

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for November 6-7, 2004

"The Bread of Life"

John 6:36-40

The Apostle John used the "feeding of the 5,000" and "Christ walking on water" as a transition into the "Bread of Life" discourse in John 6:22-71.

The first part of the "Bread of Life" discourse began with a challenge in John 6:22-27.

The second part of the "Bread of Life" discourse consists of a promise in John 6:28-40.

In Christ's comments in John 6:36-40, He revealed to this Jewish multitude where they stand in light of the promise He extended to them in John 6:28-35.

When He told them that they "have seen" Him, He was most likely referring to the "feeding of the 5,000" when He revealed Himself as "the true bread."

Because the Jewish multitude had an opportunity in the "feeding of the 5,000" to believe in Him as the "true bread" but rejected Him as such, they were not beneficiaries of His promise.

Those who choose not to believe in Christ as the "True Bread" will be held responsible for that choice just as Christ held these Jews responsible for their choice in John 6:37.

Though individuals who choose not to believe are held fully responsible for that choice, individuals who choose to believe can take none of the credit.

Apart from the Father's sovereign choice to give certain select individuals to His Son, no one would be able to exercise faith and receive the bread that endures to eternal life (2 Timothy 1:8-9).

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Some people have taken the phrase "I will certainly not cast out" as meaning "whoever comes to me I will certainly welcome." Though this is true, it is not the specific meaning of the words.

The word "cast out" (EKBALLOO) almost always presupposes that what is "cast out" is already "in."

Christ's statement that He will not "cast out" those that the Father has given Him was not speaking about their "reception" but rather about their "preservation."

It is the will of His Father that every person that He has given to His Son would be preserved and none would be lost (John 6:38).

The particular event that Christ pointed toward that will demonstrate His faithfulness in preserving what His Father had entrusted to Him, will be the resurrection (John 6:39-40).