

The Gospel of John

Chapter 6, Verses 14-29

Review

- General Introduction to the Gospel of John
 - one of the ***five Johannine books***, all of which are among the last books in the Bible to have been written
 - *one of the **four gospels**, each of which is a biography of Jesus and an historical narrative of his life*
 - written in Greek, primarily to those who had already accepted Christ, including ***both Jews and Gentiles***

Review

- **Prolog (1:1-18)**
 - Jesus Christ was the ***Word become flesh*** (1:14).
 - “***Flesh***” emphasizes that Jesus became exactly what we are.
 - The “***Word***” (Greek, *Logos*) was what God was, and did what God did, from the beginning.
 - He is ***rejected by the world***, in general.
 - But he is the ***savior of all who receive him***.

Review

- **The narrative begins....**
 - Jesus was revealed to Israel by ***John the Baptist***, after which ***Disciples*** began to follow Jesus (1:19-51).
 - Jesus performed his ***first sign at Cana of Galilee***, changing water into wine (2:1-11).
 - Jesus went up to Jerusalem, ***cleansed the temple*** and performed other ***signs*** (2:12-25), which attracted the attention of the Jews, including a man named ***Nicodemus***, with whom Jesus had an important conversation (3:1-21).

Review

- ***Jesus surpassed John the Baptist***, who reassured his followers that this was as it should be. (3:22-36)
- Traveling from Judea to Galilee, ***Jesus stopped briefly in Samaria***, where he revealed himself to a woman by a well and others who confessed that Jesus was the Savior of the world. (4:1-45)
- ***Jesus healed the son of an official from Capernaum*** and consequently the man and his household believed. (4:46-53)
- ***Jesus healed a man by the pool in Jerusalem*** and the Jews persecuted him because he did so on the Sabbath (5:1-16)

Review

- ***The Jews hated Jesus for calling God his father. (5:17-18)***
- ***Jesus explained his relationship with God*** as being a bond of perfect love and unity. Those who reject Jesus, do so because they have already rejected God. (5:19-44)

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 - It was the time of the ***Passover*** (6:4)
 - Jesus already knew what he would do, but to test Philip, Jesus asked him where they could buy enough bread to feed the people; Philip replied that this was not possible. (6:5-7)

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- This was a miraculous sign.
- ***What should people have learned from it?***

John 6:14-21

6:14人々はイエスのなさったこのしるしを見て、「ほんとうに、この人こそ世にきたるべき預言者である」と言った。

6:15イエスは人々がきて、自分をとらえて王にしようとしていると知って、ただひとり、また山に退かれた。

6:16夕方になったとき、弟子たちは海べに下り、

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6:17舟に乗って海を渡り、向こう岸のカペナウムに行きかけた。すでに暗くなっていたのに、イエスはまだ彼らのところにおいでにならなかった。

6:18その上、強い風が吹いてきて、海は荒れ出した。

6:19四、五十丁こぎ出したとき、イエスが海の上を歩いて舟に近づいてこられるのを見て、彼らは恐れた。

John 6:14-21

6:20すると、イエスは彼らに言われた、「わたしたち、恐れることはない」。

6:21そこで、彼らは喜んでイエスを舟に迎えようとした。すると舟は、すぐ、彼らが行こうとしていた地に着いた。

John 6:14-21

¹⁴ When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said, "This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!"

¹⁵ Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

¹⁶ When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea,

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¹⁷ got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them.

¹⁸ The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing.

¹⁹ When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were frightened.

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

²¹ Then they were glad to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land to which they were going.

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- What “sign” had done?
- The “feeding of the 5,000” as recorded in all four gospels.
- In light of this, they concluded that Jesus was the Prophet who had been foretold.

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 - Their “eschatological expectations” were probably varied and confused, **and rather more earthly than heavenly.**

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- *Properly understood, the signs are always pointing to Christ and his eternal kingdom.*
- *Signs should make us look heavenward!*

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- But do they fall down and worship him? No!

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Perceiving then that they were about to come and ***take him by force to make him king***, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

- Instead, as absurd as it sounds, Jesus understood that they were preparing to “kidnap” him and make him their king.

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- Christian countries and churches have been trying to “kidnap” Jesus for centuries.

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- Satan tried to do the same thing with Jesus once before, at the time of Jesus tempting in the desert.

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- This evokes memories of Moses in his solitude with God on the mountain, while the people who remained below were badly confused and going astray.

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- Mark (6:45) recalls that Jesus remained on the mountain to pray and “compelled” his disciples to go across the lake.
- Perhaps he was protecting them from the misguided enthusiasm of the crowd.

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- He also remembers that it was dark.

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The *sea became rough* because a strong wind was blowing.

- Even today the Sea of Galilee is known for strong winds which come up suddenly.
- Perhaps this strong wind came up after they had been rowing for some time, because the sea *became* rough.

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その上、強い風が吹いてきて、海は荒れ出した。

The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing.

- This scene is filled with poetic imagery (they were without Jesus, in the dark, rowing against a strong wind, on rough seas) but John does not say that the disciples were afraid or in any danger on this occasion. Perhaps they were not.

John 6:19

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- It is not clear whether the disciples were frightened by a figure who looked like Jesus walking on the water, or by an unrecognizable figure who later turned out to be Jesus.

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- In doing God's work among men, Jesus must sometimes have presented a fearsome aspect.

Discussion

- People think they wish to see supernatural phenomena (miracles) but when they do, they are frightened by them.
- The people of Israel were typically frightened by the presence of God and his angels and the supernatural things which God and his angels did among them.
- In doing God's work among men, Jesus must sometimes have presented a fearsome aspect.
- But because he was also a man, Jesus could reassure us and come close to us.

John 6:20

すると、イエスは彼らに言われた、「わたした、恐れることはない」。

But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid."

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

- To see a man in the dead of night walking across the water toward your boat, **would** be scary, even if he resembled a person whom you knew and loved on land in the daylight.

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But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid."

- To see a man in the dead of night walking across the water toward your boat, would be scary, even if he resembled a person whom you knew and loved on land in the daylight.
- But with a word, Jesus could calm them.

John 6:21

そこで、彼らは喜んでイエスを舟に迎えようとした。すると舟は、すぐ、彼らが行こうとしていた地に着いた

Then they were glad to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land to which they were going.

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- Having recognized Jesus and heard his reassuring word, they were happy to be reunited with him and their hard journey was immediately and successfully concluded.

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- We can see that this sign is also a sort of parable.

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 - When he walked on water, his own disciples were afraid.

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- Even when he was present as a man among us, the miracles he performed were easily misunderstood.
 - When he fed the 5000, people correctly perceived that he was a special man who had come in fulfillment of prophecy, but rather than worship him they sought to use him.
 - When he walked on water, his own disciples were afraid.
- A multiplication of miracles would not help in either case.

John 6:22-25

6:22 その翌日、海の向こう岸に立っていた群衆は、そこに小舟が一そうしかなく、またイエスは弟子たちと一緒に小舟にお乗りにならず、ただ弟子たちだけが船出したのを見た。

6:23 しかし、数そうの小舟がテベリヤからきて、主が感謝されたのちパンを人々に食べさせた場所に近づいた。

John 6:22-25

6:24 群衆は、イエスも弟子たちもそこにいないと知って、それらの小舟に乗り、イエスをたずねてカペナウムに行った。

6:25 そして、海の向こう岸でイエスに出会ったので言った、「先生、いつ、ここにおいでになったのですか」。

John 6:22-25

²² On the next day the crowd that remained on the other side of the sea saw that there had been only one boat there, and that Jesus had not entered the boat with his disciples, but that his disciples had gone away alone.

²³ Other boats from Tiberias came near the place where they had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks.

²⁴ So when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum, seeking Jesus.

John 6:22-25

²⁵ When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?"

John 6:22

その翌日、海の向こう岸に立っていた群衆は、そこに小舟が一そ
うしかなく、またイエスは弟子たちと一緒に小舟にお乗りになら
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- This was the day following the feeding of the 5000.

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On the next day ***the crowd that remained on the other side of the sea***
saw that there had been only one boat there, and that Jesus had not
entered the boat with his disciples, but that his disciples had gone away
alone.

- This was the day following the feeding of the 5000.
- Most of those people had remained on the eastern shore of the lake, near where the miracle had been performed.

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- They had observed that Jesus' disciples had taken the only available boat and departed without Jesus.

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- They had observed that Jesus' disciples had taken the only available boat and departed without Jesus.
- So, of course, ***they were wondering where Jesus was.***

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On the next day the crowd that remained on the other side of the sea saw that there had been only one boat there, and that Jesus had not entered the boat with his disciples, but that his disciples had gone away alone.

- They had observed that Jesus' disciples had taken the only available boat and departed without Jesus.
- So, of course, they were wondering where Jesus was.
- Remember they wanted to kidnap him and make him king.

John 6:23

しかし、数そうの小舟がテベリヤからきて、主が感謝されたのちパンを人々に食べさせた場所に近づいた。

Other boats from Tiberias came near the place where they had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks.

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- Jesus' disciples had taken the only boat that was there at the time of their departure.
- But now additional boats have arrived.

John 6:23

しかし、数そうの小舟がテベリヤからきて、主が感謝されたのちパンを人々に食べさせた場所に近づいた。

Other boats from Tiberias came near *the place where they had eaten the bread* after the Lord had given thanks.

- These boats have arrived near the place where Jesus had performed the miracle on the preceding day.

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Other boats from Tiberias came near the place where they had eaten the bread *after the Lord had given thanks*.

- These boats have arrived near the place where Jesus had performed the miracle on the preceding day.
- It is significant the John again remembers Jesus' prayer.

John 6:24

群衆は、イエスも弟子たちもそこにいないと知って、それらの小舟に乗り、イエスをたずねてカペナウムに行った。

So when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum, seeking Jesus.

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So when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum, *seeking Jesus*.

- The key point here is that the crowd that witnessed the miracle is seeking Jesus.

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- Neither Jesus nor his disciples can be found nearby.

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- The key point here is that the crowd that witnessed the miracle is seeking Jesus.
- Neither Jesus nor his disciples can be found nearby.
- So they went to Capernaum looking for them.

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So when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, **they themselves got into the boats** and went to Capernaum, seeking Jesus.

- If anything like the whole crowd that had witnessed the miracle went to Capernaum by boat, then there must have been a tremendously large number of boats there.

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- If anything like the whole crowd that had witnessed the miracle went to Capernaum by boat, then there must have been a tremendously large number of boats there.
- Might news of the miracle have attracted so many boats?

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- I suppose most of the crowd from the preceding day had walked home, taking news of the miracle with them.

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- I suppose most of the crowd from the preceding day had walked home, taking news of the miracle with them.
- If so, the number of boats which came the following day might have been enough to transport those who remained.

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- In any case, some of the boats available took some of the remaining crowd to Capernaum, seeking Jesus.

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So when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum, seeking Jesus.

- In any case, some of the boats available took some of the remaining crowd to Capernaum, seeking Jesus.
- Probably some in the crowd had learned on the day before that Jesus disciples had headed for Capernaum.

John 6:25

そして、海の向こう岸でイエスに出会ったので言った、「先生、いつ、ここにおいでになったのですか」。

When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?"

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When ***they found him on the other side of the sea***, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?"

- When they found Jesus, he was on the western shore.

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When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, ***when did you come here?***"

- When they found Jesus, he was on the western shore.
- They naturally asked him when he had arrived there.

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When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?"

- When they found Jesus, he was on the western shore.
- They naturally asked him when he had arrived there.
- Perhaps implicitly they are asking him how, without taking a boat, he had been able to rejoin his disciples so quickly.

John 6:25

そして、海の向こう岸でイエスに出会ったので言った、「先生、いつ、ここにおいでになったのですか」。

When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?"

- That they call him Rabbi, confirms that they remain very confused about who he is, and how they should deal with him.

John 6:26-29

6:26 イエスは答えて言われた、「よくよくあなたがたに言うておく。あなたがたがわたしを尋ねてきているのは、しるしを見たためではなく、パンを食べて満腹したからである。

6:27 朽ちる食物のためではなく、永遠の命に至る朽ちない食物のために働くがよい。これは人の子があなたがたに与えるものである。父なる神は、人の子にそれをゆだねられたのである」。

John 6:26-29

6:28そこで、彼らはイエスに言った、「神のわざを行うために、わたしたちは何をしたらよいでしょうか」。

6:29イエスは彼らに答えて言われた、「神がつかわされた者を信じることが、神のわざである」。

John 6:26-29

²⁶ Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves.

²⁷ Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal."

²⁸ Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?"

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- Although they remain confused about who he is, the men who address Jesus now definitely had been seeking him.

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- They had just boarded boats and crossed the sea for that very purpose.

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- These men definitely ***had*** seen Jesus feeding the 5,000.

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- Indeed Jesus confirms that they had ***participated*** in it.

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- These men definitely had seen Jesus feeding the 5,000.
- Indeed Jesus confirms that they had participated in it.
- It is because they had been actual **beneficiaries** of this miracle, Jesus says, that they are now seeking him.

John 6:26

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Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves.

- So what's wrong with that?

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- So what's wrong with that?
- Their ***motive*** for seeking Jesus is wrong.
- They hope to receive additional ***earthly benefits*** from him.

John 6:26

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Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves.

- The miracle was a sign pointing to heaven.

John 6:26

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Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, ***not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves.***

- The miracle was a sign pointing to heaven.
- But all that they have seen is the earthly benefit and the possibility of more of the same.

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Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of *the loaves*.

- The miracle was a sign pointing to heaven.
- But all that they have seen is the earthly benefit and the possibility of more of the same.
- Here food is a metaphor for every earthy desire.

Discussion

- The point here seems to be, that when God sends us an earthly blessing, it is much better for us if this draws our attention upward to God and causes us to desire him, rather than leading us to desire more earthly blessings.

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Discussion

- The point here seems to be, that when God sends us an earthly blessing, it is much better for us if this draws our attention upward to God and causes us to desire him, rather than leading us to desire more earthly blessings.
- Most of the time, unfortunately, we are seeking God for exactly the wrong reason --- i.e. that he would send us earthly blessings, rather than heavenly.
- Ironically this may sometimes prevent us from receiving earthly blessings (Matthew 6:33).

John 6:27

朽ちる食物のためではなく、永遠の命に至る朽ちない食物のために働くがよい。これは人の子があなたがたに与えるものである。父なる神は、人の子にそれをゆだねられたのである」。

Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal."

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- What is the “food that perishes?”

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- What is the “food that perishes?”
- Practically anything in this world, especially anything that can be made, sold for money or that money can buy!

John 6:27

朽ちる食物のためではなく、永遠の命に至る朽ちない食物のために働くがよい。これは人の子があなたがたに与えるものである。父なる神は、人の子にそれをゆだねられたのである」。

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- What is the “food that perishes?”
- Practically anything in this world, especially anything that can be made sold for money or that money can buy!
- Jesus says don't work for (desire, value) such things.

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Do not labor for the food that perishes, ***but for the food that endures to eternal life***, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal."

- Instead, we should labor for (desire, value) the “food that endures to eternal life.”

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- Instead, we should labor for (desire, value) the “food that endures to eternal life.”
- Which can include none of the things found in this world.

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Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, **which the Son of Man will give to you**. For on him God the Father has set his seal."

- Instead, we should labor for (desire, value) the “food that endures to eternal life.”
- Which can include none of the things found in this world.
- But is something other-worldly that Jesus will give to you.

John 6:27

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Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. ***For on him God the Father has set his seal.***"

- This is something that Jesus can give, because he is the one on whom God the Father has set his seal.

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- This is something that Jesus can give, because he is the one on whom God the Father has set his seal.
- “Set his seal” here probably means that the Father has uniquely authorized Jesus to grant eternal life. (3:16)

John 6:28

そこで、彼らはイエスに言った、「神のわざを行うために、わたしたちは何をしたらよいでしょうか」。

Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?"

John 6:28

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- Using metaphors Jesus has said that we must “work” for the “food which endures to eternal life” which only he can give because God has uniquely authorized him to do so.

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Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?"

- Using metaphors Jesus has said that we must “work” for the “food which endures to eternal life” which he can give because God has authorized him to do so.
- The crowd asks Jesus *specifically* what they must do.

John 6:29

イエスは彼らに答えて言われた、「神がつかわされた者を信じる
ことが、神のわざである」。

Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him
whom he has sent."

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イエスは彼らに答えて言われた、「神がつかわされた者を信じる
ことが、神のわざである」。

Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him
whom he has sent."

- They have correctly understood that Jesus is saying that he has been authorized by God to grant eternal life and that this is what they must strive for, rather than earthly rewards.

John 6:29

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whom he has sent."

- They have asked him specifically what they must do.
- Now, he answers them.
- They must believe in the one whom God has sent, he says.
- They must believe in Jesus.

Discussion

- Jesus is saying that the most important thing is to believe that God has authorized Jesus to give us eternal life.
- Satisfaction of our temporal, worldly desires is not something that we should give much thought to.
- The men Jesus is speaking to basically do understand what Jesus is saying, but believing him is another matter.