

Jesus

The I Am

4-28-24

John 6:35 (ESV) O/H

Jesus said to them, “I AM the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.”

As we give some context to this event, Jesus declaring “I AM” causes believers to think back on Exodus 3:14 when God told Moses that HIS name was “I AM” the pre-existing one, the self-sustaining one.

Exodus 3:14 (ESV)

God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” And he said, “Say this to the people of Israel: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”

If we believe that Jesus is the I Am, the pre-existing one, the self-sustaining one, it answers a lot of questions. We ask Jesus to prove creation. Jesus says, because “I AM!” We ask Jesus to disprove the Big Bang theory. Jesus says, because “I AM!” We ask Jesus to disprove evolution. Jesus says, because “I AM!” We could list most of today’s moral issues and ask Jesus why we should stand on the Word of God? Jesus would say, because “I AM.” Therefore, we need to believe in Jesus because HE is the “I AM” the pre-existing, self-sustaining ONE. As you can imagine this caused a stir among those gathering around HIM.

John 6:30-31 (ESV)

So they said to him, “Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform?”³¹ Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’”

The miracles Jesus already performed had not convinced the crowds who HE was. They confronted Jesus by going back to their history in Exodus when Moses supplied food for the people in the desert. Then they basically said, “Can you match what Moses did?” In answering, Jesus needs to give the people a little clarification.

John 6:32-33 (ESV)

³² Jesus then said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is HE who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

In the OT, God the Father, gave the Jews bread from heaven. Now, God the Father, gives you true bread. For the bread of God is Jesus who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world. BAM! Jesus goes from physical bread to HIMSELF as the bread from heaven who gives life to the world. Jesus just confirmed that The Bible is the unfolding revelation of Jesus Christ. Jesus does not merely *give* bread; He *is* the bread. However, the people are bound to the physical provision.

John 6:34 (ESV)

They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

Jesus reveals HIMSELF, “The I AM!”

John 6:35 (ESV)

Jesus said to them, “I AM the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.”

The pre-existing, self-sustaining, “I AM”, is our sustainer the ONE who is our food, our drink, our life.

Colossians 3:4 (ESV) O/H

When Christ “who is your life” appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Christ is our life. HE superseded creation, all religion, and all human intellect. Jesus is the ONE whom we are to seek! The Jews understood what HE claimed, and this would ultimately put Jesus on the cross.

John 6:41-42 (ESV)

⁴¹So the Jews grumbled about him, because he said, “I AM the bread that came down from heaven.” ⁴²They said, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does he now say, ‘I have come down from heaven’?”

Jesus answers by tying the OT to the NT. Jesus declares that HE is the Living Bread and that whoever devours HIM will not die and live forever.

John 6:48–51 (ESV)

⁴⁸I AM the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹I 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.”

Summary: O/H

I AM the bread of life.

The bread that comes down from heaven.

We may eat this bread and not die.

I AM the living bread that came down from heaven.

Whoever eats this bread and will live forever.

The bread that I will give for the life of the world is MY flesh.

A great witness to our faith is that we will not die and live forever. Jesus guarantees this by HIS flesh: The bodily, finite, historical form of Christ (HIS flesh), which He yielded up for the world in His death. HE is speaking of HIS death on the cross. Jesus, the Logos, the Word, who became 'flesh', and became the bread of life for a sinful world.

Grasp the importance of the Lord's supper. The Lord's Supper is a perpetual statement of the renewal of our faith expressed by participation in taking the bread and wine. This is one of two ordinances Jesus left with us. I thought it would be good this morning to celebrate Jesus the I AM and that we will not die and live forever. Communion:

- **This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."**
- **This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.**

John 3:16 (ESV) O/H

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.