

Jesus—the Bread of Life: John 6:22–40

Jaunting thru John

Englewood Bible Church

Dr. John Niemelä

Wed, March 16, 2011

INTRODUCTION

NEW EXPOSITION: JESUS: THE BREAD OF LIFE

The next day, people wondered where Jesus was, because the twelve had left without Him in the only available boat (6:22)

Clarifying the translation:

had been

The next day the crowd ... saw that there ~~was~~ ^ no other boat there except the one in which His disciples had embarked.

Boats from Tiberias and crowds on land searched for Jesus (6:23–24)

People were present on the ground where the loaves and fishes miracle had occurred

They were joined by people who came by boat from the port at Tiberias

A search effort on land and on water begun

Those finding Jesus in Capernaum asked Him when He had come, but Jesus said that His signs did not impress them, but the fact that He fed them impressed them (6:25–26)

Question: Where was Jesus when the people found Him?

Question: What would have been a good reason these people to look for Jesus?

Answer: Jesus' signs that He did (6:2 and 11)

Question: How does Jesus differentiate seeing signs from eating food created as a sign?

The answer hinges on understanding what a sign is

Jesus is the One who says that they looked for Him, because He fed them
(It is not the people saying why they looked for Jesus)

Question: Are these the same people who wanted to force Him to be king? Yes

Jesus urges them not to work for perishable food, but for food that endures for everlasting life (that Christ gives, because the Father approves of Christ) (6:27)

Explaining why Jesus speaks of working for the wrong kind of food

It may initially seem that Jesus spoke of working to get everlasting life. He did not.

The people expressed willingness to do work for God—if He would tell them how (6:28)

Jesus corrected them by saying that God is the One who works in persuading them that Jesus is the Christ, whom the Father sent (6:29)

This is God's working—that you believe (It is the Father's job to persuade them)

Jesus **does not** call *believing in Him* a work for us to do; persuading is God's working

They suggested that Jesus give them a heavenly sign so they might believe in Him: suggesting that He give them manna from heaven (6:30–31)

Jesus said that Moses gave these first century Israelites no bread from heaven, but the Father gives them the true bread from heaven—namely Christ who descended from heaven to give life to the world (6:32–33)

Translation issue: The NKJV rendering of part of verse 32 is preferable to the Logos 21:

Moses did not give you bread from heaven (They were not alive in Moses' day)

Instead, the Father has already given them bread from heaven—Christ

Therefore, Jesus does not need to give them bread from heaven

Verse 33 says that Christ gives life to the world: He gives life to the world one person at-a-time. Not everyone in the world has life.

[They did not understand that the Father had already given bread from heaven—Christ] so they told Jesus to keep on giving (loaves of) bread forever (6:34)

Jesus told them that He Himself is the life-giving bread, so those who believe in Him would never hunger or thirst [but would have everlasting life], but He addressed unbelievers [who therefore lack everlasting life] (6:35–36)

Jesus urges them to believe in Him, because everyone given to Christ [as believers] by the Father receives life and are secure forever (6:37)

The reason that everyone given to Christ [as believers] receives life and is secure forever is that Christ came to do the Father's will, which includes keeping every single believer secure forever and resurrecting them (6:38–40)

CONCLUSION