

Lord, Always Give Us This Bread

-The bread that gives and sustains life-

John 6

By Mark L. Hatfield

When Jesus had just finished feeding the 5000 by the Sea of Galilee, he sailed to the other side to a city of Capernaum.

Large crowds followed Him to the other side of the sea searching for Him.

Jesus knew their intentions and began a discourse on the difference between physical food and the spiritual food that He came to offer to the world.

We find that not only is Jesus the bread of life while on earth but that He promises to provide bread that will lead to eternal life.

Here is what we read:

John 6:26-59

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.

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

28 Therefore they said to Him, **"What shall we do, so 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 So they said to Him, "What then do You do for a sign, so that we may see, and believe You? What work do You perform?"

31 **"Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness;** as it is written, **"HE GAVE THEM BREAD** OUT OF HEAVEN TO EAT."

32 Jesus then 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, and gives life to the world."**

34 Then they said to Him, **"Lord, always give us this bread."**

35 Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst.

36 "But I said to you that you have seen Me, and yet do not believe.

37 "All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out.

38 "For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.

39 "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 will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day."

41 Therefore the Jews were grumbling about Him, because He said, "I am the bread that came down out of heaven."

42 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; and I will raise him up on the last day.

45 "It is written in the prophets, "AND THEY SHALL ALL BE TAUGHT OF GOD.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father, comes to Me.

46 "Not that anyone 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.

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, so that one may eat of it and not die.

51 "I am the living bread that came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread also which I will give for the life of the world is My flesh."

52 Then the Jews {began} to argue with one another, saying, "How can this man give us {His} flesh to eat?"

53 So Jesus 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.

54 "He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.

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 will live because of Me.

58 "This is the bread which came down out of heaven; not as the fathers ate and died; he who eats this bread will live forever."

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

(NAU)