

Round Top Church Christian Fellowship

Sermon Series in 2 Peter

John 6 In The Making of Peter

Bread of Life Raises Us on the Last Day to Eternal Life

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(All Scripture is from the New American Standard Bible, unless otherwise noted.)

Those of you who have been here since Resurrection Day should know what I am about to say. “It has been five weeks since the Resurrection.” That is only 35 days. Remember, Scripture tells us that Jesus walked with the disciples for over 40 days (Acts 1:3). Jesus is still with the people who walked with Him over two thousand years ago, and Jesus still walks in the hearts of every Believer right now, today! Yes, Jesus, during His Resurrection life, breathed His Holy Spirit into the disciples as He commissioned them saying, “peace be with you” (John 20:19-21). This is the transition point when Jesus in His Resurrection state imparts His Holy Spirit into the disciples. This is to illustrate how God has worked through men (Ex: prophets & David - Psalm 51:11), and how He works through us now. He shortly ascends to Heaven. This is incomprehensible for many. But we look at our lives and witness that it is the living Christ who resides in our heart, and we see a difference.

What are these differences:

First ~ As a Believer, there is the knowing that God loves us unconditionally. With His great love, He came to us (John 1:14) to be one of us, to live our lives in our likeness and weakness, but with one exception: God, as Jesus, demonstrated that the Spirit of God in a person can have victory in this life. God, as Jesus, never sinned.

Second ~ We overcome day-to-day challenges, because the power that is in us, that is the power of the Spirit of life in Christ, is greater than the law of sin and death (Romans 8:2-4).

Romans 8:2-4

² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.

³ For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God *did*: sending His Own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and *as an offering* for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh,

⁴ in order that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit

Third ~ This Christ power, this Holy Spirit power, that is greater than the law of sin and death, will carry us through death's door to live eternally with God in His Heaven. We have not bought into an insurance policy. We have hearts that have been changed and are growing in sanctification in preparation to continue life in a different form. Jesus specifically talks about this eternal life in John 6.

Jesus at the Sea of Galilee in John 6

Peter, who writes for God the New Testament books we call 1 and 2 Peter, was at the Sea of Galilee during Jesus' earthly ministry. He saw Jesus walk on water and feed the five thousand from a few loaves of bread and a few fish with some leftovers. Peter is an eyewitness to the miracles of Jesus being highlighted at the Resurrection and the ministry during the Resurrection when Peter and the rest of the disciples received their commissioning.

John 6:1-71

Use of word or form of word or phrase

Bread 17

Life 12

Heaven 10

Believe 9

Flesh 7

Work 5

Eternal life 5

The phrase: Comes down from heaven 5

Blood 4

Sign 4

The phrase: Raise up on the last day 4

Multitude 4

Five Thousand Fed

1 After these things, Jesus went away to the other side of the **Sea of Galilee (or Tiberias)**.

2 And a **great multitude** was following Him, because they were seeing the signs which He was performing on those who were sick.

3 And Jesus went up on the mountain, and there He sat with His disciples.

4 **Now the Passover**, the feast of the Jews, was at hand.

Note: Exodus 12 – The death angel came and the firstborn male was taken, or the family was passed-over because blood of a lamb was painted over the doorpost.

Note: The **Feast of Unleavened Bread** is a feast that is generally mistaken for Passover. **Passover, however, is only one twenty-four hour period while Feast of Unleavened Bread lasts for seven days.**

On the evening after Passover, God told the Hebrew people exiting Egypt **not to allow their bread to rise but to grab everything and leave.** The ancient peoples used to gather yeast on grape leaves to leaven their bread if they needed to speed-up the process, but God said, "Don't even let any leavening touch the dough. Just bake it and go."

Here in John six Jesus feeds (Bread from Heaven) the multitudes at the time of the Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread.

5 Jesus therefore lifting up His eyes, and seeing that a **great multitude was coming to Him**,

said to **Philip**,

"Where are we to buy bread, that these may eat?"

⁶ And this He was saying to test him;
for He Himself knew what He was intending to do.

⁷ **Philip** answered Him,

"Two hundred denarii worth of **bread** is not sufficient for them,
for everyone to receive a little."

⁸ One of His disciples, **Andrew, Simon Peter's brother**,
said to Him,

⁹ "There is a lad here who has **five barley loaves and two fish**,
but what are these for so many people?"

¹⁰ Jesus said, "**Have the people sit down.**"

Now there was much grass in the place.

So, the men sat down, in number about **five thousand**.

¹¹ **Jesus therefore took the loaves; and having given thanks**,
He distributed to those who were seated;
likewise, also of the fish as much as they wanted.

¹² And when they were filled, He said to His disciples,
"Gather up the leftover fragments that nothing may be lost."

¹³ And so they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with
fragments from the five barley loaves, which were left over by those
who had eaten.

¹⁴ When therefore the people saw the sign which He had performed,
they said,

"This is of a truth the Prophet who is to come into the world."

¹⁵ Jesus therefore perceiving that they were intending to come and
take Him by force, **to make Him king**,
withdrew again to the mountain by Himself alone.

Note: The Jews seek an earthly king that Jesus rejects. Both the Jews and Satan offer Jesus an earthly kingship. In Matthew 4, Jesus is offered the world if He would just worship Satan. Obviously, Jesus refused and continued His ministry to the Cross. Jesus continued to walk the path to the Cross to pay the price for the sins of the world (propitiation Romans 3:25).

¹⁶ Now when evening came, **His disciples** went down to the sea,
¹⁷ and after getting into a boat, they *started to* cross the sea to Capernaum.

And it had already become dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them.

¹⁸ And the sea *began* to be stirred up because a strong wind was blowing.

¹⁹ When therefore they had rowed about three or four miles, they beheld **Jesus walking on the sea** and drawing near to the boat; and they were frightened.

²⁰ **But He said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid."**

²¹ They were willing therefore to receive Him into the boat; and immediately the boat was at the land to which they were going.

²² The next day the multitude that stood on the other side of the sea saw that there was no other small boat there, except one, and that Jesus had not entered with His disciples into the boat, but *that* His disciples had gone away alone.

²³ There came other small boats from Tiberias near to the place where they ate the **bread** after the Lord had given thanks.

²⁴ When the **multitude** therefore saw that Jesus was not there, nor His disciples, **they** themselves got into the small boats, and came to Capernaum, seeking Jesus.

²⁵ And when **they** found Him on the other side of the sea,

they said to Him, "Rabbi, when did You get here?"

Note: Jesus does not answer their question. He does not tell them when or how He arrived. He addresses their condition, their true motive, and seeks to turn their attention to the Gospel Message, that being that He is the anticipated Messiah, the One in which they have been looking. Except they still have the wrong idea of what the Messiah's mission is. He holds them accountable for their heart condition. This is a convicting moment for the multitudes and the disciples like Peter.

²⁶ Jesus answered them and said,

**"Truly, truly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw signs,
but because you ate of the loaves, and were filled.**

Jesus points to the fact that the multitudes saw the miracles of feeding the 5000, but that is not why they came after Jesus. Jesus points to their base motive of food.

**²⁷ "Do not work for the food which perishes,
but for the food which endures to eternal life, (1)
which the Son of Man shall give to you,
for on Him the Father, even God, has set His seal."**

Ephesians 1:13-14 ¹³ In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation-- having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴ who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of *God's own* possession, to the praise of His glory.

Ephesians 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

²⁸ They said therefore to Him,

"What shall we do, that we may **work** the **works** of God?"

29 Jesus answered and said to them,

"This is the **work** of God, **that you believe** in Him whom He has sent."

30 They said therefore to Him,

"What then do You do for a sign, that we may see, and **believe** You?
What **work** do You perform? [Jesus points to the work of the Cross]

31 "Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written,

'He gave them **bread** out of **heaven** to eat.'

32 Jesus therefore said to them,

"Truly, truly, I say to you,

it is not Moses who has given you the **bread** out of **heaven**,

but it is My Father who gives you the true **bread** out of **heaven**.

33 "For the bread of God is that which comes down out of **heaven, (1)**

and **gives life** to the world." (2)

34 They said therefore to Him, "Lord, evermore give us this bread."

35 Jesus said to them,

"I am the **bread** of life; he who comes to Me shall not hunger,

and he who **believes** [their work, which is not real acts of work]

in Me shall never thirst. (3 which is to have eternal life)

36 "But I said to you,

that you have seen Me, and yet do not **believe**.

37 "All that the Father gives Me shall come to Me,

Note: God the Father qualifies those that are given to Jesus from the Book of Life, whose names have been there since the foundation of the world. This is for God to know and not man. Man has tried to control access to God's Book of Life, but man does not possess this book. Varying religious leaders throughout history have claimed to be the gatekeeper to enrollment in God's book, but do not have God's sovereign authority. Remember, God the Father and Jesus "The Christ" are one. Jesus says that if you have seen Him, then you have seen the Father. The Father-Son relationship is used for our anthropomorphic understandings. This relationship in the first century is to say that the two are one. Revelation 3:5, 8, 17:8; 20:12, 15; 22:19; Exodus 32:33, Luke 10:20, Psalms 69:28.

and the one who comes [surrenders] to Me I will certainly not cast out.

³⁸ "For I have come down from heaven, (2)

not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.

³⁹ "And this is the will of Him who sent Me,

that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing,

but raise it up on the last day. (1)

⁴⁰ "For this is the will of My Father,

that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him,

may have eternal life; (4)

and I Myself will raise him up on the last day."(2)

⁴¹ **The Jews** therefore were grumbling about Him, because He said,

"I am the bread that came down out of heaven."

⁴² **And they were saying,**

"Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know?
How does He now say, 'I have come down out of **heaven** '?"

43 Jesus answered and said to them, "Do not grumble among yourselves.

44 "No one can come to Me, unless the Father who sent Me draws him;

John 16:8

and I will raise him up on the last day. **(3)**

45 "It is written in the prophets, [Jeremiah 31:33, 34]

'And they shall all be taught of God.'

Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father, comes to Me.

46 "Not that any man has seen the Father,

except the One who is from God; He has seen the Father.

47 "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who **believes** has **eternal life.** **(5)**

48 "**I am the bread of life.**

49 "Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died.

50 "**This is the bread which comes down out of **heaven**,** **(3)**

so that one may eat of it **and not die.** **(6)**

51 "**I am the living bread that came down out of **heaven**;** **(4)**

if anyone eats of this bread, he shall live forever; **(7)**

and the **bread also**

which I shall give for the life of the world **is My flesh.**"

52 **The Jews** therefore *began* to argue with one another, saying,

"How can this man give us *His* flesh to eat?"

53 Jesus therefore said to them,

"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man
and drink His blood,
you have no life in yourselves.

55 "For My flesh is true food, and My blood is true drink.

56 "He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him.

57 "As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father,
so he who eats Me, he also shall live because of Me. (9)

58 "This is the bread which came down out of heaven; (5)

not as the fathers ate, and died,

he who eats this bread shall live forever." (10)

59 These things He said in the synagogue, as He taught in Capernaum.

60 Many therefore of His disciples, when they heard *this* said,

"This is a difficult statement; who can listen to it?"

61 **But Jesus**, conscious that His disciples grumbled at this, **said to them**,
"Does this cause you to stumble?"

62 "*What* then if you should behold the Son of Man
ascending where He was before?"

63 "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing;

the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life. (11)

64 "But there are some of you who do not believe."

64 cont. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who it was that would betray Him.

65 And He was saying, "For this reason I have said to you, that no one can come to Me, unless it has been granted him from the Father."

66 As a result of this many of His disciples withdrew, and were not walking with Him anymore.

67 Jesus said therefore to the twelve, "You do not want to go away also, do you?"

68 Simon Peter answered Him,

"Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life.

69 "And we have believed

and have come to know that You are the Holy One of God."

Peter had enough faith not to walk away from Jesus. The false followers, the multitudes, were looking for just temporal bread and returned to their former life, to what they really were when they could not accept Jesus' teaching about His body and flesh. They sought the wrong kind of messiah. They were not looking for an Eternal Messiah, who overcame sin and death and propitiated the sins of the world. They sought an earthly king-deliverer. One that would feed them and provide for them materially. Unfortunately, in our modern media times, the airways are full of false teachers and preachers who play to the temporal material desires of man. These often preach that you can claim a new car or house in Jesus' name, and He will give it to you. All you have to do is plant "seed-money" with their ministry, and God will multiply your gift back to you one hundred times. With these false teachers, the Gospel is maligned, and people are

trained to focus on themselves, not the Cross, not the blood of Jesus for the payment of sin.

So, here in John 6:68-69, we have Peter, who speaks up, present with the other disciples saying that he has no place to go but to follow the Lord who is the Messiah who has the words of eternal life. This event is our example to speak up for the Lord when He asks us to stay with Him instead of caving to the secular worldview. It would have been easy for Peter and the disciples to go the way of the crowd. It was the popular thing to do. Fallen man leans to do the popular thing.

To be different today is to be a Christian. Many young people seem to want to rebel and show their independence. I say, be a Christian. This will make you stand-out as different. Obviously, the Lord calls us to Him not for the reason of being rebellious to the world, even though this is a product of the Believer's life. The Lord desires for us to surrender to Him, because we have yielded to the conviction of His Holy Spirit. Peter did not stay with Jesus as an act of rebellion to the multitudes. Peter really saw that he had no other place to go. Peter is right. We have no other place to go.

There is no other **God**,
there is no other **Gospel**,
there is no other **power of salvation**.

There is only Jesus' Resurrection which is the power over sin and death.

So, when the show is over and the Lord presents the Way to the Truth to eternal Life (John 14:6), what shall you do? We surrender and follow!

The Way is through Him.

The Truth is surrendering to the mission of God's incarnation.

The Life is eternity in Heaven.

The Way has been prepared by Jesus through the Cross. (John 14:2)

The Truth is the outcome of the Cross which is the Resurrection.

The Life is the restoration of our existence to be like Adam before the Fall.

The Way for us now, in this life, is living the Gospel in a sanctifying life.

The Truth is in our witness of the Gospel.

The Life is eternal, because our lives now overcome this fallen world and look to a future where there is no more sin and death.

When Death and Hades are thrown into the lake of fire

(Revelation 20:14).

Life is then at its fullest. . . Heaven.

⁷⁰ Jesus answered them,

"Did I Myself not choose you, the twelve, and yet one of you is a devil?"

⁷¹ Now He meant Judas *the son* of Simon Iscariot, for he, one of the twelve, was going to betray Him. (Jn. 6:24-71 NAS)

The Believer's destination is eternal life to be "raised on the last day" (John 6:39, 40, 44, 54). The destination of those that are like dogs and pigs (who were revealed when they walked away from Jesus when He told them that they had to eat His flesh and drink His blood) is that they are again entangled and overcome and that their last state became worse for them than the first (2 Peter 2:20). This is a spiritual teaching that they could not understand, because they did not have spiritual ears to hear or eyes to see.

Only Believers, like Peter, who did have spiritual discerning eyes and ears received the teaching. It is not that Peter had perfect understanding at that point, because later he denied Christ. Peter resembles all of us. We are 'up and down' in our relationship with God. However, in the end, we return and overcome and will be raised on the last day.

This is our covenant victory in Christ.

John 6:39 "And this is the will of Him who sent Me,
that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing,
but raise it up on the last day.

⁴⁰ "For this is the will of My Father,
that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him,
may have eternal life; and I Myself will raise him up on the last day."

AMEN