



# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

## JOHN 6:22-35

### LESSON: THE BREAD OF LIFE — April 23, 2023

#### INTRODUCTION:

**6:10-15** Jesus had just miraculously fed the 5,000 plus people with 2 fish and 5 loaves of barley, gathered the remaining leftovers which filled 12 baskets after the people had eaten and were full. The men after seeing this called Jesus that prophet that was to come into the world, and therefore wanted to make Him a king. He knew what they wanted and departed into a mountain alone.

**6:16-21** That evening the disciples went down to the sea to enter a ship to go toward Capernaum. It had become dark and Jesus was not with them. Well, a storm arose on the sea. The great and violent storm had caught the disciples by surprise as they had rowed about three or four miles out into the sea. The storm had pushed them further out into the middle of the sea. They being tired and gripped with fear, sees Jesus walking on the sea, and coming near the ship causing extreme fear among them. Yes, he was actually walking on water.

1. Being in the dark will cause fear.
2. Being without Jesus will cause fear.
3. Being caught in a great and violent storm will cause fear.
4. Being tired and gripped with impending death will cause fear.

But remember they were physically exhausted, and mentally drained. And when you're like that, you sometimes can't think straight, and fear will begin to take over, instead of faith rising to the occasion. The answer to fear is Jesus Himself, and He was right there before them.

1. The Word Jesus gives, delivers them from fear. In order to ease their minds, He said, "*It is I; be not afraid.*"
2. Them receiving the presence of Christ delivers them from fear. Hearing His Word is one step, but you have to willingly receive Christ into your life. Deliverance came to the disciples only after they had received Jesus into the ship.
3. The result of receiving Christ was twofold: deliverance from fear and His presence to calm the storm. Jesus Christ gives the strength to row through all the storms of life. He has the power to erase fear and calm any storm!

"It is I" (*eimi*) is the one word in the Greek which is simply "I AM." Jesus was saying, "I AM" has come—"*fear not.*" He was reminding the disciples who He was, the Son of God Himself. He was the One who possessed all power; therefore, there was no need to fear. They willingly received Him into the ship, and immediately they had arrived at their destination.

#### LESSON: I. WHERE IS JESUS? JOHN 6:22-27

**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. Where is Jesus? He did not leave with them in the boat.

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# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

**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 that they supposed 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.

**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 departed into a mountain alone. 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.

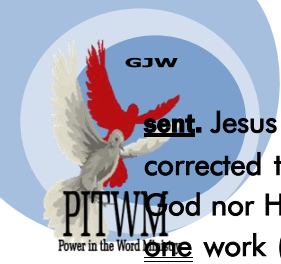
**6:26 Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled.** Jesus didn't answer the question they asked. Instead, He rebuked their motives. He stated that although the people had seen the signs, 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 Jehovah Jireh (Provider). Jesus' point was that He having fed them, they were not to linger on the physical food, but just 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.** Let it not be that you labor for food that perishes. "**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 (food) which endures eternally, producing everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give. 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. He is the One who gives eternal life! 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.

## II. WHAT SHALL WE DO? JOHN 6:28-31

**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**



# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

**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!

**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 with a few loaves in His hands. They even brought in the scripture. It is written...

This is like a slap in the face, comparing the forefathers to Christ. Even though manna was supplied in the wilderness by God, then after a while they didn't want it, meaning, 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!

## III. MAY WE HAVE THIS BREAD? JOHN 6:32-35

**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 Heaven (v.32). He is the Bread of God (v.33), and He is the Bread of Life (v.35)! All point to Jesus Himself.

**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

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.lovetheLord.com/books/john/17.html>  
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# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

flesh of man. In this, God goes 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 is certainly not the bread mentioned in verse 31 (referring to Manna). This is the 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 just might have been an address of respect or did they really hear and receive that He was the true Bread from heaven who gives life to the world?

**6:35** And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that belleveth 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  |

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! The Bread of Life is Everlasting!

## SUMMARY:

Five thousand plus people were fed and the following day the people were puzzled at Jesus' disappearance. That evening the disciples got into a ship heading toward Capernaum and Jesus did not go with them. He departed into a mountain alone. As the disciples were in the ship, a storm arose which brought fear upon them. Jesus was seen by them walking on the water. He brought peace by letting them know it was He who was in their mist and they were not to be afraid. The crowd of people 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





## PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

five thousand *"plus"* people, but it wasn't because of the miracle they looked for Jesus, but because of their bellies being 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 and give them eternal life. The Father had commissioned, authorized, and stamped His seal of approval upon the work of the Son of Man (6:22-27).

After hearing that, the crowd was eager to work the works of God. They really wanted to please Jesus, but they were really thinking of the physical, and not of the spiritual. The work was not something man does for God; to please Him, but it's something God has already done when He sent His Son into the world. Jesus informs them to just believe on Him whom God had sent (6:28-31).

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 He miraculously fed 5,000 *"plus"* people with 2 fish and 5 barley loaves of bread. They even brought up their forefathers 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 the true bread from heaven, who gives life to the world. Now, they want that Bread. Well, they are in for an awakening, for Jesus declares, *"I am the Bread of Life." "He that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst"* (6:32-35).