. His blood/Life truly is eternal refreshment

v57 living...live by:

The Father is Living (and the God of the Living)

The Son lives by/through the Father

Those who eat/believe live by/through the Son

Matt 11:27 no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and *he* to whomsoever the Son will reveal *him*

Matt 10:40 He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me

Gal 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me

Jer 10:6-7 *there is* none like unto thee, O LORD; thou *art* great, and thy name *is* great in might. Who would not fear thee, O King of nations? for to thee doth it appertain: forasmuch as among all the wise *men* of the nations, and in all their kingdoms, *there is* none like unto thee

Jer 10:10a the LORD *is* the true God, he *is* the living God, and an everlasting king

Jer 10:23a O LORD, I know that the way of man *is* not in himself

The One True and Living God (Elohim) is further revealing Himself to His people and the frustrated "king makers"; if they only knew Scripture...

v58 bread...eat...live forever:

Jesus repeats Himself – the lesson/revelation is vitally important

v49-51

He knows they are hearing His words literally...he again connects the dots

The Bread of God teaching

- Jesus is the Bread of God, the True Bread from heaven, Bread of Life
- This bread must be ingested/eaten/believed on for one to not die but live forever

v59 synagogue...Capernaum:

When we go to Israel, we stand in the ruins of this synagogue

Those who have been can “see” it and the shaded area where we have a teaching

Place marker on your calendars, should the Lord tarry: May 2018

v60 This is a hard saying, who can hear it:

The disciples...

frustrated “king makers” + whoever else was in synagogue, not the 12...  
have blown minds, unable to get their heads around what Jesus is plainly saying

“This is a very difficult teaching/thought!

This is so radically different than what we “know” about the Messiah.

Who can possibly understand this nonsense!?”

Again, which comes first in spiritual matters (revelations of God):

- seeing or believing?
- understanding or believing?

The Bread of God teaching must be heard with faith in God rather than the  
intellectual reasoning of man

v61-62 Jesus knew in Himself...offend you:

Jesus did not need to be told the grumbling reaction/response of the listeners –  
He already knew, just as He has always known the thoughts and motives  
of men

So He asks them direct questions:

Does this teaching/truth offend you, trip you up, cause you to stumble in  
your following Me?

What will you think/believe when you see Me return to heaven from  
which I came? (after finishing the Father's will/business/mission)

Once you have seen, what will you believe then?

Then He explains the teaching, shedding light on the area of their  
confusion/unbelief

v63 spirit...flesh...my words:

Jesus plainly states He was NOT speaking literally and carnally but spiritually,  
using figures of speech

“It is the Spirit (of God) that makes alive (Gen 2:7)

The flesh benefits nothing (Gen 3:19, Jer 17:9)

The words I speak are spirit and life. (Deut 8:3)”

Heb 4:12 the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any  
two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and  
spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the  
thoughts and intents of the heart.

v64 some...believe not...knew from the beginning:

Hab 2:4...not by eating!

“But I know some (most) of you (choose to) believe not...  
will not eat/believe ingest Me that you might live forever.”

And He fore-knew that, because He is God with foreknowledge of these things  
from before the foundation of the world

- who would not believe in, commit to, Him
- who would not be given to Him by the Father  
(in addition to those that would be given to Him)
- who would betray Him
  - more than just Judas
  - to deny One Who so loved is nothing but betrayal

v65 no man can come unto Me:

Jesus' last word in the Bread of God teaching: repeat v44

To come = to believe = to eat

except...unless, only one way (Dad's way or the highway)

it...revelation of God by faith (v45) and then to come

if do not believe or refuse the revelation of God in v45,  
cannot come to Jesus (v44)

v66 many of His disciples went back:

As a result of this teaching, many of Jesus' disciples/learners/followers fell away  
(apostasy) and abandoned Him

The day before, they were fed with 5 loaves and 2 fishes and rightly proclaimed  
v14

But their Messianic hopes were false (v15)...they had their own agenda that was  
contrary to God's Plan

And He who would not be their King would not be their Messiah, and they would  
not be His disciples

Now after the Bread of God teaching, Jesus Christ was their Rock of Offense...

a stone of stumbling because they stumble at the Word of God,  
being disobedient

a Messiah they reject,  
to their shame

Rom 9:33 Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of offence:  
and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

v67-69 Will ye also go away:

Jesus turns to the 12 disciples and asks if they feel they same way and will also abandon Him

To which Peter offers a gem!

Where would we go, at the feet of which Master would we rest?

You have the words of eternal life.

We believe and are sure...ingest/eat Your words and are committed and convinced by faith.

You are that Christ.

Deut 18:15-19

You are the Son of the Living God.

Jer 10:10

v45

At least Peter “got it”, a spiritual teaching and not a literal teaching

Matt 16:13-18...revelation vs understanding right now

Did Jesus correct/rebuke Peter for this profession?

If He were but a “good man” and not God, His silence would make Him a “bad man”

By His silence Jesus is saying He is in fact God

v70-71 I chosen you...a devil:

Does God choose?

Absolutely, He is Sovereign

Jesus chose a devil...why?

To fulfill Scripture (Matt 5:17)

The apostasy of Judas starts here, in the synagogue in Capernaum, over a year before the Cross



The “new normal”, the new status quo, in the life and ministry of Jesus Christ:

The zenith of His popularity (feeding of 5000) “fed” into a radical teaching about  
His identity producing a great betrayal  
Jesus has declared His deity...and was roundly rejected  
There has been a sudden downfall of His popularity and a sudden rise in the hostility  
toward Him

His disciples are “divided”

- disciples = followers
- non disciples = not followers, not His
- from a megachurch filled with self-willed pretenders and carnal insincere hearers but not doers to a small group of committed and convinced genuine followers

Most of the people are now unbelieving and hostile  
A faulty or false faith = unbelief

Further “justification” of Matt 11:23

### **Application**

Matt 10:34	division of false from true
James 1:22	hear and do
Matt 7:21-23	the Lord’s agenda/Plan vs man’s