

## **“The True Bread”**

John 6:30-40

Hello friend and welcome to *Hope for Today*. My name is J. Mark Horst; I’m your friend and Bible teacher. The program you’re listening to is produced by Heralds of Hope, an international Gospel radio and literature ministry. Thousands are tuning in each week to receive spiritual nourishment and blessing.

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In just a few moments, Dr. Yoder will present today’s teaching from the Gospel of John. But before he does that, let’s pray.

Gracious Heavenly Father, we thank you and praise you for this promise of Jesus that He is preparing a place for us with you. Father, we long for that day when sin will be forever banished and righteous rule in the earth and in the hearts of all humanity.

And now, Father, as Dr. Yoder comes to open the Word for us, I pray that you will open our hearts to the truth. I pray for my listening friend to understand where he or she can find the help they need to walk the pathway of life. I pray this in Jesus’ name, Amen.

Bread has been called the staff of life. It is usually made from grain: wheat, barley, rye, or rice. You know grain was the first food given to man. When God made man He said, “You may eat of the herb of the field.” Grain is usually field grown.

However, during the trip from Egypt to Canaan when God was bringing the Children of Israel first into His land, God provided a different kind of bread for them. It was called manna. He gave it to them daily. The Bible tells us it was white like coriander seed when it lay on the ground. It was sometimes called “bread from heaven”.

Then when Jesus taught the disciples to pray, He included this idea in that model prayer: “Give us this day our daily bread.” Of course, such bread satisfies only for the day. Whether it be the bread we now make or whether it is the bread we pray for in the model prayer, or even the bread from heaven that God gave to the Children of Israel, it only lasted a day.

Is there better bread? Oh, yes, there is the true bread. Dr. Yoder will read about it now from John 6:30-40 and will teach us about “The True Bread.”

- 30 *They said therefore unto him, What sign shewest thou then, that we may see, and believe thee? what dost thou work?*
- 31 *Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat.*
- 32 *Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven.*
- 33 *For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world.*
- 34 *Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread.*
- 35 *And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.*
- 36 *But I said unto you, That ye also have seen me, and believe not.*
- 37 *All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.*
- 38 *For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.*
- 39 *And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.*
- 40 *And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.*

In this Bible text I find several IDEAS which will help us understand the true bread.

First, we find **A Compelling Demonstration.**

The people desired a sign. They said they wanted Jesus to demonstrate a sign; make it visible; make it tangible like Moses when he gave their fathers the bread in the desert. They were saying, We want to see a sign from you; make it a compelling demonstration so we know what kind of work you are doing. Then they drew that illustration from Moses. They said, Moses gave our fathers bread in the wilderness. They had manna, that bread from heaven. We want a compelling demonstration from you.

Well, many today insist on demonstration beyond necessary proof. They sought a compelling demonstration like the manna Moses gave to their fathers in the wilderness. Well, God did it once. Will He do it again?

There is a second idea here: **An Impelling Supplication.**

Jesus made a correction to their idea immediately, because He informed them that Moses did not give them the bread from heaven. The manna which God gave them in the desert was hardly the bread from heaven. It only did for them what ordinary bread would do: sustain life for a time. Jesus said that God gives you the true bread from heaven and that true bread is He who came down from heaven. When you come to Jesus, you will find Him to be the bread from heaven which gives eternal life.

Then there was their supplication. They said, “Lord, evermore give us this bread.” Let it never cease, let it always be our portion, the bread from heaven. That’s what we want: a continual supply; never let it stop. You see, they were still thinking in terms of that manna in the wilderness. They did not understand that their imploring supplication was much broader than they imagined. They just wanted it on a day-by-day basis, just like their fathers had when they were traveling in the wilderness.

It was an imploring supplication because they cried out like this: “Lord, evermore give us this bread.”

There is the third idea: **A Pressing Invitation.**

I want you to notice very carefully how Jesus answered them. He said, “I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.” That definitely is a pressing invitation. He who comes and he who believes will never hunger and will

never thirst. Do you see that this calls for a voluntary response to the invitation of Jesus? That means a willing response from him who comes and him who believes. I want you to notice further that Jesus said, “All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.”

My friend, that is absolutely sure. You need not ask any question whatever about that. Jesus said, “I will in no way cast out him who comes to me.” That is absolutely certain. Then He further said, “I will raise him up at the last day.” That, too, is just as sure as God is sure because Jesus said so. See, this pressing invitation is voluntary on your part; it is absolute on His part because God will follow through with what He said. Jesus made this absolutely clear.

There is no alternative here, my friend, because Jesus confined His comments and His invitation to what He said. “All that come to me I will in no way cast out.” But He also said you can come and never hunger; you can believe and never thirst. Think about these ideas: a compelling demonstration: bread from heaven; an impelling supplication: Lord, evermore give us this bread; a pressing invitation: come and never hunger, believe, and never thirst.

My friend, have you found the living bread that Dr. Yoder spoke about? Have you found the only thing that truly satisfies? You see, all the things the world offers us like wealth, or fame, or power, or status, they all can be lost in a moment. And they will never last beyond this life. But when you find Jesus as the living bread, you find eternal life that fully satisfies.

Now, if you were blessed by this teaching and would like an audio CD or a printed copy of it, just write and ask for the teaching “The True Bread.” We would be happy to send a copy to you as soon as we receive your request.

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Send an e-mail to [mail@heraldsofhope.org](mailto:mail@heraldsofhope.org). Or you may write to *Hope for Today*, Box 3, Breezewood, Pennsylvania 15533. Remember; you can request a free copy of this teaching, “The True Bread.” It’s available in print or on an audio CD.

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Now, I urge you to tune in next week as Dr. Yoder continues our study in John’s Gospel. And until then, keep looking for that blessed HOPE.