

The Bread of Life

John 6: 35-40

The verses that we have read today come immediately after two of the most recognized miracles in the Bible. Jesus had just fed the 5,000 with five barley loaves and two small fishes. After the excitement of the day, Jesus put the disciples on a boat to cross over the Sea of Galilee headed toward Capernaum. During their journey a storm arose and Jesus came walking on the water. As He entered the boat, immediately they reached the shore.

Morning has now come and the multitude that was involved in the multiplying of the bread and fish have once again made their way to Jesus, [v.24](#). It is always good to seek for Jesus, but we must ensure that our motives are right. These had not come because they sensed a spiritual need; they had come simply in hopes of receiving more bread. These events have led up to the discourse that Jesus gives on the Bread of Life. He wants them to look beyond their physical need and examine their hearts concerning their spiritual conditions.

I fear that many are seeking Jesus today, but not for the right reasons. If we have come to barter with the Lord or in hopes of improving our lives without taking the time to

examine our hearts, we likely will not receive much from Him today. He is interested in our physical needs, but He is most interested in where we stand spiritually. I want to look at the great **lessons** that Jesus teaches concerning salvation as we consider: **The Bread of Life.**

I. The Presentation of the Savior (35-36) – Jesus reveals several things that the people needed to understand. We too must embrace them.

A. His Person (35) – Jesus begins this powerful statement with an affirmation of whom He is, **I am**. This is the first of several “I Am” state-ments that Jesus reveals concerning Himself in John’s gospel alone. He said, “**I am the Bread of life; the Light of the world; the Door; the good Shepherd; the Resurrection and the Life; the Way, the Truth, and the Life; and the true Vine.**” He wanted them to see Him for who He was. He was much more than one who worked wonders; He is the I AM! Surely this brought to mind when Moses stood by the burning bush. **Ex.3:14 – And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.** Jesus would later proclaim His deity in **Jn.8:58 – Verily, verily, I say unto**

you, Before Abraham was, I am; and in Rev.1:8 – I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

We must see the Person of Jesus as He is, the I AM!

I. The Presentation of the Savior (35-36)

A. His Person (35)

B. His Preeminence (35) – We must keep in mind the setting for these events. Jesus had provided bread for them the day before. Many of them had come looking for another meal. Jesus knew the desire of their hearts and had compassion because they were unaware of who He was and what He had come to do for them, vv,26-27; 32-33.

- We too must see Jesus for who He is. He is the Bread of life. He is the source of our salvation! He is our only hope of redemption. He is our Anchor of the soul that keeps us in this life.
- Far too many are looking to every source imaginable to find real peace and contentment. They are like the multitude, only seeking happiness in this life. Many today are trusting in their religious traditions or works that they have done. We must get to the place that we see Jesus as our Savior and come to Him for salvation!

C. His Provision (35b) – The multitude was seeking physical bread that would only sustain them for a while, but Jesus offered the Bread of life that once received, man would never hunger again. He offered life giving water that would forever satisfy the thirst of a hungry soul. **Rev.21:6 – And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.**

- I rejoice for the Bread of life that I have received. I praise the Lord that He satisfied the thirst within my soul. It has been sufficient all the years and I have never found Him to be lacking.

- Many today are like those who came to Jesus that day. They are looking for things to satisfy but can't seem to find what they desire. Many look to the pleasures of the flesh, alcohol, or a bottle of pills, but once the effects of those influences wear off there is still a hunger and emptiness in the soul. Jesus is the only One who can provide what we need, and His provision is for eternity. One touch from the Lord and you will be forever changed!

D. His Position (36) – Jesus knew the desire of their hearts. He knew their intentions. They were more than happy to receive the benefits that He provided, but they were unwilling

to submit to Him as Lord and Master. Their rebellion and unbelief would hinder their receiving His marvelous gift.

- This fundamental truth has not changed and never will. No doubt all who ever lived want to go to heaven when they die. All desire to receive the favor and grace of God in their lives, but all are not willing to receive Christ.

- He is the source of our salvation. There is no other way to be forgiven and inherit eternal life. What we do with Jesus is the defining factor in our lives and our eternal destiny. Yes it rains on the unjust as well as the just, but one cannot expect to receive the favor of God apart from the Lord. He must be recognized and accepted as Lord if man is to be saved.

I. The Presentation of the Savior (35-36)

II. The Plan for our Salvation (37-38) – Jesus reveals great truth about God’s plan of salvation. Let’s consider the elements involved in these truths.

A. The Sovereignty (37a) – Jesus speaks of those whom the Father has given unto Him. It is those who come unto Him. If we are to be saved and receive the Bread of life, there must have been a drawing of the Lord, v.44. There

must be the work of the Holy Spirit dealing with our hearts in conviction. We cannot leave God out of the salvation process.

- There are many today who are not saved and yet they fully intend to get saved. “I plan on getting saved before I die, just not right now. I have a lot of living yet to do.” There is only one problem with that attitude, we can’t just get saved when we decide that we want to. The Lord must be dealing with our hearts and drawing us toward the Savior.

- Many have had good intentions, but I fear that hell is filled with good intentions. If you are unwilling to do business with God when He is dealing with your heart, what makes you think that you will be willing to when He isn’t? Once again, we cannot leave God out of the salvation process! We must come as He leads.

II. The Plan for Salvation (37-38)

A. The Sovereignty (37a)

B. The Security (37b) – These were seeking fulfillment for a temporal need. Had Jesus produced bread again, they could’ve been filled, but just as before they would’ve hungered again. Jesus declares that all who come to Him will be received and

enjoy the benefit that He affords. He offers much more than physical bread to those who believe.

- What a promise for the child of God! All who come to Him shall never be cast out. There will never come a day when we are asked to leave the presence of the Lord. There will never be a time when He fails to care for us. There will never be a circumstance that He isn't able to provide our need.

- I have put my faith and trust in One who is well able to keep me. The saved are secure in Jesus. I wonder what those who deny eternal security do with this passage! If we have come to Lord and have been received of Him, there is no fear in being cast out. We are secure in Christ, [Jn.10:28-29](#); [Rom. 8:31-39](#).

II. The Plan for our Salvation (37-38)

A. The Sovereignty (37a)

B. The Security (37b)

C. The Submission (38) – Clearly those present that day had not grasped the enormity of this encounter. Calvary was yet in the distance, but already Jesus is resigned to go to the cross. He is determined to fulfill the plan of salvation that God had set forth before the foundation of the world. Had there been no Savior there would be no salvation and Jesus fully submitted to offering Himself a sacrifice for the sins of mankind!

- Salvation is the most precious gift that one could receive and I am truly thankful that I have been saved, but often we forget just what our Savior endured to fulfill salvation's plan. He was the holy, sinless Son of God. He who knew no sin, He who never once committed sin or had to seek forgiveness willingly took our sin upon Himself, bearing that sin on the cross. He could've called more than twelve legions of angels and escaped the cross, but He submitted to that awful death so that we might be saved!

I. The Presentation of the Savior (35-36)

II. The Plan for our Salvation (37-38)

III. The Power in our Salvation (39-40) – In these verses Jesus reveals the matchless power that is associated with our salvation.

A. Our Hedge (39) – Once again Jesus is speaking of the will of the Father. He has come to offer Himself a sacrifice for our sin, fulfilling salvation's plan, and all who come to Christ in salvation will be kept by His power. (I'm glad that it isn't up to me to keep myself saved!) Of all the Father hath given Him, He should lose nothing, not a single soul who has come to Christ is lost!

- No doubt those who followed Jesus may have wondered about their security in Him as He died upon the cross, but death was not the end for our Lord. He rose from the grave victorious over sin, having completely secured salvation for all who come unto Him.

- We can take comfort in that today. In fact we can greatly rejoice. All who are saved are hedged in by the power of God. There aren't enough demons in hell to remove us from the grace and power of Christ. Every soul that has ever received Christ will be found worshipping Him in heaven! [1 Pet.1:5 –Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.](#)

III. The Power in our Salvation (39-40)

A. Our Hedge (39)

B. Our Healing (40) – Long before Jesus ever walked upon this earth in the form of a man, sin had entered into the hearts of men. That sin caused separation between God and man.

Because of that sin, all who ever lived stood condemned in that sin. God demanded that we be righteous as He is righteous. That is impossible within ourselves. There had to be a sacrifice to atone for that sin in order for restoration to be made. Jesus became that Sacrifice and through Him man can now be restored

unto God. The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. I'm glad that I no longer stand condemned but have received His righteousness.

- The key to this verse is **every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on Him**. We must see our need before a holy God and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior. There were many in Jesus' day who knew who He was, but they never believed on Him. Many today know who Jesus is, but they have never come to Him in salvation. There must be more than head knowledge; we must know Christ in a personal way unto salvation.

➤ Lastly we see:

C. Our Hope – Twice in these verses Jesus speaks of those who will be raised up in the last day. He is speaking of the coming resurrection. Many who have believed in the Lord have gone by the way of the grave, but just as it was for our Lord, death is not the end for the child of God either. We too have the hope of being raised again when Jesus steps out and calls for His bride. **Titus 2:13 – Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; (1 Thes.4:16-17)**

(Conclusion)

We have dealt with a wonderful passage of Scripture today. Jesus is the Bread of life. He is the source of our salvation, the Anchor of our souls, and the Hope of our resurrection.

Do you know Him today as Lord and Savior of your life? If not, you can. He came that all might be saved.

The choice is yours. Will you partake of the Bread of life or refuse Him? The difference is being saved or remaining lost in sin, heaven or hell. Why not come to Him today and partake of the Bread of life?