

III. SEEKING FOR THE SAVIOUR (John 6:22-32)

A. Their Discovery (John 6:22-25)

1. On the one side of the sea (John 6:22-23)
 - a. No other boat except that of the disciples (John 6:22)
 - b. No Jesus on the boat of the disciples (John 6:22)
 - c. Only some boats from Tiberius (John 6:23); this note is given to take care of the comments that would have been made by the critics. John 6:22 states that there were no other boats save that taken by the disciples. John 6:24 states that the Jews went shipping (by boats) to Capernaum looking for Jesus. Where did the boats come from? John 6:23 tells us that after the miracle of the feeding of the 5,000, boats had come from Tiberias. This provided the boats that took the people to Capernaum. This protects this passage from the false accusation of contradiction. It also demonstrates why we sometimes see contradictions where there are none.
2. On the other side of the sea (John 6:24-25)
 - a. No Jesus to be found on the original side of the sea (John 6:24)
 - b. Ships taken to Capernaum to seek Jesus (John 6:24)
 - c. Jesus discovered on this side of the sea (John 6:25)
 - d. Jesus questioned concerning His coming to the other side (John 6:25)

B. Their Desire (John 6:26-27)

1. Revealed as selfish (John 6:26)
 - a. Not because they saw the miracle (John 5:36; John 10:25; John 14:11)
 - b. But because they were filled with bread (Isaiah 56:11-12; Romans 16:18; Philippians 3:18-19)
2. Revealed as worldly (John 6:27)
 - a. Laboring for the meat that perishes (Isaiah 55:2; compare John 4:13-15)
 - b. Laboring not for the meat that endures
 - (1) Providing eternal life (John 6:58)
 - (2) Given by the Son of man (John 10:28; Romans 6:23)
 - (3) Assured by the sealing of the Father (John 3:33-34)

C. Their Deceit (John 6:28-29)

1. Their request (John 6:28)
 - a. Offered to do a work
 - b. Offered insincerely

2. The requirement (John 6:29)
 - a. The work of God
 - b. To believe on the Son (1 John 3:23; Acts 8:37; Acts 13:38, 39; Acts 16:30-31)
- D. Their Demand (John 6:30-32)
 1. Their demand made (John 6:30-31)
 - a. Show us a sign (John 6:30; Matthew 12:38-40).
 - b. Give us bread to eat (John 6:31).
 2. Their demand rejected (John 6:32)
 - a. The bread of Moses was the type.
 - b. The bread that stands before you is the real thing (John 6:47-51).
- IV. DISCOURSE ON THE BREAD OF LIFE (John 6:33-51)
 - A. Christ's Presentation as the Bread of Life
 1. His titles
 - a. The true bread (John 6:32)
 - (1) The true light (John 1:9)
 - (2) The true vine (John 15:1)
 - b. The bread of God (John 6:33)
 - c. The bread of life (John 6:35, 48)
 - d. The bread from heaven (John 6:41, 50, 58)
 - e. The living bread (John 6:51)
 2. His typology
 - a. As the heavenly bread
 - (1) As was manna (John 6:31; Exodus 16:4, 14-15)
 - (2) Not sent by Moses, but by God (John 6:31-32; Psalm 78:22-25)
 - (3) Pictures the incarnation (John 6:33; John 3:13; Galatians 4:4)
 - b. As the life-giving bread
 - (1) As was manna (John 6:33; Deuteronomy 8:3)
 - (2) As the supplier of life (John 6:35; John 4:13-14)
 - (3) As the source of life (John 6:51; John 5:26)
 - (4) Pictures our salvation (John 6:47-51; John 5:24)
 - c. As the broken bread
 - (1) As was the custom in eating (Lamentation 4:4; Matthew 14:19; Matthew 15:36)
 - (2) Pictures the crucifixion (John 6:51; 1 Corinthians 11:23-24)

B. Jewish Reaction to the Bread of Life (John 6:33-46)

1. Their request for bread (John 6:33-34)
 - a. Christ introduced the bread of God (John 6:33).
 - (1) It came down from heaven.
 - (2) It gives life to the world.
 - b. They desired to have this bread (John 6:34).
 - (1) Lord
 - (2) Evermore
 - (3) Give us this bread.

2. Christ's revelation to the multitude (John 6:35-40)
 - a. The identity of the bread (John 6:35-37)
 - (1) Jesus is the bread of life (John 6:35).
 - (2) He satisfies those who believe (John 6:35).
 - (3) The multitude has not believed (John 6:36).
 - a) They have seen.
 - b) They have not believed.
 - (4) Special Outline: Seeing is Believing – Or Is It?
 - a) Those who believe not because they see not
 - 1) They claim they would believe if they saw (Mark 15:32).
 - 2) They require signs and wonders in order to believe (John 4:48).
 - (a) They have already rejected what they have been shown (John 6:14, 30).
 - (b) They will not be given signs and wonders (Matthew 12:38-40).
 - b) Those who see but believe not
 - 1) They use any excuse to reject the truth (John 6:28-36).
 - 2) They are like the brethren of the rich man (Luke 16:27-31).
 - b) Those who see and believe
 - 1) They are touched by what they see (Lamentations 3:51; John 11:45).
 - 2) They are convinced by what they see (John 20:24-29).
 - 3) They believe the Son and receive eternal life (John 6:40).
 - c) Those who believe without seeing
 - 1) The special blessing on those who believe without seeing (John 20:29)
 - 2) The special response of those who believe without seeing (1 Peter 1:7-8)
 - (a) A special love for Christ
 - (b) A special joy in faith

- 3) Their special reliance on the word of God
 - (a) The unbelief of the disciples (Mark 16:14)
 - (b) The faith based on the word of God (Romans 10:13-17)
- e) Those who see because they believe
 - 1) Those who believe will see the glory of God (John 11:40).
 - 2) Those who believe will see him who is invisible (Hebrews 11:27).
 - 3) Those who believe to see shall be strengthened (Psalm 27:13-14).
- (5) Those who come to the Son (John 6:37)
 - a) Are given by the Father
 - b) Will not be cast out
- (6) Note: The acceptance of the Son
 - a) By those who have God's word abiding in them (John 5:38)
 - b) By all who know the Father (John 6:37, 45; John 8:42)
 - c) By those who are His sheep (John 10:24-30)
 - d) Given by the Father to the Son (John 17:6-11, 24)
 - e) All that belongs to the Father will be given to the Son (John 16:15).
 - f) Given to the sheep to come to the Son (John 6:44-45, 64-65)
 - g) Never to be lost by the Son (John 6:39; John 17:12; John 18:9)
- b. The revelation of God's will (John 6:38-40)
 - (1) The purpose of Christ's coming (John 6:38)
 - a) Not to do His will (John 4:34; John 5:30)
 - b) But to do the will of the Father (Mark 14:36)
 - (2) The preservation of the saints (John 6:39)
 - a) Of those given to the Son by the Father – First group
 - b) None should be lost.
 - c) All should be raised at the last day.
 - (3) The provision of eternal life (John 6:40)
 - a) To those who see the Son and believe on Him – Second group
 - b) To be raised at the last day
 - c) To those who believe in the Son without seeing Him – Third Group (John 20:29; 1Peter 1:8)
3. Their rejection of the Son (John 6:41-42)
 - a. The point of objection (John 6:41)
 - (1) He claimed to come down from heaven.
 - (2) They murmured at this claim.
 - (3) There is always a crucial point where Christ is believed or rejected. Here, it is his testimony as having come from heaven. For the Jews in the early church age, it might be the offer of salvation to the Gentiles (Acts 22:21-24). Today, the crisis often comes in the acceptance or

- rejection of the resurrection (Acts 17:32). Whatever the crisis, it must be dealt with for the person to come to Christ.
- b. Their proof of His *error* (John 6:42)
 - (1) They knew he was the *son* of Joseph.
 - (2) They knew his *father* and mother.
 - (3) Of course, they did not know what they thought they knew.
4. Christ's reply to the Jews (John 6:43-46)
- a. The drawing of the Father (John 6:43-44)
 - (1) Must be drawn by the Father
 - (2) Must be given the ability to come to Christ (John 6:65)
 - (3) God can give repentance to the acknowledging of the truth (2 Timothy 2:25-26).
 - (4) Christ has promised to draw all men to himself (John 12:32).
 - (5) No man is required to come to God when he is drawn (Matthew 23:37).
 - b. The teaching of the Father (John 6:45)
 - (1) Old Testament prophecy (Isaiah 54:13; Isaiah 2:3)
 - (2) Fulfillment during the ministry of Christ (John 6:45)
 - (3) Fulfillment in the New Testament church
 - a) Taught by Christ (Ephesians 4:20-21)
 - b) Taught of God (1 Thessalonians 4:9)
 - c) Taught by the Holy Ghost (1 Corinthians 2:9-16); the unction from the Holy One (1 John 2:20-21, 27) – Note: an *unction* is an anointing with oil. In the Bible, oil is a type of the Holy Spirit. As Christ was anointed with the Spirit (Isaiah 61:1), so we are anointed (2 Corinthians 1:21-22; 1 John 2:27).
 - (4) Fulfillment in the Kingdom Age (Isaiah 2:3; Jeremiah 31:33-34; Hebrews 8:10-11)
 - c. The revealing of the Father (John 6:46; John 1:18; Matthew 11:27)
- C. Universal Invitation to the Bread of Life (6:47-51)
1. To him that believes (John 6:47-48)
 - a. Will have everlasting life (John 6:47)
 - b. Will have the bread of life
 2. To any man who eats (John 6:49-51)
 - a. Contrasted with manna (John 6:49)
 - (1) Eaten by the fathers
 - (2) Eaten in the wilderness
 - (3) Followed by death
 - b. Defined (John 6:50-51)
 - (1) The bread which comes down from heaven (John 6:50)

- (2) The bread which keeps a man from dying (John 6:50)
- (3) The bread which is alive (John 6:51)
- (4) The bread which may be eaten (John 6:51)
- (5) The bread which gives eternal life (John 6:51)
- (6) The bread which is the flesh of Jesus Christ (John 6:51)
- (7) The bread which Christ will give for the life of the world (John 6:51)

D. NOTE: John 6:48 has the first of seven great titles of Christ all beginning with “I am” and all found nowhere else in the Bible.

1. I am that bread of life (John 6:48).
2. I am the light of the world (John 8:12).
3. I am the door (John 10:9).
4. I am the good shepherd (John 10:11).
5. I am the resurrection and the life (John 11:25).
6. I am the way, the truth, and the life (John 14:6).
7. I am the true vine (John 15:1).

V. PARTAKING OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST (John 6:52-59)

A. The Necessity of Eating the Flesh of Christ (John 6:52-53)

1. The problem of eating the flesh of Christ (John 6:52)
2. The necessity (John 6:53)
 - a. Of eating His flesh
 - b. Of drinking His blood

B. The Benefits of Eating the Flesh of Christ (John 6:54-59)

1. Will have eternal life (John 6:54)
2. Will be raised at the last day (John 6:54)
3. Will have the genuine provision (John 6:55)
4. Will dwell in Christ (John 6:56)
5. Will have the indwelling Christ (John 6:56)
6. Will live by Christ (John 6:57); as Christ lives by the Father
7. Will live forever (John 6:58)

C. Not a Form of Cannibalism; throughout the Bible, the drinking of blood is prohibited (Genesis 9:3-4; Leviticus 17:14; Acts 15:29).

D. Not the Lord’s Supper (1 Corinthians 11:23-36)

1. Baptism is a picture of what happened to us in Christ at the time of our salvation.

2. The Lord's Supper is a picture of what Christ did for us in order to obtain our salvation.
 - a. Done in remembrance (1 Corinthians 11:24-25)
 - b. Done until He comes (1 Corinthians 11:26)
 - c. It has nothing to do with salvation or with the receiving of eternal life.
- E. But a Spiritual Partaking of Christ (see John 6:63; Colossians 1:27)
1. Like the spiritual birth (John 3:3-8)
 2. Like the spiritual water (John 4:13-15)
 3. So the spiritual bread (John 6:51)
- F. Four Important Facts About the Bread of Life
1. The identity of the bread of life – Jesus Christ (John 6:32-35)
 2. The securing of the bread of life – by believing (John 6:47-51)
 3. The reward of the bread of life – everlasting life (John 6:35, 47-50)
 4. The invitation of the bread of life – universal (John 6:51)
- VI. DIVISION AMONG THE DISCIPLES (John 6:60-71)
- A. The Difficult Sayings of Christ (John 6:60-62)
1. I came down from heaven (John 6:41-42).
 2. You must eat my flesh (John 6:51-52).
 3. I will ascend back to heaven (John 6:61-62).
 - a. The offense of the disciples (John 6:61)
 - (1) Offended by his hard saying
 - (2) Murmured at the saying
 - b. The giving of another hard saying (John 6:62)
 - (1) Since the way to come to Christ is by faith
 - (2) He will keep giving you things until he gives you something too difficult for you to grasp.
 - (3) This will be a test to see if you trust in him by faith.
- B. The Content of the Words of Christ (John 6:63)
1. Not flesh (John 1:13; Matthew 26:41)
 - a. The words of Christ not words of flesh
 - b. The inability of the flesh
 - (1) The flesh profits nothing (John 6:63).
 - (2) The flesh is weak (Matthew 26:41).

- (3) The flesh has no good thing (Romans 7:18).
- 2. But spirit
 - a. Words that come by the Spirit of God (2 Samuel 23:2; John 3:34; 1Corinthians 2:4)
 - b. Words recognized by the spirit in us (Proverbs 1:23)
 - c. Words that influence the spirit world (Matthew 8:16; Luke 4:36)
 - d. Words that teach spiritual things (1 Corinthians 2:12-16)
 - e. Words used by the Spirit of God (Ephesians 6:17)
- C. The Lack of Spiritual Understanding (John 6:64-65; 1 Corinthians 2:12-16)
 - 1. Those who believe not (John 6:64)
 - a. The existence of non-believers (Matthew 13:24-30, 36-40)
 - b. The knowledge of Jesus Christ
 - (1) From the beginning
 - (2) Of those who believed not
 - (3) Of him who would betray Him (John 13:10-11)
 - 2. Those who come to Jesus Christ (John 6:65)
 - a. Must be able to come to Christ
 - b. Must receive this ability from the Father (2 Timothy 2:24-26)
 - c. Note: We cannot come to Christ without receiving this ability from the Father. However, this does not mean that man's will is negated in the process. John 1:12 teaches that those who receive Christ will be given power to become the sons of God. 2 Peter 3:9 teaches us that God is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. All of these passages and more must be weighed in order to understand how men come to God in salvation. In summary, God draws all men through Jesus Christ but only enables those who respond to his drawing with the ability to come to Christ in faith to receive eternal life.
 - d. Those who reject the light God has given them may be blinded from seeing further light (John 12:37-40).
- D. The Loss of Disciples (John 6:66; 2 Timothy 1:15; 2 Timothy 4:10; 1 John 2:19)
- E. The Faithfulness of the Few (John 6:67-69; see Matthew 16:15-17)
 - 1. The question of Jesus (John 6:67)
 - 2. The testimony of Peter (John 6:68-69)
 - a. No other place to go (John 6:68)
 - b. You have the words of eternal life (John 6:68).
 - c. We believe and are sure (John 6:69).
 - d. Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God (John 6:69; Matthew 16:13-17).

F. The Betrayer in the Midst (John 6:70-71)

1. The twelve chosen by Christ (John 6:70; Luke 6:12-13)
2. One of them is a devil (John 6:70).
3. A reference to Judas Iscariot (John 6:71)
4. Notes on Judas Iscariot:
 - a. Chosen as one of the twelve apostles (Matthew 10:4; Mark 3:19; Luke 6:16)
 - b. Served as treasurer for the apostles (John 13:29)
 - c. Called a thief because he stole from the “bag” (John 12:4-6)
 - d. Recognized by Christ as the betrayer (John 6:64)
 - e. Given two names that point to a sinister connection with the spiritual authority of Satan:
 - (1) He is “*a devil*” (John 6:70-71); this is either a metaphorical use of the term (as Herod is called “*that fox*” – Luke 13:32) or else Jesus is identifying him as an evil spirit. The second choice has problems but it is one possibility.
 - (2) He is “*the son of perdition*” (John 17:12). This title is found one other time in scripture where it is used as a title for the Antichrist (2 Thessalonians 2:3). The Antichrist can rightly be viewed as the devil in the flesh (as Christ is God in the flesh). That these two titles are used for Judas brings questions as to his identity. But there are also problems as can be seen in the remainder of these notes on Judas.
 - f. When the time came for Judas to betray Jesus, the Bible teaches:
 - (1) That the devil put it into his heart (John 13:1-2)
 - (2) That Satan entered into him (Luke 22:3; John 13:26-27)
 - (3) The question arises: Can Satan enter a devil? Certainly this is true if a devil is an evil spirit. After all, is it not true that the Spirit of God entered Christ?
 - g. Judas betrayed the Son of God:
 - (1) With a kiss (Matthew 26:47-49)
 - (2) As Jesus called him Friend (Matthew 27:50; Psalm 41:9; Psalm 55:13-14)
 - (3) For thirty pieces of silver (Matthew 26:14-16; Zechariah 11:12-13)
 - h. Judas **repented himself** of his betrayal (Matthew 27:1-10).
 - (1) He confessed to betraying the “*innocent blood*” (Matthew 27:4).
 - (2) He cast down the thirty pieces of silver in the temple (Matthew 27:5).
 - (3) He went and hanged himself (Matthew 27:5).
 - (4) The problem here is the repentance and confession of Judas. It is not a problem because it should be considered a genuine repentance. The Bible clearly says that he “*repented himself*” (Matthew 27:3). If he was nothing more than a devil, then why would he repent himself? We will have to leave this riddle unsolved for now.