

## INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture texts: [John 6:31-33,35,58](#).
- B. Jesus gives several "I am's" in the book of John. One of them to be discussed tonight is the saying by Christ, "I am the bread of life."
- C. We want to see what Jesus is referring to, how to partake of this bread, and a short look at a common misconception about the bread of life.

## I. JESUS IS THE BREAD OF LIFE.

- A. Scripture text: John 6:31-33.
- B. The Pharisees misquote Neh. 9:15 and make it refer to Moses instead of God. We must be careful when Satan quotes scripture because he will lie. The Pharisees are trying to discredit Jesus' miracle of feeding the 5,000 by saying Moses was greater because he gave manna.
- C. Jesus corrects them(6:32) and says that the manna did not come from Moses but from the heavenly Father. Jesus is trying to get the Pharisees to look past the physical (the miracle just performed) and see the spiritual.
- D. The bread of life (or Christ himself) gives three things the manna could not:
  - 1. Gives and sustains spiritual life.
  - 2. Is for all the world and not Israel alone.
  - 3. This spiritual life will lead to eternal life (6:33).
- E. Jesus then identifies Himself as the bread of life. We do not eat of Christ literally, but do so spiritually, which He explains in 6:35.

## II. TO PARTAKE OF THE BREAD OF LIFE (CHRIST).

- A. Jesus says that are to hunger and thirst for this bread and then equates these two, to coming and believing.
- B. We must come to Christ in obedience to His commands:
  - 1. Belief itself carries the concept of obedience (Jn. 3:36).
  - 2. Confession alone is not enough to save us (Mt. 7:21).
  - 3. God wants all people to 'come' to repentance (2Pet. 3:9).
  - 4. Jesus gave His invitation, and it is to 'come' (Mt. 11:28).
- C. We must believe in Him through His word:
  - 1. The bread of life is equated with the Word of God (Jn. 1:1,14).
  - 2. One of the works of God is to believe in Christ (Jn. 6:29).
  - 3. By believing in the words of Christ we no longer hungering and thirsting (Mt. 5:6).
  - 4. Eating and drinking of Christ gives eternal life (Jn. 6:51; 4:13-14).
- D. Therefore, to partake of the bread of life is to come to Jesus in obedience because of our belief in Him as the Son of God.

## III. A COMON MISCONCEPTION ABOUT THE BREAD OF LIFE.

- A. Sometimes there is some confusion about the bread of life being the bread we eat during the Lord s Supper. This bread is not the bread of life, but is representative of it.
- B. To believe that the bread eaten during the Lord's Supper is the bread of life is to believe in the Roman Catholic doctrine of transubstantiation. Transubstantiation is the belief that when the bread of the Lord's Supper is blessed it literally becomes the body of Christ.
- C. John 6:58 tells us that the bread of life is spiritual which gives eternal life, while physical bread (manna) only gives physical life for awhile.

- D. Jesus words in instituting the Communion Supper show that the literal bread we eat is representative of the spiritual bread of life. Jesus refers to the cup as His blood but is the fruit of a vine. Therefore the cup is the fruit of the vine not his literal blood, and the bread is unleavened bread not His literal body (Mt. 26:26-29).
- E. To partake of the bread of life is to believe in and obey Christ, not to eat the Lord's Supper.
- F. The physical elements of the LS (bread and fruit of the vine) are used to remind us of the broken body and shed blood (1Cor. 11:24-25).

**CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.**

- A. It is our prayer that you will partake of the bread of life by believing and obeying Christ.
- B. Because it is by eating of that bread you can come to eternal life.
- C. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.