

7/7/2019

### **The Living Manna**

**John 6:41-58** <sup>41</sup>At this, the Jews began to grumble about Jesus because He had said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” <sup>42</sup>They were asking, “Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How then can He say, ‘I have come down from heaven?’” <sup>43</sup>“Stop grumbling among yourselves,” Jesus replied. <sup>44</sup>“No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day. <sup>45</sup>It is written in the Prophets: ‘And they will all be taught by God.’ Everyone who has heard the Father and learned from Him comes to Me— <sup>46</sup>not that anyone has seen the Father except the One who is from God; only He has seen the Father. <sup>47</sup>Truly, truly, I tell you, he who believes has eternal life. <sup>48</sup>I am the bread of life. <sup>49</sup>Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, yet they died. <sup>50</sup>This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that anyone 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 this bread, which I will give for the life of the world, is My flesh.” <sup>52</sup>At this, the Jews began to argue among themselves, “How can this man give us His flesh to eat?” <sup>53</sup>So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh and drink the blood of the Son of Man, you have no life in you. <sup>54</sup>Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. <sup>55</sup>For My flesh is real food, and My blood is real drink. <sup>56</sup>Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood remains in Me, and I in him. <sup>57</sup>Just as the living Father sent Me and I live because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on Me will live because of Me. <sup>58</sup>This is the bread that came down from heaven. Unlike your fathers, who ate the manna and died, the one who eats this bread will live forever.” (BSB)

#### **I. Here are the details of this passage.**

- A.** This all started at the feeding of the 5,000 near the Passover festival.
- B.** Jesus then relates Himself to being the manna that God has given His people to eat. V.41
- C.** The Jews knew of his earthly family and questioned His claims. V.42
- D.** Jesus responded to their grumbings by stating that there is a parallel to ones relationship with God and their relationship to Him. V.44-45
- E.** Jesus places Himself equal to God. V.45-46
- F.** Therefore, believing in Him is how we can attain eternal life. V. 47-51
- G.** They were offended at the claims that Jesus was making about Himself. V.52
- H.** Jesus proclaimed that we must eat of His flesh and drink of His blood to get assurance of eternal life. V. 53-58

#### **II. What are some interpretations of eating the flesh and drinking the blood of Jesus Christ?**

- A.** Many Christians have interpreted this as participating in Holy Communion.
- B.** Those in this text interpreted it as cannibalism.
- C.** Here at NMMC we interpret this as a deep dependence upon Jesus for our spiritual life. This includes worship, spiritual fellowship with Him and with other believers, and our acts of service toward His Kingdom.