

Jesus is the Bread of Life (Part 1)

John 6:22-40

²² On the following day, when the people who were standing on the other side of the sea saw that there was no other boat there, except that one which His disciples had entered, and that Jesus had not entered the boat with His disciples, but His disciples had gone away alone—²³ however, other boats came from Tiberias, near the place where they ate bread after the Lord had given thanks—²⁴ when the people therefore saw that Jesus was not there, nor His disciples, they also got into boats and came to Capernaum, seeking Jesus.²⁵ And when they found Him on the other side of the sea, they said to Him, “Rabbi, when did You come here?”

²⁶ Jesus answered them and said, “Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled.²⁷ Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him.”²⁸ Then they said to Him, “What shall we do, 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 sent.”

³⁰ Therefore they said to Him, “What sign will You perform then, that we may see it and believe You? What work will You do?”³¹ Our fathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’”³² Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, Moses did not give you the bread from heaven, but My Father gives you the true bread from heaven.³³ For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”³⁴ Then they said to Him, “Lord, give us this bread always.”

³⁵ And Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall 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 by no means 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 the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day.⁴⁰ And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

Questions:

1. On the next day what did the people near where Jesus had fed the multitudes realize had happened? What did they do and where did they go looking for Jesus?
2. What question did they ask Jesus when they found Him? Why were they so amazed to find Him there?
3. In vs 26 why would Jesus rebuke anyone who went to this much effort to find Him? What was wrong with their reasons for seeking Him? What is the picture of their eating the loaves and being "filled"?
4. What did Jesus say they should do instead of seeking physical food? What type of food could Jesus give them that would be much better? How had the Father set His seal on Jesus?
5. Why were the people wanting to know what they could do to work the works of God? Did they mean what did they have to do for Him to keep giving them more bread?
6. How does Jesus answer come as a surprise to them? How is the work of God believing in Him whom God sent?
7. What sign were they wanting Jesus to perform for them so they would believe? Were they wanting to see if He could give them manna from heaven like Moses did?
8. Jesus points out several errors in their reasoning about the comparison with Moses... was it really Moses who gave them the manna? What was God now giving them that was far greater than the manna in the wilderness?
9. What is the bread of life? Was this the bread the people had in mind? Why were they seeing Him and yet not willing to believe in Him and render the work of God?
10. In spite of the unbelief of those seeking Him for the physical benefits, how is Jesus confident that the will of the Father will be successfully carried out in those who do come to Him in true belief? When will this be completed?