

CONDEMNING BELIEFS ABOUT JESUS

He was Just a Man

John 6:34-42

Introduction:

1. Is It Time for an Invitation?

A) The Request – “Lord give us this bread” (John 6:34)

> What bread?

The bread and fish from the previous day (John 6:26)

The bread from heaven – manna (John 6:31)

The One who comes down from heaven – the bread of God (John 6:33)

B) Their view of Jesus

> They call Him the Prophet – one who like Moses speaks for God (John 6:14)

> They want to declare Him their King – one who can reign over them (John 6:15)

> They call Him a rabbi – a teacher worthy of their attention (John 6:25)

> They even call Him Lord – a master whose authority they will submit to (John 6:34)

C) What’s missing?

> They seem to be so close but Jesus isn’t satisfied. Why?

> There are some clues in this interchange that help us to understand.

> The bottom line problem is revealed in their response to Jesus’ answer in verses 35-40

They don’t believe Jesus is the Son of God come down from heaven (John 6:41-42)

2. No, It is Time for Clarification

A) I AM the Bread of Life (John 6:35a)

> The I Am statements in John’s gospel which include a predicate

I am the Bread of Life

I am the Light of the world (John 8:12)

I am the Gate (John 10:7)

I am the Good Shepherd (John 10:11)

I am the Resurrection and the Life (John 11:25)

I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life (John 14:6)

I am the True Vine (John 15:1)

B) He who comes to me will never hunger and he who believes in me will never thirst (John 6:35b)

> This crowd is following Jesus because they still hope to satisfy their physical need

> Jesus calls them to come to Him, the True Bread of God sent to satisfy their spiritual need

Their problem is that they have been suppressing this appetite with religion

C) God, not man, is Sovereign in Salvation

> All that the Father gives me will come to me and the one who comes I will not cast out (John 6:37)

> Jesus, the Son of God, came down from heaven to do His Father's will (John 6:38)

This is the will of the Father who sent Me (John 6:39)

This is the will of Him who sent Me (John 6:40)

3. A Decisive Response

A) The Jews began to complain (John 6:41)

> Remember, this was how their fathers responded to God's provision of manna

> Suddenly they aren't so happy with their "candidate" for prophet, king, rabbi, and Lord

B) The Jews reveal their beliefs (John 6:42)

> Jesus may be an unusual and gifted man – but they refuse to believe He is God

> If He is God

They must acknowledge His authority

They must acknowledge their spiritual need and come to Jesus – the only one who can satisfy their spiritual need.