

H O U S E o f W I S D O M

P. O. B o x 2 5 4 3

C l e b u r n e , T e x a s 7 6 0 3 3

Email: woody@dtgministries.org; Website: <http://www.dtgministries.org>

09 November 2014

John 6 - Part IV Bread from Heaven

John 6:28-31: 28. *Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God? 29. Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye [may] believe on him whom he hath sent. 30. They said therefore unto him, What sign show you then, that we may see, and believe thee? what do you work? 31. Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat (Nehemiah 9:15). The way verse 29 is translated makes it sound as if the Christian's only work is to believe in Jesus. That would only be mental ascent, and would contradict James 2:26 which says that *faith without works is dead*. Young is the only translation I found to have it correct: *This is the work of God, that ye may believe in ^(g1519) him whom He did send.* The word this points back to labor in verse 27. We are to LABOR for the for food that endures into (g1519: a preposition meaning "the point entered into") everlasting life, so that we **may believe** in Jesus. *Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling* (Philippians 2:12) - *Be diligent* (KJ = study) *to present thyself approved to God - a workman irreproachable, rightly dividing the word of the truth* (2Timothy 2:15, Young). How are we to do this? By searching the word and seeking the Lord's understanding. The manna is a type.*

Exodus 16:2, 4: 2. *And the whole congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness...* 4. *Then said the Lord unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no (cf verse 7 also). The people of Israel were murmuring against Moses and Aaron concerning hunger, so Moses interceded for the people and the Lord sent manna (Hebrew meaning *what is it?*). The people had to labor to gather from what they did not know. In this sense, Moses gave the people manna, but not bread from heaven, which is God's understanding. Look back at the last few decades: Why are people dropping out of churches by the thousands, congregations splitting and new ones being formed? There are literally 1000s of home churches around this nation today. Are they not all murmuring because of the spiritual food they are being fed?*

Notice the answer of Jesus and his comments about the manna: **John 6:32, 48-50, 58:** 32. *...Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven...* 48. *I am that bread of life.* 49. *Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead.* 50. *This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die....* 58. *This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eats of this bread shall live for ever.* 51. *I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever...*

The Jews spoke of literal bread (manna) from heaven, while Jesus is speaking of spiritual bread (his teachings). Moses ministered the written word, or law given in the wilderness, and manna is the understanding of it. The people gathering the manna (Exodus 16:16) are a type for those who gather from the law without understanding. Since Israel grew no crops in the desert, the show bread (bread of presence), furnished by the 12 tribes (Leviticus 24:8), was made from manna by grinding it into flour. The difference in the show bread and the manna is that the show bread was set in order by a priest (one listening to Christ), and only eaten by priests (Leviticus 24:8-9). Those who feed on their own opinions of the law are spiritually dead.

John 6:35, 38, 40-42: 35. *And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: [the one coming] to me shall never hunger; and [the one believing into] me shall never thirst....* 38. *For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me....* 40. *And this is the will of him that sent me, that everyone [seeing the Son, and [believing into] him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.* 41. *The Jews then murmured at him, because he said, I am the bread which came down from heaven.* 42. *And they said, Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? how is it then that he saith, I came down from heaven? Last day in verse 40 is not referring to a physical, but to a spiritual resurrection that happens in the last generation. Pertaining to the death of Lazarus: **John 11:23-24:** 23. *Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again.* 24. *Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.* Lazarus is a type for those who are raised in the fourth day of creation, and made into the image of Christ in the sixth day, the last day of creation. The Jews were not getting it nor were they asking for an explanation.*

John 6:44-45: 44. *No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.* 45. *It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, comes unto me.* Had the Jews been searching the writings with a sincere heart, they would have been impressed as to the truth of Jesus as the Son of God. **Matthew 16:13, 16:** ...13. *Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?...* 16. *And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.* 17. *And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.* Today, we have a Bible that plainly states that Jesus is the Son of God. Why then, are there so many different opinions as to the Son? Could it be that few are listening to the spirit of the Father, who is the One who confirmed to Peter that Jesus was Son.

John 6:51-56: 51. *I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.* 52. *The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying, How can this man give us his flesh to eat?* 53. *Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.* 54. *Whoso eats my flesh, and drinks my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.* 55. *For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.* 56. *He that eats my flesh, and drinks my blood, dwells in me, and I in him (into).* Jesus did not explain, but continued to push the metaphor by adding yet another element, and the Jews did not ask, but still took his sayings in their most literal sense.

John 6:60, 66-69: 60. *Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it?...* 66. *From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.* 67. *Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away?* 68. *Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.* 69. *And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.* Today, there are millions of professed followers of Jesus Christ, many of whom murmur at the truth. The time is coming, however, when everyone will have to face the issue of Jesus being the only birthed Son of the Father, brought forth in eternity, before any creation, as all things were created through him. The Bible contains a basic understanding of the Father and Son that anyone can grasp if they are willing to receive it.

The original 12 disciples were not understanding either, but in their hearts, they knew that Jesus was the anointed One and the Son of the living God, and so they stayed with Jesus. The only explanation of his statements which Jesus gave concerning what he had spoken was: **John 6:63:** *It is the spirit that [giving life]; the flesh profits nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.* The words he always spoke were spiritual, and it is his words that are giving eternal life. Hear what the spirit says to the churches. Amen.