

## Manna Messiah

### I. Slide1 Announce:

- A. Slide2-4 Greg: Mens & Video & Mens (me). New Bulletin.
- B. Slide5 Prayer Tonight: 6:30-7:30pm.
- C. Slide6 Children at Risk: Next Sunday. *Run2Rescue presenting.*
- D. Slide7 Children's Musical: *Musical auditions, 4pm Mercy Room.*
- E. Slide8 Marriage: 2 Day Conf (video next week). Paul Tripp. **We** are are all still a work in progress, **marriages** are also a continuous work in progress, **and** it's God's desire to use us as **his tools of grace** to help each other **grow and create** God honoring marriages.
- F. Slide9/10 This Wed Night: How Do I Do Devotions. How do I Protect my Children...
- G. Prayer Intro: *Oh, taste & see that the Lord is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him.*
  1. Speaks of **Him Satisfying us**. Some of the experiences of life **tastes sour**. Sometimes the cup handed to us is not one of **sweetness** but of **bitterness**. **Jesus had to drink a bitter cup.**
  2. But do you know what makes **a bitter cup** satisfying & sweet? It's tasting **the Lord** in it. When you taste the Lord *in the experiences of life*, they become *sweet in Him*. [Note: **not taste & see if the Lord is good...but that He is**]
  3. **An atheist cannot find God for the same reason that a thief cannot find a policeman. Taste & see that the Lord IS Good.** Ps.34:8
  4. Prayer: *Lord, open our mouth and help us **taste**, open our eyes so we may see - **how good You are. We are a blest people when we hunger/thirst for You. Lord, when You make our cup sweet...may we drink it w/grace. When You make our cup bitter...may we drink it in communion w/You.***

### II. Slide11,12 Intro: Manna Messiah

- A. Slide13,14 1st note, where Jesus is in vs.59, in the *synagogue in Capernaum*.
- B. Also Note, *give us this bread always* (34)...**now** Jesus can reveal Himself as *the food they sought*.

C. This long chapter is dominated by ***1 theme*** from the **Passover**... *God feeding His children in the wilderness, with bread from Heaven.*

1. Last week **Jesus** gave His own provision of food for a large crowd out in a wilderness area, across the sea of Galilee and away from towns where food might have been found.

a) **In the OT story we have** God **protecting** Israel on 1st **Passover** (Ex.12).

**Protecting** Israel during the **Red Sea Crossing** (Ex.14).

**Then Providing Manna**/bread from heaven in the wilderness (Ex.16).

b) **Here in John 6 we have Jesus** on the **Passover**, **providing** for His children in the wilderness (out of town). **Then Jesus crossing the Sea of Galilee/walking on water.**

**Then presenting** himself as *the bread from Heaven.*

D. **Slide15** What matters is not just *what Jesus can do for you*; what matters is **who Jesus is.**

1. I admit walking through painting gallery's/museums & **reading about them more than gazing at them.** [the printed notes are there to **lead the eye/mind/heart** to appreciate the painting]

2. **The bread and the fish** that Jesus had distributed to the crowds were there to **lead the eye/mind/heart to the true gift of God, Himself...**right then and there.

adapted from N.T.Wright

### III. **Slide16a I AM THE BREAD FROM HEAVEN (30-33)**

A. (31) Jewish tradition looked for **the Messiah** to provide manna as **Moses** had. (Rabbah 1.9)

B. (33) The **manna** came only to the **Jews** & sustained **physical life**, **but Jesus** came for **the whole world** & gives **eternal life.**

1. **Slide16b** The **bread of God** was **a gift from the Father**, whether it was shaped into **Manna or the Messiah.**

C. **Note**, in vs.41 this phrase (*bread coming down from heaven*) is what they got mad at.

### IV. **Slide17a I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE (34-40)**

A. (35) **I am the bread of life** - *i.e.* Jesus satisfies our deepest spiritual needs.

1. This is the 1st of 7 **I am** statements in the gospel of John. [23 in all]

- B. Jesus picks a *common staple* all can relate to & relate to daily & throughout the day /each meal
1. **Bread** is found on the **rich & poor** man's table, **king & peasant**.
  2. **Slide17b** In **Mexico** it might be *I am the **pan dulce/bolillo** of Life*. In **India** it might be *I am the **Naan/chapati** of Life*. In **Belize** it might be *I am the **Fry Jacks** of Life*. In **China** it might be *I am the **Bao/Baozi** of Life* (pork steamed buns)
    - a) Whatever is that countries main **food staple** (for sustaining life).
- C. If we take the **1st commandment** from the neg to the poss, **from Thou shall have no other gods before me to Thou shall have Me**. *That's what Jesus is saying here*.
- D. **Slide18** (37) There is a giant **Welcome mat** in front of Jesus' house. Which reads, *Wipe your sins on the mat & come on in*.
1. The original reads, *I will not, not cast out, or I will never, never cast out*.
    - a) The text means, that Christ will **not at first** reject a believer; and that as He will not do it at first, **so he will not to the last**. (Spurgeon; Evening, July 30)
- E. (39) **Lose nothing** - Jesus believes in the assurance of the believer. **Take his word for it**.
1. **This is Eternal security**. (i.e. God **preserves** us) Ps.145:20 **The LORD preserves** all who love Him **But all the wicked He'll destroy**.

## V. **Slide19 I AM THE LIVING BREAD (41-59)**

- A. **Just as** you take **food** into your body, **so** you take **Christ** into your life & He becomes *one with you*.
- B. (44) **No one can come to the Father through Christ except the Father draws him**.
1. **Slide20a** I picture **Gods Rip-Tide**: Slowly drawing you out to Him (you often don't notice your being pulled out). You keep swimming to shore **away from Him**. You finally give up & turn to Him. Yet under the surface He's been drawing you all the time.
- C. We're **chosen** then drawn; **drawn** then saved; **saved** then 1 day to be resurrected; when **resurrected** comes the fulfillment of **eternal life**.
- D. **Do we really make decisions for Christ?** I believe our decisions is in **response** to what God has done & is doing. We could explain it like C.S.Lewis, *God had closed in on him*

*and he couldn't escape (though at the time he had badly wanted to).* Or, his more more Slide20b evocative phrase: *His compulsion is our liberation.*

1. One of the hard lessons the children of Israel had to learn in the wilderness was that **their God, yhwh**, was not at their *beck and call*. He wasn't obliged to them. He hadn't decided to rescue them from Egypt because they were **a great nation, more powerful and numerous than others**. He certainly hadn't discovered that they were a particularly moral or godly people. There was nothing in them, as they stood, to commend them to him. It was simply that **in His loving choice** he had decided to make them his own people, so that they would be the nation through whom His purposes and love would be made known to the world. N.T.Wright
- E. (45) Jesus quotes Isa 54:13 in support of His assertion that *true disciples will recognize Him in the teachings of Scripture*. (i.e. His teaching of Scripture)
- F. Slide21 (51-55) What is meant by eating his flesh & blood?
1. *This is non-Kosher talk*...it sure sounds like **cannibalism & blood drinking**.
    - a) Sounds like *a bad vampire movie filmed at Donar pass*.
  2. He wasn't literally **bread**, anymore than He was literally **a lamb or a lion**.
  3. Slide22a It means nothing **more nor less** than **believing in Christ**. (Mathew Henry)
  4. **Jesus' physical death** is the price for the world's *spiritual life*.
- G. (53) **Eat the flesh** - As if to show the absurdity of their confusion, Jesus presses the metaphor further, using the *literal imagery* of **eating and drinking** that they had assumed as the context.
- H. Slide22b (54-58) **Eats or feeds on My flesh** - τρώγω / *trogo*, 4 of 6 x's used in NT used right here.
1. **To eat or chomp**. *to eat with loud chewing sounds* (as in nuts or crunchy vegetables).
  2. Next time He uses it at *the last supper* (**whoever eats this bread**).
- I. You receive **bread** into your body and it **sustains life**, but receiving **Jesus** into your heart by faith gives you *eternal life*.
1. Slide22c To **eat** something means to assimilate it and make it a part of your physical being. Language uses *metaphors* like, *"Well, I'll have to digest what*

*you just said” or “I can’t swallow that” or “That’s food for thought.” “Now, here’s something you can sink your teeth into.” “I really devoured that book.”*

Nobody takes this literally.

- J. Also, Christ is **not** talking about the **bread** and **cup** of *the Lord’s Supper*. [up North, not So]
1. The Lord’s Supper had not even been instituted, **and** when it was, Jesus clearly stated that it was a **memorial**. It did not impart life.
  2. **Jesus** manifest in the **flesh**, is **our bread of life**.
  3. **Jesus bleeding** on the cross a substitute for sinners, is **our soul’s drink**.

## VI. Slide23a I AM THE STUMBLING BREAD (60-66)

A. **DEFECTION** (60-66)

B. This is the **1st group**. *Unbelievers who choked on the bread going down.*

1. Did you know...Many **sharks** have the ability to turn their stomachs inside out **and evert it** out of their mouths in order to get rid of any unwanted contents.
  - a) This is what **the Jews** seem to do here.
  - b) They were like **stray dogs**, that if you *feed them* they’ll stick around, **not** because they love you, **but** because you have food. *Stop feeding them & they’re gone.*
  - c) Don’t seek God for **what** He can **do** for you, **but** for **who He is**.

C. (60) **Hard saying** - Yes, very difficult.

1. Not hard to *understand*, **but hard to accept**.
2. This **fresh bread** from heaven just became **stale & crunchy** in their mouth fast.

D. (62) Maybe you’ll believe *I came down* **if** you see me **go back**? [A forecast of His Ascension]

E. (63) **Spiritual words** (Jesus offers **spiritual life** through union with **Himself**)

F. (65) People are so ensnared in the *quicksand* of **sin & unbelief** that **unless God draws them** they are hopeless.

1. **Illustration** (w/magnet/paperclip): We spiritually lay dead as a **paperclip** & don’t move **until** we feel *His magnetic love drawing us* to **rise up & come to Him**.

G. (66) **No longer walked with Him** - They are no longer willing to *walk alongside Jesus* & no longer committed to Him & His Mission.



H. So, here Jesus *thins out the ranks*. At the *1st shadow* of the cross...they left Him.

1. They say the test of an army is *how it fights when it's tired*.
2. Like **Gideon's** *mandated military cut backs* [from 32,000 to 10,000 to 300], Jesus sends home those who were **fearful & afraid** of the battle.

## VII. Slide23b,24a **I AM THE MANNA MESSIAH (67-71)** *you are the Christ/Messiah*

A. Slide24b **DETERMINATION** (67-69)

B. This is the **2nd group**. Thinning crowds did nothing to thin the disciples determination.

C. (67) The choice is always to *follow the crowd* or *follow Jesus*.

1. Right now do **you** feel like *going away*? Is it **too hot** in your **kitchen**?  
**Too stinky** in your **nursery**? **Too dry** in your **marriage**?  
**Too quiet** in your **relationship w/God**? **Do you** also want to go away?

D. (68,69) Peter comes up with **3 reasons** they can't.

E. Slide24c **DECEPTION** (67-69)

F. This is the **3rd group**. Standing right *in* the band of chosen men, was one who **looked & sounded** like the most sincere disciple...*but was a devil*.

G. Today you fall into 1 of these 3 categories: Like the **crowd** (open defection).  
**Or** like **Judas** (subtle deception). **Or** like the **disciples** (firm determination).

H. Slide25a Illustration: Imagine a **book** on a shelf, never read. As long as it remains *unread*, it is external to you. **One day** you take it down & **read it**. You're thrilled, fascinated, moved. The story sticks to you. The great lines remain in your memory. **Now**, when you desire you can take that wonder *out from inside you* & remember it, think about it, feed your mind & heart on it. Once the book was **outside** you & now that its **inside**, you can feed upon it. (adapted from William Barclay; Gospel of John; pg.224)

1. **If you've** never taken Jesus *into your life*, assimilated His being into yours, **then** He is **outside** of your life.
2. Slide25b You are **like a small child**, with nose pressed up against a **bakery window**. Smelling bread, seeing bread, knowing it's there **but never tasting it**.
3. Slide25c Oh, **taste** & see that the Lord is good; Blessed is the man who **trusts** in Him.

I. There is a giant *Welcome mat* in front of Jesus' house. Which reads, *Wipe your sins on the mat & come on in.*

J. **Communion:**

1. Bread:
2. Cup: