

# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

## JOHN 6:25-40

LESSON: JESUS: THE BREAD OF LIFE—January 17, 2021

### INTRODUCTION:

**6:22** The day following, when the people which stood on the other side of the sea saw that there was none other boat there, save that one whereinto his disciples were entered, and that Jesus went not with his disciples into the boat, but that his disciples were gone away alone;— The following day, those who had been fed by Jesus began looking for Him. Remember there were more than five thousand people and actually there were five thousand men alone. Since they knew He had not crossed the sea with His disciples, they were puzzled at His disappearance. He did not leave with the boat.

**6:23** (Howbeit there came other boats from Tiberias nigh unto the place where they did eat bread, after that the Lord had given thanks:)— There came other boats from Tiberias to the place where Jesus had multiplied the loaves and fishes, and gave thanks. It appears they supposed that Jesus had entered one of those boats and gone to Capernaum after His disciples had departed.

**6:24** When the people therefore saw that Jesus was not there, neither his disciples, they also took shipping, and came to Capernaum, seeking for Jesus. The people believing that Jesus was the answer to their need, they did what they should have done: they sought after Him. Other boats had drawn up to shore during the night, probably seeking refuge from the storm. Therefore, the people immediately took passage on these boats. Their search ended in Capernaum hoping to find Jesus.

### LESSON:

#### I. INQUIRIES JOHN 6:25-29

**6:25** And when they had found him on the other side of the sea, they said unto him, Rabbi, when camest thou hither?— The last time they saw Jesus was when He dismissed the crowd, now He's on the other side of the sea. They have to ask, "*Rabbi, how did you get here?*" They knew that the disciples had left alone; without Jesus.

**6:26** Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled. Jesus didn't answer the question they asked. Instead, He rebuked their motives. He stated that although the people had seen the signs, they had not accepted them for what they were (proof of His true Messiahship). They were only interested in the physical (need for food), not in the spiritual. Jesus uses every opportunity to teach. They really had a selfish agenda. Many see what was given, but not the Giver. They see the product, but not the Creator. Jesus provides because He's Provider. Jesus' point was that He fed them not to linger on the physical food, but for them to believe in Him as their spiritual food. Jesus tells them...

**6:27** Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed. "*Labor not*" means to "*stop working for*" or be in anxiety for the physical bread which perishes. Rather, they should labor (work) for that meat which endures eternally, or work for the real food which produces

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everlasting life. That food is Christ Himself. The meat that spoils can't endure to nourish a person, but the meat which is the Son of man is the one to labor for; He endures to nourish eternally. He is the WORD. He is the TRUTH. He is the WAY. He is the LIFE. He is the LIGHT! He is the One who can give life that is both abundant and eternal. Our nourishment for life is in Jesus Christ not in our temporary labor that perishes. Jesus said in John 4:34 *"...My meat is to do the Will of Him that sent me, and to finish His work."* Their meat should be labored for the Bread of Life that endures forever, the Son of man whom the Father has already sealed and given authority to; the one that will fill and nourish them. The Father had commissioned, authorized, and stamped His seal of approval upon the work of the Son. The Father sealed His authenticity upon Jesus as **the Son of man**. He has the authority to give everlasting life. He's the only One who could.

**6:28** Then said they unto him, **What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?**— The people asked the question as to what they could do to work the works of God. They thought in terms of work. I think we think this same thing when we think of purpose— *'How do I find my purpose?' or 'What is it that God wants me to do?'* They thought that by doing good works they could win the approval and acceptance of God. We are still believing we must work to please God. There is nothing you can do to earn it, but there is plenty you can, and must do once you have believed in Him; once you have believed in what He can do through you. And it is not about you doing it to earn salvation or favor with God. The key word is "believe."

**6:29** Jesus answered and said unto them, **This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.** Jesus is saying, *'I'm going to let you in on a secret, just believe on 'Me' whom the Father sent.'* Jesus corrected the people's thoughts, their concept of salvation by works. They would not secure the favor of God nor His acceptance because of works. They received God's favor and acceptance because of a work, one work (singular), and that is, THE WORK OF GOD— BELIEVE ON HIM WHOM GOD HATH SENT— THIS IS THE WORK HE HAS DONE! THIS IS THE WORK OF GOD TO BELIEVE ON!

## II. DEMANDS JOHN 6:30-34

**6:30** They said therefore unto him, **What sign shewest thou then, that we may see, and believe thee? what dost thou work?**— The people demanded proof. Jesus had just made some phenomenal claims. He claimed to be...

- The Son of man (6:27).
- The One who feeds man, who gives man bread which issues forth eternal life (6:27).
- The One whom God had sealed (6:27).
- The One whom God had sent into the world (6:29).
- The One upon whom men were to believe (6:29).

So the people demanded a sign to all these claims. Even before this, Jesus had just miraculously fed 5,000 *"plus"* people and yet they ignored the witness of that particular sign. It was not enough. They wanted a *"miracle on demand."* After all God has done for us, and after all we have seen Him do, do we still require a sign? Well, they stated...

**6:31** Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, **He gave them bread from heaven to eat.** To them they see that...

- Moses had fed Israel for forty years in the wilderness, while Jesus had fed them only once.
- Moses had fed Israel with manna falling out of the sky from heaven, while Jesus had merely multiplied bread from a few loaves in His hands. They even brought in the scripture.

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This is like a slap in the face, comparing the forefathers to Christ. Even though manna was supplied in the wilderness by God. And then after a while they didn't want it, for they too were never satisfied. They wanted more like little children. Let's go back. The Israelites ate manna everyday for 40yrs. They're talking about physical food to sustain them, what does that say to us about spiritual food. If the doctor says take this medicine 3 times a day, what does this say to us about spiritual medicine that's from God. Can we eat it everyday? Can we consume and digest it 3 times a day? Proverbs 4:20-23 says *"My son attend to my Words, incline thine ear to my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart, For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh. Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."* Take time to eat His Word!

**6:32** Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. So, after the people had told Jesus what was written of their fathers, Jesus lets them know that it wasn't Moses who gave them bread from heaven; Moses was not the life sustainer or source of life, but it was His Father. God alone provides true bread; true spiritual satisfaction; true sustaining nourishment. Jesus is saying that there is something more than manna; there is *"true bread out of heaven"* and 'this is what you need.' He is the Bread of God, He is the Bread of Heaven, and He is the Bread of Life!

**6:33** For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world. <sup>1</sup>Jesus, again, here is speaking of Himself being the Bread of God to the world. Jesus came down from heaven and took on the flesh of man. God was going further to sustain them with bread from heaven, in the form of His Son.

- The Bread of God is a person. He came down out of heaven; out of the very presence of God Himself.
- The Bread of God gives life to the world by...
  - Nourishing and sustaining
  - Satisfying
  - Energizing
  - Creating desire
  - Being partaker on a regular basis

**6:34** Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread. This certainly not the bread mentioned in verse 31. This is spiritual. Like the Samaritan woman at the well saying, *"give me this water;"* they too are saying, *"always give us this bread."* There are two significant points:

1. The people called Jesus Lord.
2. The people requested the Bread of God.

How much they understood of His deity is not known. They went from demanding a sign to asking for this bread. It might have just been an address of respect or did they really hear and receive the true bread from heaven who gives life to the world?

## III. EXPLANATIONS JOHN 6:35-40

**6:35** And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst. This is the 1st of the I AM in the Gospel of John:

There are five significant points:

1. Jesus identifies Himself as the Bread of Life.
2. Jesus needs them to come. *Because in coming...*
3. You will never hunger.
4. You must believe on Jesus. *Because in believing...*
5. You will never thirst.

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| 1. I AM the Bread of Life                | -6:35  |
| 2. I AM the Light of the World           | -8:12  |
| 3. I AM the Door of the Sheep            | -10:7  |
| 4. I AM the Good Shepherd                | -10:11 |
| 5. I AM the Resurrection and Life        | -11:25 |
| 6. I AM the Way, the Truth, and the Life | -14:6  |
| 7. I AM the True Vine                    | -15:1  |

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.lovetheLord.com/books/john/17.html>  
<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-sunday-school.html>

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As you come and believe, Jesus is speaking to you spiritually. You will never hunger when you come. And you will never thirst when you believe. All of this is through faith! Hebrew 11:6 says *"Without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him!"* Every need of life, nourishment, and spiritual growth is met through believing in and on Jesus Christ. Nothing is left out or is lacking when a person comes to Christ and believes (a continuous action, meaning continuing to believe). Matthew 5:6 says, *"Blessed are they which hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled."* You will never go unsatisfied. He is your Source of Life!

**6:36** But I said unto you, That ye also have seen me, and believe not. Well, in verse 26 Jesus explains that He said to them *"Verily, verily, I say unto you."* What did He say? *"Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles"* Their spiritual eyes weren't open to see Jesus as the *"Sent One"* and believe! After seeing the miracles, they sought Him because of the food. They are looking right at Him but don't see Him enough to believe in Him! Some of us are still blind today. They had asked for a sign that they might believe (6:30), after they had seen a sign (feeding the 5,000 plus). Jesus said to them again *"Verily, verily, I say unto you"* (6:32) that the manna in the dessert; the bread from heaven was given by His Father, not Moses. Any of the people could have easily come to Christ, yet sitting there and hearing the glorious news, they still did not believe. When? You ask. Let's go to verse 29 before the demands. *"Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent."* Christ was seen but rejected. The point is that the people were without excuse. They had every opportunity in the world.

- The Bread of God had come down from heaven (6:33).
- The Bread of God had come to give life to the world (6:33).
- The Bread of God had been seen (6:29).
- The Bread of God was being seen and proclaimed at that very moment.

Do we know a miracle when we see it?

**6:37** All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. I find Seven Assurances for the Believer:

1. The first assurance for the believer is GOD'S PREDESTINATION. It is those whom the Father gives that come to Christ. It is God Himself who has drawn believers; who had moved upon and stirred them to come to Christ. The purpose of God is being done. He is God, therefore He rules and controls all things.
2. The second assurance for the believer is ASSURED SECURITY. Those that come to Jesus, He will in no way cast out because Jesus gives His Word. He accepts the person who comes to Him; the person who turns from the world and the flesh to Him.

**6:38** For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. Wow!

3. The third assurance for the believer is GOD'S WILL IS DONE.
  - Jesus declared His origin—He came down from heaven (Jh.3:31).
  - Jesus came not to do His own will, but the will of God.
  - Jesus subjected His Will to God's Will. He would not allow His Will to come forth to separate them.

**6:39** And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.

4. The fourth assurance of the believer is that JESUS WILL LOSE NONE. The Father sent Jesus for His purpose. Jesus is to have many brothers and sisters.
  - God's Will is that Jesus will not lose any.
  - God's Will is that Jesus will save every true believer even up until the final hour of the very last day—the Day of Resurrection!

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The Lord's salvation is complete, ultimate, and final. No matter the trials, the heartaches, the hurts, the attacks of the enemy, and the evil persecutors, Christ will save His dear followers through all, and He will raise him up at the last day!

**6:40 And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.**

5. The fifth assurance of the believer is EVERLASTING; ETERNAL LIFE. This reminds me of the thief on the cross. Those that see and believe on the Son, Jesus is the one who will raise him up at the last day.
6. The sixth assurance of the believer is VICTORY OVER DEATH.
7. The seventh assurance of the believer is THE RESURRECTION.

## SUMMARY:

The crowd had gotten into ships and came to the other side of the sea to Capernaum to look for Jesus and they found Him there, but still wondering how He got there when they hadn't seen Him embark onto a ship. Jesus didn't answer the question they asked. Instead, He rebuked their motives. Yes, they had seen the miracle of Him feeding the five thousand "plus" people, but it wasn't because of the miracle they looked for Jesus, but because of their bellies had been filled. Jesus had nothing against food, but they are not to labor or live in anxiety over the perishable food. Their meat should be labored for the Bread of Life that endures forever, the Son of man whom the Father has already sealed and given authority to; the one that will fill and nourish them. The Father had commissioned, authorized, and stamped His seal of approval upon the work of the Son of Man. He's the only One who could. After hearing that, the crowd was eager to work the works of God. They really wanted to please Him, but they were really thinking of the physical, and not of the spiritual. The work was not something man does for God; it's something God has already done—sent His Son into the world. Jesus informs them that they would have to believe on Him whom God had sent— Jesus (**6:25-29**).

Jesus had made certain claims and now they are demanding a sign. It wasn't enough to see the sign demonstrated the day before when Jesus miraculously fed 5,000 "plus" people with 2 fish and 5 barley loaves of bread. They even brought up their fathers eating manna in the dessert. They believed the manna came from Moses. Jesus explains that Moses didn't supply the bread from heaven; it was from His Father, the supplier of true bread from heaven who gives life to the world. Now, they want this Bread of Life (**6:30-34**).

Well, they are in for an awakening, for Jesus declares, "*I am the Bread of Life.*" All they had to do to receive was to believe on Him, and they would never hunger nor thirst. However, all that the Father had given Jesus will come to Him, and He will not cast them out. Jesus explains where He came from—from heaven. He came not to do His own Will, but the Will of Him (the Father) that sent Jesus. This is the Father's Will: that of all those the Father had given Jesus, He won't lose any, but will raise them up again at the last day. Also, that everyone which sees the Son and believes on Him, may have everlasting life: and He will raise him up at the last day (**6:35-40**).

## APPLICATION:

Whenever circumstances come up and we find ourselves hungering and thirsting, we should remember that our life is in the authority of the one who came from heaven and He shall supply every need.

<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-sunday-school.html>