

## JOHN: THE WORD: GRACE AND TRUTH

24 So when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor His disciples, they themselves got into the small boats, and came to Capernaum seeking Jesus. 25 When they found Him on the other side of the sea, they said to Him, “Rabbi, when did You get here?”

26 Jesus answered them and said, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled. 27 Do not work for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you, for on Him the Father, God, has set His seal.” 28 Therefore they said to Him, “What shall we do, so that we may work the works of God?” 29 Jesus answered and said to them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent.” **John 6:24-29 NASB**

- Jesus urges these people to see the eternal life that He is offering to them and to not just look for satisfaction or value in the physical or natural realm.
- They ask Jesus... “What shall we do so that we may work the works of God?”
- Jesus tells them... “This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent.
- ...Jesus responds... “This...is above all things that God requires – that you should believe in Him whom He has sent. **John 6:29 Weymouth N.T.**

30 So they said to Him, “What then do You do for a sign, so that we may see, and believe You? What work do You perform? 31 Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘HE GAVE THEM BREAD OUT OF HEAVEN TO EAT.’ ” 32 Jesus then said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread out of heaven, but it is My Father who gives you the true bread out of heaven. 33 For the bread of God is that which comes down out of heaven, and gives life to the world.” 34 Then they said to Him, “Lord, always give us this bread.”

35 Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst. 36 But I said to you that you have seen Me, and yet do not believe. 37 All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out. 38 For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. 39 This is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day. 40 For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day.” **John 6:30-40 NASB**

- The people are asking for a ‘sign’ or miracle that would ‘out do’ Moses and the manna. **(v30-31)**

30 Therefore they said to Him, what sign (miracle, wonderwork) will You perform then, so that we may see it and believe *and* rely on *and* adhere to You? What [supernatural] work have You [to show what You can do]? 31 Our forefathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as the Scripture says, He gave them bread out of heaven to eat. **John 6:30-31 AMPC**

- Jesus responds to them. **(v32-40)**
  - God is the divine Bread giver, not Moses.

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- The True Bread of Life is Jesus.

34 Then they said to Him, Lord, give us this bread always (all the time)!

35 Jesus replied, I am the Bread of Life. He who comes to Me will never be hungry, and he who believes in *and* cleaves to *and* trusts in *and* relies on Me will never thirst any more (at any time).<sup>36</sup> But [as] I told you, although you have seen Me, still you do not believe *and* trust *and* have faith. **John 6:34-36 AMPC**

- “Everyone whom the Father gives Me will come to Me, and him who comes to Me I will never on any account drive away.” **John 6:37 Weymouth N.T.**

38 For I have come down from heaven not to do My own will *and* purpose but to do the will *and* purpose of Him Who sent Me. 39 And this is the will of Him Who sent Me, that I should not lose any of all that He has given Me, but that I should give new life *and* raise [them all] up at the last day. 40 For this is My Father's will *and* His purpose, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in *and* cleaves to *and* trusts in *and* relies on Him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up [from the dead] at the last day. **John 6:38-40 AMPC**

- Jesus tells us to ‘behold’ (fix our gaze on Him) and believe in Him and receive eternal life... “The Life of the Ages” **Weymouth N.T.**

41Therefore the Jews were grumbling about Him, because He said, “**I am the bread that came down out of heaven.**” 42They were saying, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does He now say, ‘**I have come down out of heaven?**’” 43Jesus answered and said to them, “**Do not grumble among yourselves. 44No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day. 45It is written in the prophets, ‘AND THEY SHALL ALL BE TAUGHT OF GOD.’ Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father, comes to Me. 46Not that anyone has seen the Father, except the One who is from God; He has seen the Father. 47Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes has eternal life. 48I am the bread of life. 49Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. 50This is the bread which comes down out of heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. 51I am the living bread that came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread also which I will give for the life of the world is My flesh.**”

52Then the Jews *began* to argue with one another, saying, “How can this man give us *His* flesh to eat?” 53So Jesus said to them, “**Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in yourselves. 54He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. 55For My flesh is true food, and My blood is true drink. 56He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. 57As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who eats Me, he also will live because of Me. 58This is the bread which came down out of heaven; not as the fathers ate and died; he who eats this bread will live forever.**”

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59 These things He said in the synagogue as He taught in Capernaum. **John 6 41-59 NASB**

- The people complain and grumble (**v41-42**)
- Jesus replies (**v43**) “Don’t grumble!”

No one is able to come to Me unless the Father Who sent Me attracts *and* draws him *and* gives him the desire to come to Me, and [then] I will raise him up [from the dead] at the last day. **John 6:44 AMPC**

- God’s amazing ‘drawing power’...He has placed eternity in the heart of every person (see **Ecclesiastes 3:11**) and the Holy Spirit is a ‘magnet’.
- Jesus ‘lays’ it on the line. (**John 6:47-52**)
- The people say ‘what’??

53 And Jesus said to them, I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, you cannot have any life in you unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood [unless you appropriate His life and the saving merit of His blood]. 54 He who feeds on My flesh and drinks My blood has (possesses now) eternal life, and I will raise him up [from the dead] on the last day. **John 6:53-55 AMPC**

- Jesus further exasperates these people who earlier were pushing to make Him their king.
  - In **v53** He says unless you eat My flesh, you won’t have ‘life’.
  - In **v54** He uses a different word...this word means chewing, munching, crunching, or gnawing...like the sound of eating an apple or raw vegetable. Instead of giving a ‘spiritual’ explanation for His words, He gives an even more graphic ‘physical’ one.

59 These things He said in the synagogue as He taught in Capernaum. 60 Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard *this* said, “This is a difficult statement; who can listen to it?” 61 But Jesus, conscious that His disciples grumbled at this, said to them, “**Does this cause you to stumble? 62 What then if you see the Son of Man ascending to where He was before? 63 It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life. 64 But there are some of you who do not believe.**” For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who it was that would betray Him. 65 And He was saying, “**For this reason I have said to you, that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted him from the Father.**” 66 As a result of this many of His disciples withdrew and were not walking with Him anymore. **John 6:59-66 NASB**

- Jesus speaks to His followers:
  - His followers, His disciples (not to the twelve) Tell Him...“What you say is hard to hear...harsh...hard to accept...offensive”.

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- Jesus responds..."does this stumble you? Does this offend you or cause you to fall??"

61 But Jesus, knowing within Himself that His disciples were complaining *and* protesting *and* grumbling about it, said to them: Is this a stumbling block *and* an offense to you? [Does this upset and displease and shock and scandalize you?] 62 What then [will be your reaction] if you should see the Son of Man ascending to [the place] where He was before? 63 It is the Spirit Who gives life [He is the Life-giver]; the flesh conveys no benefit whatever [there is no profit in it]. The words (truths) that I have been speaking to you are spirit and life.

64 But [still] some of you fail to believe *and* trust *and* have faith. For Jesus knew from the first who did not believe *and* had no faith and who would betray Him *and* be false to Him. 65 And He said, This is why I told you that no one can come to Me unless it is granted him [unless he is enabled to do so] by the Father. **John 6:61-65 AMPC**

- "If I return suddenly to heaven, would this offend you, too?" (v62)
- Jesus is providing the intent of what He spoke in **John 6:53-58... (v63)**
- It is the Spirit who gives life. Eating His real flesh and drinking His real blood is purposeless and would not accomplish anything.
- What Jesus speaks has a spiritual life-giving meaning. They are intended and aimed at producing true life in those who 'behold and believe'.
- Many of His 'disciples' decided to withdraw and no longer follow Him. (v64-66)
- Jesus asks the 'twelve' ..."Do you want to go, too?" (v67)
- Peter says, "Where would we go...You have the words of eternal life!"

68 Simon Peter answered, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words (the message) of eternal life. 69 And we have learned to believe *and* trust, and [more] we have come to know [surely] that You are *the Holy One of God*, the Christ (the Anointed One), the Son of the living God. **John 6:68-69 AMPC**

- Peter says, "We believe, and we are 'all in'!"