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Read :35-40. This is the reason why it is so certain that the Son will not cast out and will raise up and will not lose those given to Him by the Father. **:39-40 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.**” To these ‘gifts’ of the Father (:37) and those who keep on coming and believing in the Person of Jesus (:35), 1st, Jesus will receive them and will not cast them out. 2nd, they will receive now the gift of eternal life. 3rd, they can look forward with certainty to sharing in the victory of Christ on the last day!! Even physical death will not defeat the Father's purposes. **Read 10:27-29.** No one will be lost along the way.

“We thank You, Father and Jesus, that it's Your will for whoever comes, beholds, and believes in You to have eternal life, not only on this earth but for all eternity! We have total and complete salvation provided wholly by You!!”

But these truths were not believed by many disciples of Jesus.

Read 6:41-42. :41 Therefore the Jews were grumbling about Him, because He said, “I am the bread that came down out of heaven.” This claim that He was the bread of life (:35) and that He had come down out of heaven (:33, :38) were issues that so offended the Jews. They were grumbling: **: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?’”** “How can this man whose origins are known say ‘I came down from heaven?’”

In their minds: they knew His parents (Jesus repeatedly claimed that they didn't know His Father at all); they knew He came from Nazareth; they had known Him as a boy. They had seen the wonder, but they had not caught the significance of the sign. “Does He actually expect us to believe in Him?”

Remember **:36: “You have seen Me, and yet do not believe.”** Unbelief is their issue! They didn't take Him at His word and act on it. “We know all about Jesus, and therefore His claims can't be true.” Once again, they approached His Person and His words from a fleshly, earthly perspective.

Read :43-48. :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. “Stop grumbling!” He had said and done enough if they had been open to coming, beholding, and believing.

:44 The Father was doing His work! Jesus was doing His work! So was the Spirit (16:8-11)! The God-Head at work! The Father was working with that crowd, revealing Himself through His Son. If He doesn't do His work, no one would come; but, He's doing His work, carrying out His role (they shall all be taught of God!) (Also see **Rom. 1:19-21, 2:14-15, 10:18-21**—creation, conscience, sending messengers). Out of His love, He sent His Son (3:16), who is the Word! He's given us the written Word! If you believe, Jesus will raise you up on the last day (:39-40,54)!

:45 It is written in the prophets, ‘AND THEY SHALL ALL BE TAUGHT OF GOD’ [Is. 54:13; Jer. 31:34]. Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father, comes to Me. Jesus quotes **Is. 54:13**, referring to the time when people will hear from the Lord directly. God is doing His drawing through the Person of Jesus, the Scriptures, and the Spirit. He meets each person where he/she is, and out of His great love, takes them on to make a choice concerning His Son!

Had the Jews truly understood the OT, had they embraced the Sent One, they would have received & believed, heard & believed, learned & believed. Jesus who is the truth knows He has been sent by the Father with God's truth. That very day, these Jews were getting further teaching from the WORD Himself!

If someone comes by repentance and faith, it is because they have heard the truth (everyone has some truth about God) and therefore been drawn by God. When God begins to draw, He does so by exposing every person to His truth.

“They shall ALL be taught of God.” “There is no excuse for your ignorance, because God is teaching and drawing you.” The Father is doing His part. These people had heard; they were learning from the Father Himself. But they weren't believing in Jesus. The Father is drawing everyone: ALL are taught of God!! The importance of trusting the Father's revelation in His Son and through His Word. The Father draws; we hear and learn and choose to believe in the Bread of Life. If we do, we have eternal life (:40, 47)!

:46 Not that anyone has seen the Father, except the One who is from God; He has seen the Father. We can be taught by God only if we hear and learn Jesus, because He is the only One who is from God; He's seen the Father. There is only one authorized spokesman about the Father, and that is Jesus.

:47-48 :47 Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes has eternal life. Having been drawn, heard, learned, our responsibility is to believe, and our entire lives are to be characterized by belief (present tense) in Jesus. Jesus simply reinforces everything He has previously said. Keep coming and believing **:35!**

:48 “I am the bread of life.” 1st, Jesus in **:31-32** had shown that God, not Moses, had provided that physical bread, & 2nd, it was God who was now giving them the true Bread out of heaven. This Bread of God would give eternal life to the world.

I pray our story is marked by our commitment to Him, the Word/Life/Truth.

Read :49-59. Up to this point it is by coming and believing (:29, :35) that one receives Jesus. Now we read Jesus' words in **:49-59**: People are to eat His flesh and drink His blood! “Deliberately crude & shocking words.” His flesh & blood would be given for all, so everyone, we, could experience life!

:49 “Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died.” The crowd wanted physical bread daily, but that wouldn't give them eternal life. The OT Israelites still died. **:50 “This is the bread which comes down out of heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die.”** The manna in the wilderness did not prevent death, but whoever eats of the Bread of Life that Jesus is and gives will never die. **Read 11:25-26.** Physical death without Jesus means eternal separation from the Father. But Christians receive eternal life, now!

: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.” The offer of Jesus is life in time and in eternity.

For the 5th time in this teaching (:33,35,48,50), Jesus claimed to be the living bread. If we have Jesus, we have Life, eternal life, spiritual life. We do not have life in ourselves, but only in Him. Eating and drinking will be figures of speech for believing (:29). We are always feeding on something. Do we live and breathe ‘Jesus’? We become satisfied because Jesus is our Life.

My flesh! Interpret ‘flesh’ by going back to the beginning of the Gospel: **1:14 The Word became flesh.** Providing eternal life would be costly to the Givers, both the Father and the Son. **Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God (1 Pet. 3:18, 2:24, Is. 53:4-6, Rom. 3:21-26, 2 Cor. 5:21).** Remember **1:29: The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.** The death of Jesus was a real, genuine, actual satisfaction of divine justice. It was a payment in full and satisfied the Father’s justice. Jesus offered His flesh as a sacrifice not only for Israel, but for the world (**1:29, 4:42, 1 Jn. 2:2, 4:14**). He’s the only Lamb for the world of lost sinners.

In these verses Jesus urged the people to appropriate Him personally by faith. Spiritual truth does no good if it is not internalized. Merely knowing the truth without acting on it is not faith nor obedience! It’s a test of faith (remember, “The teacher is always silent during the test!”).

:52 Then the Jews began to argue [fight, quarrel, a heated dispute] **with one another, saying, “How can this man give us His flesh to eat?”** “To eat human flesh is something unthinkable. To drink human blood is even worse. What does He think we are: cannibals?” They were thinking only of the earthly, the material. Our Lord was giving a physical example of a spiritual, eternal truth.

: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. “Eat and drink are aorists, not present tense verbs. This makes it clear that this is a one-time believing and receiving of Jesus at justification, not the continual eating and drinking of His body and blood thought by the Catholics (Mass).” God’s salvation is by faith in Jesus alone (**Eph. 2:8-9**).

Jesus does not try to tone down His earlier statements. He actually strengthens them! In Jewish thought, the blood stands for the life. This is referring to the voluntary shedding of Jesus’ blood as a ransom for the salvation of believers (**Mt. 26:27-28, Lk. 22:20, Acts 20:28, Rom. 3:25, 5:9, 1 Cor. 10:16, 11:25-26; Eph. 1:7, 2:1; Col. 1:20,22; Heb. 9:12,14,22, 10:19,29, 13:12; 1 Pet. 1:2,18-19; 1 Jn. 1:7, 5:6; Rev. 1:5, 7:14, 12:11**). Jesus’ sacrifice was the one to which all of the OT sacrifices pointed.

:54 He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. This verse doesn’t allow for a neutral position!

From **:54** on Jesus no longer uses the verb, to eat, but uses a different word which means to munch or chew noisily. Either He is out of His mind or He is talking about something else. ‘Eating & drinking’ of **:54** are parallel to the ‘coming and believing in Jesus’ of **:35**, and the ‘beholding and believing in Jesus’ of **:40**. This person making those choices will be kept by Jesus. **Raise him up :39,40,44.** The bodily resurrection to everlasting life is the believer’s

great hope (**Acts 23:6, 24:15, 1 Cor. 15:12-19, Titus 2:13, 1 Pet. 1:3**).

:55-56 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. If he/she makes this choice, Jesus abides (remains, continues) in you and you abide (remain, continue) in Him (see **15:1-11, 2 Cor. 13:5, Gal. 2:20, Col. 1:27**).

: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. As the living Father sent Me, and I live by means of Him (this was the secret of Jesus’ life), so he who eats Me will live by means of Me (this should be the secret of our lives!). The Father’s life through Jesus; Jesus’ life through ours! The Giver is the Father; the Bread is Jesus. **As the Father has life in Himself, even so He gave to the Son also to have life in Himself (5:26).** Therefore, those who believe in Jesus will live because of Him. Jesus has life in Himself; and believers also have life in Him.

: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.” For the 10th time in this chapter, reference is made to Jesus’ coming down from heaven or to the bread from heaven. Who He is and what He provides satisfies throughout all eternity. **In Him was life; and the Life was the Light of men (1:4).**

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

What hits home for you in reading and understanding Jesus’ words?

NOTES

:41 Grumbling, like the Jews in the wilderness **Ex. 16:2,8,9; Num. 11:1-6.**

:48 This claim ends the 2nd part of His message. The 1st part was in **:26-34** (God gives the true bread from heaven). The 2nd part is **:35-48** (Jesus claims He is that bread). The 3rd part is **:49-58** (This bread is His flesh and blood).

:51 The concept of Jesus giving Himself sacrificially for sinners is a repeated NT concept: **Mt. 20:28, Gal. 1:4, 2:20, Eph. 5:2,25, 1 Tim. 2:6, Titus 2:14.**

:51 Here as in **:35,40**, human responsibility to believe in Christ is in view God’s sovereignty in salvation is taught in **:37,39,44,65.**

:53 This passage is not referring to communion (**Mt. 26:26-28, Mk. 14:22-24, Lk. 22:19-20, 1 Cor. 10:16, 11:27**). There the word ‘sōma’ (body) is used. Here the word is sarx (**1:13,14, 3:6, 6:51,52,53,54,55,56,63, 8:15, 17:2**). The Lord’s Supper had not yet even been instituted. If this was a reference to the Lord’s Supper, it would mean that eternal life could be gained through taking communion. The Lord’s Supper is for those who are already believers.

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Spiritual life is eternal. That's why Jesus is not speaking of the physical body here but of the spirit/nature/heart of a person. Spiritual, eternal life resides in a Person, and Jesus is that Person! He's the only true source of spiritual life!

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“We thank You, Father and Jesus, that it's Your will for whoever comes, beholds, and believes in You to have eternal life, not only on this earth but for all eternity! We have total and complete salvation provided wholly by You!!”

But these truths were not believed by many disciples of Jesus.

Read 6:41-42. :41 Therefore the Jews were grumbling about Him, because He said, “I am the bread that came down out of heaven.” This claim that He was the bread of life (:35) and that He had come down out of heaven (:33, :38) were issues that so offended the Jews. They were grumbling: **: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?’”** “How can this man whose origins are known say ‘I came down from heaven?’”

In their minds: they knew His parents (Jesus repeatedly claimed that they didn't know His Father at all); they knew He came from Nazareth; they had known Him as a boy. They had seen the wonder, but they had not caught the significance of the sign. “Does He actually expect us to believe in Him?”

Remember **:36: “You have seen Me, and yet do not believe.”** Unbelief is their issue! They didn't take Him at His word and act on it. “We know all about Jesus, and therefore His claims can't be true.” Once again, they approached His Person and His words from a fleshly, earthly perspective.

Read :43-48. :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. “Stop grumbling!” He had said and done enough if they had been open to coming, beholding, and believing.

:44 The Father was doing His work! Jesus was doing His work! So was the Spirit (16:8-11)! The God-Head at work! The Father was working with that crowd, revealing Himself through His Son. If He doesn't do His work, no one would come; but, He's doing His work, carrying out His role (they shall all be taught of God!) (Also see **Rom. 1:19-21, 2:14-15, 10:18-21**—creation, conscience, sending messengers). Out of His love, He sent His Son (3:16), who is the Word! He's given us the written Word! If you believe, Jesus will raise you up on the last day (**:39-40,54**)!

:45 It is written in the prophets, ‘AND THEY SHALL ALL BE TAUGHT OF GOD’ [Is. 54:13; Jer. 31:34]. Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father, comes to Me. Jesus quotes **Is. 54:13, referring to the time when people will hear from the Lord directly. God is doing His drawing through the Person of Jesus, the Scriptures, and the Spirit. He meets each person where he/she is, and out of His great love, takes them on to make a choice concerning His Son!**

Had the Jews truly understood the OT, had they embraced the Sent One, they would have received & believed, heard & believed, learned & believed. Jesus who is the truth knows He has been sent by the Father with God’s truth. That very day, these Jews were getting further teaching from the WORD Himself!

If someone comes by repentance and faith, it is because they have heard the truth (everyone has some truth about God) and therefore been drawn by God. When God begins to draw, He does so by exposing every person to His truth.

“They shall ALL be taught of God.” “There is no excuse for your ignorance, because God is teaching and drawing you.” The Father is doing His part. These people had heard; they were learning from the Father Himself. But they weren’t believing in Jesus. The Father is drawing everyone: ALL are taught of God!! The importance of trusting the Father’s revelation in His Son and through His Word. The Father draws; we hear and learn and choose to believe in the Bread of Life. If we do, we have eternal life (:40, 47)!

:46 Not that anyone has seen the Father, except the One who is from God; He has seen the Father. We can be taught by God only if we hear and learn Jesus, because He is the only One who is from God; He’s seen the Father. There is only one authorized spokesman about the Father, and that is Jesus.

:47-48 :47 Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes has eternal life. Having been drawn, heard, learned, our responsibility is to believe, and our entire lives are to be characterized by belief (present tense) in Jesus. Jesus simply reinforces everything He has previously said. Keep coming and believing :35!

:48 “I am the bread of life.” 1st, Jesus in :31-32 had shown that God, not Moses, had provided that physical bread, & 2nd, it was God who was now giving them the true Bread out of heaven. This Bread of God would give eternal life to the world.

I pray our story is marked by our commitment to Him, the Word/Life/Truth.

Read :49-59. Up to this point it is by coming and believing (:29, :35) that one receives Jesus. Now we read Jesus’ words in :49-59: People are to eat His flesh and drink His blood! “Deliberately crude & shocking words.” His flesh & blood would be given for all, so everyone, we, could experience life!

:49 “Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died.” The crowd wanted physical bread daily, but that wouldn’t give them eternal life. The OT Israelites still died.

:50 “This is the bread which comes down out of heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die.” The manna in the wilderness did not prevent death, but whoever eats of the Bread of Life that Jesus is and gives will never die. **Read 11:25-26.** Physical death without Jesus means eternal separation from the Father. But Christians receive eternal life, now!

: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

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life of the world is My flesh.” The offer of Jesus is life in time and in eternity.

For the 5th time in this teaching (:33,35,48,50), Jesus claimed to be the living bread. If we have Jesus, we have Life, eternal life, spiritual life. We do not have life in ourselves, but only in Him. Eating and drinking will be figures of speech for believing (:29). We are always feeding on something. Do we live and breathe ‘Jesus’? We become satisfied because Jesus is our Life.

My flesh! Interpret ‘flesh’ by going back to the beginning of the Gospel: **1:14 The Word became flesh.** Providing eternal life would be costly to the Givers, both the Father and the Son. **Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God (1 Pet. 3:18, 2:24, Is. 53:4-6, Rom. 3:21-26, 2 Cor. 5:21).** Remember **1:29: The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.** The death of Jesus was a real, genuine, actual satisfaction of divine justice. It was a payment in full and satisfied the Father’s justice. Jesus offered His flesh as a sacrifice not only for Israel, but for the world (**1:29, 4:42, 1 Jn. 2:2, 4:14**). He’s the only Lamb for the world of lost sinners.

In these verses Jesus urged the people to appropriate Him personally by faith. Spiritual truth does no good if it is not internalized. Merely knowing the truth without acting on it is not faith nor obedience! It’s a test of faith (remember, “The teacher is always silent during the test!”).

:52 Then the Jews began to argue [fight, quarrel, a heated dispute] **with one another, saying, “How can this man give us His flesh to eat?”** “To eat human flesh is something unthinkable. To drink human blood is even worse. What does He think we are: cannibals?” They were thinking only of the earthly, the material. Our Lord was giving a physical example of a spiritual, eternal truth.

: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. “Eat and drink are aorists, not present tense verbs. This makes it clear that this is a one-time believing and receiving of Jesus at justification, not the continual eating and drinking of His body and blood thought by the Catholics (Mass).” God’s salvation is by faith in Jesus alone (**Eph. 2:8-9**).

Jesus does not try to tone down His earlier statements. He actually strengthens them! In Jewish thought, the blood stands for the life. This is referring to the voluntary shedding of Jesus’ blood as a ransom for the salvation of believers (**Mt. 26:27-28, Lk. 22:20, Acts 20:28, Rom. 3:25, 5:9, 1 Cor. 10:16, 11:25-26; Eph. 1:7, 2:1; Col. 1:20,22; Heb. 9:12,14,22, 10:19,29, 13:12; 1 Pet. 1:2,18-19; 1 Jn. 1:7, 5:6; Rev. 1:5, 7:14, 12:11**). Jesus’ sacrifice was the one to which all of the OT sacrifices pointed.

:54 He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. This verse doesn’t allow for a neutral position!

From **:54** on Jesus no longer uses the verb, to eat, but uses a different word which means to munch or chew noisily. Either He is out of His mind or He is talking about something else. ‘Eating & drinking’ of **:54** are parallel to the ‘coming and believing in Jesus’ of **:35**, and the ‘beholding and believing in Jesus’ of **:40**. This person making those choices will be kept by Jesus. **Raise him up :39,40,44.** The bodily resurrection to everlasting life is the believer’s

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

What hits home for you in reading and understanding Jesus' words?

NOTES

:41 Grumbling, like the Jews in the wilderness **Ex. 16:2,8,9; Num. 11:1-6.**

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:51 Here as in **:35,40**, human responsibility to believe in Christ is in view God's sovereignty in salvation is taught in **:37,39,44,65.**

:53 This passage is not referring to communion (**Mt. 26:26-28, Mk. 14:22-24, Lk. 22:19-20, 1 Cor. 10:16, 11:27**). There the word 'sōma' (body) is used. Here the word is sarx (**1:13,14, 3:6, 6:51,52,53,54,55,56,63, 8:15, 17:2**). The Lord's Supper had not yet even been instituted. If this was a reference to the Lord's Supper, it would mean that eternal life could be gained through taking communion. The Lord's Supper is for those who are already believers.

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