The Mystery of Godliness

John 6:30-40

Introduction:

Prior to these verses in chapter 6 of John’s Gospel, we have seen Jesus’ 2nd and 3rd of the 8 sign miracles of John,

(2) feeding the 5,000 – (3) walking on the water {#1 was healing the Nobleman’s Son} All three of three signs were performed in Galilee and many of these people had been witnesses of all three. These were signs of His Messiahship. Look at verse 3 -

I. Their Desire for a Sign – 6:30-31

A. The Request – 6:30

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“Therefore they said to Him, ﻿﻿“What sign will You (σὺ) perform then, that we may see it and believe You? What work will You do?”

So, asking for a sign doesn’t make sense, but they ask it anyway, “For ﻿﻿Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom;” (I Cor. 1:22)

Remember, they had ask Him, how they could work the works of God. Jesus subtly corrected them by saying, “this is the work (sing.) of God. (6:29).

So, they ask Him “What work (s.) will You do? The “you” is emphatic – by its presence and position following the verb. They say that they want to believe Him. ImHim

B. The Reason – 6:31

﻿﻿“Our fathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written, ﻿﻿*‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’*”

Their implication is that it was Moses that gave them the bread. (See Jesus response in v.32) The historical event is found in Exodus 16:4.

Compared to this miracle, the feeding of the 5,000 for one meal was very small. In Exodus 16 the supply of bread fed two million people for 40 years.

II. Jesus Declaration of Their Error – 6:32-34

A. Their Error Exposed – 6:32-33

1. Who did not Give the Bread? – 6:32a

“Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, Moses did not give you the bread from heaven,”

Moses, a physical being, did not give you the bread.

 Exodus 16:4

“Then the Lord said to Moses, “Behold, I (ἐγὼ) will rain ﻿﻿bread from heaven for you.

Nehemiah 9:15

“By the hand of Moses Your servant. You ﻿﻿gave them bread from heaven for their hunger,”

Psalm 78:24

“Had rained down manna on them to eat, and (had) given them of the ﻿﻿bread of heaven.”

Men ate angels’ food; He sent them food to ﻿﻿the full.

2. Who did Give the Bread – 6:32b-33

a. My Father is the Giver – 6:32b

“but ﻿﻿My Father gives you the true bread from heaven.”

My Father, a spirit being, gave you that bread.

b. I am the Bread He Gives- 6:33

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“For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

That bread is spiritual bread.

 “Then they said to Him, "Lord, give us this bread always." 6:34

B. His Mission Explained – 6:35-40

1. The True Bread of Life – 6:35-36

a. Individual Acceptance was Required - 6:35

“And Jesus said to them, ﻿﻿“I am the bread of life. ﻿﻿He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never ﻿﻿thirst.”

This is the first, “I am” – “The bread of life” (Other “I am” - 8:12; 10:7, 9, / 11, 14; 11:25; 14:6; 15:1, 5)

The true bread is a person, Jesus. He is the bread that supplies life. Jesus is spiritual bread that satisfies spiritual hunger. Jesus is the spiritual drink that satisfies spiritual thirst.

“Eating” and “drinking” become synonyms for believing.

b. Individual Acceptance was Lacking – 6:36

﻿“But I said to you that you have seen Me and yet ﻿﻿do not believe.”

They had seen Him with physical eyes but did not believe Him. Our order is “seeing is believing” God’s order is “believing is seeing”

I Corinthians 2:14﻿

“But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know *them,* because they are spiritually discerned.”

They did not believe so they did not discern the spiritual meaning of the truths that Jesus taught.

2. The Basis of Life – 6:37-40

a. Sovereignty – 6:37﻿

“All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and ﻿﻿the one who comes to Me I will ﻿﻿by no means cast out.”

“by no means” translates two little words, “οὐ μὴ” a double negative.

No one ever comes to Jesus apart from the wooing and winning of God through the Word and Spirit. No one can come to faith apart from the Word of God. “Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.” (Rom 10:17) The Word must get to them. The only avenue He has. Thus, the missions mandate. Ordained is man. Not angels or any other beings.

“All” refers to the mass of mankind that are going to come.

“The one who comes” refers to the individuals who come. They must come one by one. There is no assembly line that can get it done better or faster.

Constantine had his army ride their horses into the sea and thereby be saved by baptism.

b. Security – 6:38-40

1). God’s will stated – 6:38

“For I have come down from heaven, ﻿﻿not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.”

Hebrews 10:7

“Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come—In the volume of the book it is written of Me—To do Your will, O God.’ ”

See also Phil 2 – the steps down and the steps back up.

 2). God’s will for the Savior – 6:39

“This is the will of the Father who sent Me, ﻿﻿that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day.”

The Father’s will is that the Son lose none of those whom the Father has given Him. And that the Son raise him up in the last day.

3). God’s will for the saint – 6:40

“And this is the will of Him who sent Me, ﻿﻿that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

The promise to the believer is that he/she received eternal life upon “belief in the Son.

He will be raised up in the last day.

Conclusion: