# The Gospel of John

Chapter 6, Verses 46-58

- 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

- **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.

- 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).

- Jesus surpassed John the Baptist, who reassured his own followers that this was as it should be. (3:22-36)
- Returning 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)
- Visiting Jerusalem, *Jesus healed a man by the pool;* the Jews persecuted him because he did so on the Sabbath (5:1-16)

- 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 the Father. (5:19-44)
- Back in Galilee, Jesus crossed to the eastern side of the lake where, using five loaves and two small fish, he miraculously fed 5,000 men and their families. (6:1-13)
- *Miraculously walking on water, he* crossed back to the west side of the lake, where the crowd found him. (6:14-25)

• Jesus told the crowd that they were following him for the wrong reasons. Rather than looking for earthly rewards, they should believe in Jesus and understand the salvation and eternal life he alone provided (6:26-29).

## Review – Last Week's Lesson

- The crowd asked Jesus to verify his claims concerning himself by performing some more miracles, possibly by sending manna from heaven. (6:30-31)
- Jesus reminded them that manna had been sent not by Moses but by God, whom Jesus calls his father, and that God had recently sent something better than manna, something which Jesus describes as the true bread from heaven which gives life to the world. (6:32-33)
- Jesus makes it clear he was referring to *himself*. (6:34-35)

## Review – Last Week's Lesson

- Not everyone, but all whom the Father gives, shall come to Jesus, believe in Jesus, and be saved. (6:35-37)
- Such is the will of God: that all who believe in Jesus shall have *eternal life* and *be raised up* on the last day. (6:38-40)
- The Jews in Galilee (where Jesus grew up) *grumbled*, because they knew Jesus and his family, and yet he was saying that he came down from heaven. (6:41-42)
- Jesus said that *nobody could believe in him except those* who had been drawn to him and taught by God. (6:43-45)

**6:46**神から出た者のほかに、だれかが父を見たのではない。その者だけが父を見たのである。

6:47よくよくあなたがたに言っておく。信じる者には永遠の命がある。

6:48わたしは命のパンである。

6:49あなたがたの先祖は荒野でマナを食べたが、死んでしまった。

**6:50**しかし、天から下ってきたパンを食べる人は、決して死ぬことはない。

**6:51**わたしは天から下ってきた生きたパンである。それを食べる者は、いつまでも生きるであろう。わたしが与えるパンは、世の命のために与えるわたしの肉である」。

- <sup>46</sup> not that anyone has seen the Father except he who is from God; he has seen the Father.
- <sup>47</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life.
- <sup>48</sup> I am the bread of life.
- <sup>49</sup> Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died.
- <sup>50</sup> This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die.

<sup>51</sup> I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

#### John 6:46

神から出た者のほかに、だれかが父を見たのではない。その者だけが父を見たのである。

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- This continues the thought begun in Verse 45, and corrects a possible misunderstanding.
- Jesus had said that only those who heard and learned from the Father came to Jesus.

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• But this does not mean that anyone other that Christ has ever had a direct (i.e. unmediated) relationship with God.

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- But this does not mean that anyone other that Christ has ever had a direct (i.e. unmediated) relationship with God.
- Only the Son, the Word become flesh, has seen the Father.
- God gives/draws men to Christ and not to himself directly.

#### John 6:47

よくよくあなたがたに言っておく。信じる者には永遠の命がある。

Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life.

Jesus is speaking here most earnestly.

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- To have eternal life, a person must believe.

- Jesus is speaking here most earnestly.
- And he is speaking to his fellow Galileans, who are grumbling and having so much trouble to believe in him.
- To have eternal life, a person must believe, <u>in Jesus!</u>

I am the bread of life.

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• Jesus is the (only) bread of (eternal) life.

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I am the bread of life.

- Jesus is the (only) bread of (eternal) life.
- Earthly life depends on having food (literally) to eat.
- Eternal life depends on having Jesus (figuratively) to eat.

あなたがたの先祖は荒野でマナを食べたが、死んでしまった。

Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died.

あなたがたの先祖は荒野でマナを食べたが、死んでしまった。

Your fathers ate the *manna* in the wilderness, and they died.

 They recently suggested that Jesus do some additional miracle, perhaps supplying them with manna to eat. あなたがたの先祖は荒野でマナを食べたが、死んでしまった。

Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died.

- They recently suggested that Jesus do some additional miracle, perhaps supplying them with manna to eat.
- This would sustain them physically for a time, as it had their fathers, but it would not confer eternal life.

#### John 6:50

しかし、天から下ってきたパンを食べる人は、決して死ぬことはない。

This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die.

しかし、天から下ってきたパンを食べる人は、決して死ぬことはない。

*This is the bread that comes down from heaven,* so that one may eat of it and not die.

 Unlike the manna which God provided to the fathers from the sky, *Jesus* is the bread that comes down from *heaven*. しかし、天から下ってきたパンを食べる人は、決して死ぬことはない。

This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die.

- Unlike the manna which God provided to the fathers from the sky, Jesus is the bread that comes down from heaven.
- When one ate manna he nevertheless died.

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- Unlike the manna which God provided to the fathers from the sky, Jesus is the bread that comes down from heaven.
- When one ate manna he nevertheless died.
- If one "eats" Jesus he will never die.

#### John 6:51

わたしは天から下ってきた生きたパンである。それを食べる者は、 いつまでも生きるであろう。わたしが与えるパンは、世の命のた めに与えるわたしの肉である」。

I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

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 This first sentence contains no new thoughts, beyond what has already been said.

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I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone <u>eats</u> of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

- This first sentence contains no new thoughts, beyond what has already been said.
- We are still left with a figure of speech "eating Jesus" the literal equivalent of which has not been openly explained.

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I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And **the bread that I will give** for the life of the world is my flesh."

Not only <u>is</u> Jesus the living bread, but he is also the <u>giver</u> of this bread.

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- Not only is Jesus the living bread, but he is also the giver of this bread.
- This means that he gives himself for the life of the world.

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- Of himself what does he give?

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- Not only is Jesus the living bread, but he is also the giver of this bread.
- This means that he gives himself for the life of the world.
- Of himself what does he give? His flesh. His human life.

In what ways does Jesus give his human life?

- In what ways does Jesus give his human life?
  - Creation
  - Incarnation
  - Teaching
  - Passion
  - Crucifixion
  - Resurrection
  - Ascension
  - Parousia

- How do we "eat this?"
  - Word
  - Spirit
  - Believe
  - Submit

- How does this save us?
  - Justification
  - Sanctification

6:52そこで、ユダヤ人らが互に論じて言った、「この人はどうして、自分の肉をわたしたちに与えて食べさせることができようか」。

**6:53**イエスは彼らに言われた、「よくよく言っておく。 人の子の肉を食べず、また、その血を飲まなければ、 あなたがたの内に命はない。

**6:54**わたしの肉を食べ、わたしの血を飲む者には、永遠の命があり、わたしはその人を終りの日によみがえらせるであろう。

6:55わたしの肉はまことの食物、わたしの血はまことの飲み物である。

6:56わたしの肉を食べ、わたしの血を飲む者はわたしにおり、わたしもまたその人におる。

6:57生ける父がわたしをつかわされ、また、わたしが 父によって生きているように、わたしを食べる者も わたしによって生きるであろう。

**6:58**天から下ってきたパンは、先祖たちが食べたが死んでしまったようなものではない。このパンを食べる者は、いつまでも生きるであろう」。

- <sup>52</sup> The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"
- <sup>53</sup> 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 you.
- <sup>54</sup> Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.
- <sup>55</sup> For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.

<sup>56</sup> Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.

<sup>57</sup> As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me.

<sup>58</sup> This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever."

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- The Jews do <u>not</u> think Jesus is speaking of cannibalism.
- They know that he is using a figure of speech.
- But they do not like and cannot perfectly understand this figure of speech.

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That they did not understand this figure was only natural.

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- That they did not understand this figure was only natural.
- I suppose no one except Christ understood it very fully.
- Their mistake was in disputing among themselves rather than waiting on Christ for a better understanding.

イエスは彼らに言われた、「よくよく言っておく。人の子の肉を 食べず、また、その血を飲まなければ、あなたがたの内に命はな い。

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 Christ knows their heart and for reasons best known to himself, he does <u>not</u> add words to remove the offense.

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 you.

- Christ knows their heart and for reasons best known to himself, he does <u>not</u> add words to remove the offense.
- Instead he sharpens the figure of speech, making it even more offensive to the crowd.

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 you.

 In effect he said to the Jews that they were certain to die, unless they did something with <u>Jesus</u>, which he described figuratively as eating his flesh and drinking his blood!

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 you.

- In effect he said to the Jews that they were certain to die, unless they did something with Jesus, which he described figuratively as eating his flesh and drinking his blood!
- Drinking any blood was utterly offensive to Jews.

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 you.

• It is worth remembering that the reason why drinking the blood of animals was offensive to the Jews was because they understood that the blood contained life, which here is the very reason (figuratively) to drink the blood of Jesus.

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 you.

• If we want his eternal life for ourselves, we will need to eat and drink his eternal life-giving flesh and blood

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 you.

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- There is no other place from which eternal life can come.

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 you.

- If we want his eternal life for ourselves, we will need to eat and drink his eternal life-giving flesh and blood
- There is no other place from which eternal life can come.
- Eating and drinking are the metaphor Christ has chosen.

わたしの肉を食べ、わたしの血を飲む者には、永遠の命があり、わたしはその人を終りの日によみがえらせるであろう。

Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.

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• This just rephrases what has been said before and draws sharper attention to the final resurrection of the dead.

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- This just rephrases what has been said before and draws sharper attention to the final resurrection of the dead.
- Jesus says 'munch' on my flesh and drink my blood now or you will not have eternal life and I will not raise you up.

わたしの肉はまことの食物、わたしの血はまことの飲み物である。

For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.

わたしの肉はまことの食物、わたしの血はまことの飲み物である。

For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.

 Jesus has already made it clear that entering into eternal life and participating in the resurrection on the last day will require men to "eat his flesh" and "drink his blood." わたしの肉はまことの食物、わたしの血はまことの飲み物である。

For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.

- Jesus has already made it clear that entering into eternal life and participating in the resurrection on the last day will require men to "eat his flesh" and "drink his blood."
- He now gives some slight hint of the literal meaning.

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For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.

Food and drink sustain life.

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- Food and drink sustain life.
- "True food" and "true drink" sustain "true life."

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For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.

- Food and drink sustain life.
- "True food" and "true drink" sustain "true life."
- In order to have true life, we must in some sense consume and be nourished and sustained by the life of Jesus Christ.

わたしの肉を食べ、わたしの血を飲む者はわたしにおり、わたしもまたその人におる。

Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.

わたしの肉を食べ、わたしの血を飲む者はわたしにおり、わたしもまたその人におる。

Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.

 True life resides in Christ and can be ours only if he resides in us and we reside in him. わたしの肉を食べ、わたしの血を飲む者はわたしにおり、わたしもまたその人におる。

Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.

- True life resides in Christ and can be ours only if he resides in us and we reside in him.
- We could no more have true life without Christ than we could have ordinary human life without food and drink.

生ける父がわたしをつかわされ、また、わたしが父によって生き ているように、わたしを食べる者もわたしによって生きるであろ う。

As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me.

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• The thought here is that the life we take from Christ, is the life with which he was invested by the Father.

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- The thought here is that the life we take from Christ, is the life with which he was invested by the Father.
- Our life is from God through Christ.

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- The thought here is that the life we take from Christ, is the life with which he was invested by the Father.
- Our life is from God through Christ.
- God feeds us eternal life by giving us Christ "to eat."

天から下ってきたパンは、先祖たちが食べたが死んでしまったようなものではない。このパンを食べる者は、いつまでも生きるであろう」。

This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever."

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• We return then to the original thought, of the manna from heaven by which the fathers were fed in the wilderness.

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- We return then to the original thought, of the manna from heaven by which the fathers were fed in the wilderness.
- God sustained them with manna during their wandering.

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This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever."

- We return then to the original thought, of the manna from heaven by which the fathers were fed in the wilderness.
- God sustained them with manna during their wandering
- God sustains us with Christ, both now and eternally.