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December 22, 2024

John 6

(Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 6:30-44; Luke 9:10-17)

1After these things Jesus went over the sea of Galilee, which is *the sea* of Tiberias.

Does anyone remember the Greek phrase for "after these things, or hereafter?"

Meta touta

When we read these words we should always go back and refresh our memory as to "what things".

We found the same thing starting our Chapter 5 so we went back to Chapter 4. So lets make a list of the key events that happened over this past few weeks.

John the author presents the opening for the Book of John inspired by God on Jesus of Nazareth. He declared:

1. The Word became Flesh

John 1:1

- 2. The Sanhedrin sent emissaries to John the Baptist to find out if he was the Messiah.John 1:19
- 3. John the Baptist sees Jesus coming and declares Him to the be the MessiahJohn 1:29
- 4. The Spirit descends upon Jesus when John baptizes Him.

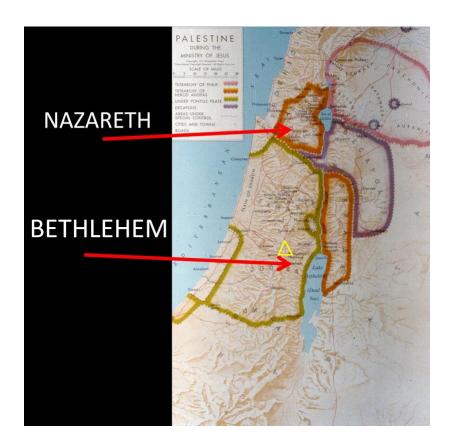
 John 1:32
- 5. Jesus goes in to the wilderness to be tempted
- 6. Andrew and Peter follow Jesus John 1:35
- 7. Philip and Nathanael (Bartholomew) follow Jesus
 - John 1:43
- 8. Jesus makes water into wine **John 2:1**
- 9. Jesus cleanses the temple **John 2:13**
- 10. Nicodemus visits Jesus John 3:1
- 11. John the Baptist decreases his ministry in deference to the Lord Jesus Christ and His ministry **John 3:25**
- 12. The Samitan woman at the well **John 4:1**
- 13. The conversion of the Samaritans **John 4:39**
- 14. The healing of the Nobleman's son **John 4:46**
- 15. Jesus heals on the Sabbath John 5:1
- 16. Jesus witness that He is the Son of GodJohn 5:19
- **17.** The Father's witness of the Son **John 5:30**

So, we now have a road map of the "meta touta" so far in John. We can see that the progression of Jesus' ministry has

happened very quickly, really in just a few short weeks. The number and intensity of the miracles will now increase in size and impact. The people are drawn to Jesus due to the miracles He has brought about. That empty spot in all humans the one that is the size of Jesus is about to be fully exposed and the desire to have Him as Lord and Savior is intensifying. The challenge is to get the people to look beyond the flesh or what they see and understand the Spiritual, the unseen.

2And a great multitude followed him, because they saw his miracles which he did on them that were diseased.

There would be a large group of Jews walking south from Northern Palestine toward Jerusalem around this time for the upcoming Passover.



News of course would have traveled amongst the people about a prophet or healer in the area. Also, there were many villages around the lake that would have many attentive people who had heard about the healings that had taken place.

Sickness was everywhere at every level. We see even today that if people think they have found someone that can heal them the places are packed.

As a side, I would be very cautious about the declaration of a person who claims to be a healer. There is only One that Heals and that is Jesus the Messiah. If any man takes credit for a healing, I believe him or her to be a charlatan and should be avoided.

With so much pain and misery in the world at this time, healing was so sought after, especially from the True Healer of man, Jesus Christ. Most did not know who it was that was healing them or loved ones, the disciples were getting the idea as they continued to see, but they had much to learn. The people who had seen these miraculous healings were now expecting them, and probably gave no thought to any other kind of miracle or authority that Jesus might have, they simply wanted healing for themselves or loved ones.

3And Jesus went up into a mountain, and there he sat with his disciples. 4And the passover, a feast of the Jews, was nigh. 5When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat? 6And this he said to prove him: for he himself knew what he would do.

This was a test or learning moment for Phillip and the other disciples to see what Phillip would do in his relationship with Jesus and the challenge of how to feed so many people.

Phillip does some calculations in his head as to what it would take to feed 5000 and he came up with about Two hundred pennyworth. In Israel at that time that was about 8 months wages to buy enough food to feed 5000 people. There was only one thing missing in Phillips calculation of the cost and how to go about this.

7Philip answered him, Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little.

Q. Can anyone tell me what was missing in Phillip's calculation? Pray and ask for God's direction.

Anytime we plan something the first thing we need to do is ask Jesus "what should we do and then we can get to how should we do it?" Praying about the vision and the process and wait for God's Answer. What Jesus is wanting His disciples to get to is: pray always.

Ephesians 6: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

80ne of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, saith unto him, 9There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many?

Did you ever wonder why so often in scripture Andrew is not just Andrew but "Andrew, Simon Peter's brother?"

According to Jewish tradition, the older brother is always mentioned first or in a position of authority. So often when we see Andrew's name it is has a caveat, that he is the younger brother of Simon Peter.

Andrew is what you might call a finder. He finds people and then tells them about other people. It is a way to lead people to the Lord that many young Christians use. They don't feel equipped to lead someone to Jesus or talk about their life with Jesus so they will find a person that is interested and then lead them to someone who will tell them about the Lord. Some people do that with their pastors, or friends that have studied the scripture a great deal. As we mature in Christ then the need to take new people to others diminishes and we can start to witness about our own lives and what Jesus has done to change us.

Q. Andrew did that with whom in John 1:40?

His brother Simon Peter.

John 1: 40One of the two who heard John speak and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

41He found first his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah"

So back to vs 8,

"8One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, saith unto him, 9There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many?"

Andrew has found a young boy who has two small fishes and five barley loaves.

(As a note the number two in the Bible often refers to Unity. Two become one etc) And the number five is the number of Grace and is often used in that context. As an example, the Ten Commandments contains two sets of 5 commandments. The first five commandments are related to our treatment and relationship with God, and the last five concern our relationship with other humans. The Law was the beginning of how God was going to show us His Grace. God would explain the Law and man would soon find out what God wanted us to know. The Law convicts us of how far short from God's Glory we fall. The Law cannot Save, it can only convict.

The 'tabernacle in the wilderness' profoundly reflects God's grace in its use of the number 5. This tabernacle, whose design was given directly by God, contained five curtains (Exodus 26:3), five bars (Exodus 26:26 - 27), five pillars and five sockets (Exodus 26:37) and an altar made of wood that was five cubits long and five cubits wide (Exodus 27:1). The height of the court within the tabernacle was five cubits (Exodus 27:18).)

From biblestudy.org

Andrew starts out on a great path here but seems to fall a bit short in where he was going with this revelation of the small amount of food. He did learn one thing though from Jesus's mother when she told the servants.

John 2:...3When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine." 4And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does that have to do with us? My hour has not yet come." 5His mother said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it."... (emphasis mine)

Like Jesus's mother Andrew knew the problem and pointed to something that may or may not be a solution. Andrews only hope here in bringing this to Jesus was to ask if this small amount of food was useful in any way to the Lord Jesus Christ? Mary, Jesus's mother knew who He was, Andrew is still learning not only who He is but the power that He possess. Jesus will reveal some of His physical power, but He is always pointing toward the Spiritual.

10 And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand.

Not much hand wringing here by Jesus, He simply, as is His nature, takes charge of what there is and continues to do something quite amazing. Jesus takes the little food that man has to offer and multiplies it through His Power.

This number is referenced to the male gender only and only those who were considered to be of the age of men. So, historians have calculated that based on these 5000 men numberd the actual number of souls present could reach as high as 20,000 when taking into account women and children.

11And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would.

Q. What would be the reason Jesus, who is God would give thanks?

1 Thesalonians 5: <u>17</u>Pray without ceasing. <u>18In every thing give thanks</u>: for this is the will of God in Christ <u>Jesus concerning you. 19Quench not the Spirit.</u> (emphasis mine)

Basically, Jesus lived an example of what He has laid down a pattern for us to do. Some things He wants us to follow the exact pattern. Some things He has given us the format in general terms and asks us to walk in that arena but gives us freedom in how to carry out a certain task.

An example of following an exact direction would be perhaps the Last Supper or what we call Communion. It is not that the steps are important, as is the heart condition upon entering into communion.

1 Corinthians 11:25 After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. (emphasis mine)

Jesus told us to remember Him as often as we drink it, meaning the symbol of His Blood shed for us.

Q. Is it possible to have communion with the Lord and not have any wine or bread?

When we carry out rituals what is most important to God?

Is it the way we do it or is it our heart condition when we do it? Can you in your heart, break this bread and drink this wine and be in communion with the Lord Jesus Christ and in full remembrance of Him as you do that?

I think so. However, we are directed to do it in a certain way, so, if possible, we should do as directed. What I am thinking of is if you are in such a way that it is physically impossible, then do it in your heart.

If you sit down to have communion with thousands of believers and you yourself have never been born again, to what end do you enter communion and with whom do you commune with? It is about the heart and about the Messiah.

Jesus gave us instructions on how to carry out certain acts as a guide to reverence and appreciation for something that was done on our behalf. Walk in those instructions in the physical as best you can but know that if you were set free for Christ's sake and you had no-one with you, you could enter into communion with Jesus anytime you want to. It is the heart.

Jesus provides a miracle that is beyond human comprehension in that He feeds probably close to 20,000 people with 2 fishes and five loaves.

12When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost.

Was Jesus just being a good housekeeper when He said this? Most likely not. Jesus had a reason for everything He said. Consider this for a moment considering the entire Bible, what is Jesus really talking about?

Jeremiah 23: 1Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! saith the LORD. 2Therefore thus saith the LORD God of Israel against the pastors that feed my people; Ye have scattered my flock, and driven them away, and have not visited them: behold, I will visit upon you the evil of your doings, saith the LORD. 3And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase. 4And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them: and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking, saith the LORD.(Emphasis mine)

Was Jesus really worried about any remnant of food being lost or was he putting a seed into the minds of His disciples about the "lost" people. It may also point to what Jesus says

about His Word not returning void. Jesus always has a reason for every action and every word.

John 17: 12 While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.

John 18:9That the saying might be fulfilled, which he spake, Of them which thou gavest me have I lost none.

Jesus told us clearly about the importance of physical food when He was being tested by Satan.

> Matthew 4:4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Isaiah 55:11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Q. So I'll ask again, was Jesus really worried about the scraps of food or was there a deeper point He was making to His disciples and to us for today?

13Therefore they gathered *them* together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten. 14Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world.

Again, a number, what could it possible mean or is it just a random chance that the baskets of food that were gathered after this miracle added up to 12?

From Biblestudy.org

The Meaning of Numbers: The Number 12

Twelve can be found in 187 places in God's word. Revelation alone has 22 occurrences of the number. The meaning of 12, which is considered a perfect number, is that it symbolizes God's power and authority, as well as serving as a perfect governmental foundation. It can also symbolize completeness or the nation of Israel as a whole. For example, Jacob (Israel) had twelve sons, each of which represented a tribe begun by a prince, for 12 princes total. Ishmael, who was born to Abraham through Hagar, also had twelve princes.

God specified that twelve unleavened cakes of bread be placed every week in the temple with frankincense next to each of the two piles that were to be made. The priests were commanded to change the bread every Sabbath day (Leviticus 24).

Christ called and chose twelve men to bear witness to what he did and to spread the good news of the gospel to the entire world. After he was raised from the dead, Jesus told the eleven disciples (Judas had killed himself) that God had given him ALL power and authority in both earth and heaven (God's divine authority - Matthew 28:18). Twelve thousand from each tribe of Israel (144,000 total) will receive salvation during the end time's Great Tribulation (Revelation 7). Another set of 144,000 (12 x 12,000) will be taken from earth in order to serve and follow the Lamb of God (Revelation 14:1 - 5). Christ's bride in Revelation 12, the church, wears a crown containing twelve stars.

New Jerusalem, which is made in heaven and brought to the earth by God himself, contains 12 gates made of pearl which are each manned by an angel. Over each gate will be one of the names of Israel's twelve tribes. The walls are 144 cubits high (12 multiplied by itself - Revelation 21:16 - 17), with the city itself being 12,000 furlongs square.

Jesus never says anything with a random unmeaning thought, period.

15When Jesus therefore perceived that they would come and take him by force, to make him a king, he departed again into a mountain himself alone.

The Jews wanted a King as they looked to the coming Messiah. They wanted a warrior king to free them from Roman oppression.

These Jews that He had just feed looked on Him as a great prophet and healer. In their minds they could see Him being their King and subduing the Romans with His great power.

It was not even a consideration that One Man could bring them Eternal Life. It was all about the moment they were in with the Romans, and they could think of nothing other than a King to lead them. There were many attempts during this time to throw off the mantel of the Roman Empire.

(Matthew 14:22-33; Mark 6:45-52)

16 And when even was *now* come, his disciples went down unto the sea, 17 And entered into a ship, and went over the sea toward Capernaum. And it was now dark, and Jesus was not come to them.

We see a brief text here on Jesus and the disciples going in two different directions. Jesus to the mountain to pray, and the disciples to the sea. We can draw some ideas but very little concrete Spiritual certainty. As a type and shadow or meaning different than what is plain may be this.

The mountain is referred to as a place where God is found. Jesus used the mountain on several occasions to speak in private to His Father. So, in this type and shadow occasion, Jesus is going to the Father while His disciples who had to be "constrained" in Matthew 14:22-33 and Mark 6:45-52 go to the sea.

Matthew 14: 22And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away. 23And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.

Constrained in the Greek is "an-ang-kad'-zo: to necessitate -- compel, constrain."

American Dictionary defines Constrain as: v. compel, force, oblige, coerce

In other words, Jesus ordered the disciples to take a boat to the other side of the lake. They obeyed.

Remember what vs 15 said: <u>15</u>When Jesus therefore perceived that they would come and take him by force, to make him a king, he departed again into a mountain himself alone.

It sounds as if the disciples were being drawn in by the crowd to make Jesus the King. Jesus was having none of that, so he had to "constrain" or order His disciples to leave. The way for them to leave was by the sea. This is all new to them. How many times when you are trying to train yourself to stopping an old habit do you fall back into that habit. The old man won't seem to let you go. The disciples were experiencing that same thing, they were being drawn back into where they had come from, and Jesus needed to separate them.

What can we recall about what has happened so far since the feeding of the 5,000 to 20,000 people?

The crowd according to Jesus was moved to take Him by force and make Him their King.

John 6:15When Jesus therefore perceived that they would come and take him by force, to make him a king, he departed again into a mountain himself alone.

Apparently, the disciples had united with the crowd in this effort to make Jesus the Jewish King. We come to this conclusion based on the following verse.

Matthew 14: 22 And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away.

Jesus went into the mountain to be alone. Of course, we know that Jesus was never alone, He was always in the presence of His Father and the Holy Spirit. So, when He went into the mountain He was with the Father and Holy Spirit. So now we pick back up in John 6 where we left off.

18 And the sea arose by reason of a great wind that blew. 19 So when they had rowed about five and twenty or thirty furlongs, they see Jesus walking on the sea, and drawing nigh unto the ship: and they were afraid.

30 furlongs is about 3 3/4 miles.

Jesus's walking on the sea? I have no doubt that is exactly what happened but is there again a deeper meaning in these words. What are the Spiritual implications of this event?

Psalms 77:19 Thy way is in the sea, and thy path in the great waters, and thy footsteps are not known.

The idea of a human being walking on water defies several laws of nature. By laws of nature, we of course mean natural laws that were put into effect by God at the creation period. Spiritual application can help resolve some of the; (why) did Jesus walk on the water. He could have easily transported himself to where he needed to get to as long as he was not contained by the natural laws, but instead He walked on water and passed right by the boat. He obviously knew that was going to happen I don't think anything surprises God.

The sea is used as a metaphor at times for "chaos of humanity, or danger" but not always. In this case if we consider this idea that the turmoil that is seen in a sea that is being tossed by the winds etc. is the turmoil within humanity. When we see Christ walk on the water the metaphor is of course not only His dominance over the world He created, but the calming effect He has on this human turmoil and chaos.

Now we flash back to the event as it is happening and the physical response from the disciples, and that response was to what they were seeing and hearing. They see Jesus' walking on the water.

Two things they knew for sure. One they were in a large body of water they called a "sea", they were in a storm and two, they see a person walking on the water coming toward the boat. Natural human response would be FEAR

20But he saith unto them, It is I; be not afraid. 21Then they willingly received him into the ship: and immediately the ship was at the land whither they went.

Before we get into what happened here physically and what the Spiritual implications might be here is a question.

Q. Can anyone name the four gospels and tell us which were not Apostles of Jesus but what the connection was to Jesus?

Matthew Disciple

Mark Not a Disciple but a close friend of Peter

Luke A Physician not a Disciple and physician to Paul and traveling companion

John Disciple

Q. So who was in the boat?

None of the accounts tell us who was in the boat but we can surmise by looking back and comparing Gospels. When we look at the list of those things (meta touta), after this, that happened before this event, which Apostles were named?

Andrew, Peter, Philip, Nathanael (Bartholomew) and we know John is present and most likely his brother James the greater; both the sons of Zebedee.

Q. What was the nickname Jesus gave these two brothers? "Son's of Thunder".

Beyond those listed above the other Apostles seem to be added later according to what we can see in the Gospel accounts.

Before we move on, this has been an extraordinary 24 hours for the Apostles. All in the boat were all from the area around Capernaum. (The Hebrew pronunciation is **ca per nay um**) Jesus Himself made this His home during most of His ministry.

They apparently had left by boat early in the day and crossed the Sea of Galilee; about 6 miles across to Tiberius. Jesus feeds the "5000 thousand" more like 20,000, preaches, realizes that the crowd wants to make Him King of Israel and His Apostles seem to embrace that notion. He forces or makes it very clear that the Apostles are to get into the boat to return home to Capernaum while He goes to be alone in the mountain. At this point of the sea, it is about 6 miles across. We are told that they had rowed about 3 miles so they were in the middle of the Sea of Galilee.

He then catches up to the Apostle as they are rowing a boat across the sea as instructed by Jesus, but He does this by walking across the water. They see Him, they get scared at an apparent apparition, but He calms them down and asks Peter to join Him on the water, which Peter tries and sinks after a few moments of victory. (Whole other Spiritual connotation here) Jesus then joins them in the boat and they miraculously almost immediately arrive at their destination. Some of the folks there must have been on the other side during the feeding of the 5000, because they know that Jesus did not get in the boat with the Apostles and there are no other boats at the dock. So, they are wondering how did Jesus get to Capernaum the same time the Apostles did?

22The day following, when the people which stood on the other side of the sea saw that there was none other boat there, save that one whereinto his disciples were entered, and that Jesus went not with his disciples into the boat, but *that* his disciples were gone away alone; 23(Howbeit there came other boats from Tiberias nigh unto the place where they did eat bread, after that the Lord had given thanks:) 24When the people therefore saw that Jesus was not there, neither his disciples, they also took shipping, and came to Capernaum, seeking for Jesus. 25And when they had found him on the other side of the sea, they said unto him, Rabbi, when camest thou hither?

It was apparently a big deal to these folks that while they were on the other side of the Sea of Galilee, they saw the disciples get into the boat but not Jesus. When they themselves arrive in their boats they see only the one boat that the Disciples got into and went to sea in. They now see the single boat, and the Disciples and Jesus in Capernaum. They then question how that could be?

Jesus the Bread of Life

26 Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled.

They ask Jesus how did you get across the lake. Is that what He answers? No, that to Him is inconsequential, what is

important to the Lord is Redemption, Salvation, Mercy, Grace and above all Love.

Jesus knew that they were still in the physical, they had been hungry, and He fed them. He knew their hearts that they were seeking those things that fulfilled the physical side of their lives not even aware yet of the need for the Spiritual starvation they were suffering from. They had missed somehow the momentous miracle that had been performed to satisfy their physical need, hunger.

27Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.

Jesus spells out the gospel to them right here. It has always been and always will be about Jesus the Messiah, who came to save man. Man is so worried about this physical life, what will I eat, what will I wear, where will I live etc. When the real issue before man and God is Eternity. Where will you spend eternity is the only question man really has to answer.

27Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.

This word "sealed" at the end of the verse in the Greek is:

4972 /sphragízō ("to seal") signifies ownership and the full security carried by the backing (full authority) of the owner. "Sealing" in the ancient world served as a "legal signature" which guaranteed the promise (contents) of what was sealed.

Jesus was declaring that God had sealed the Gospel, the Good News that He the Messiah had brought to mankind. This eternal life was a promise from God.

28Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God? 29Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.

- Q. What is the question they are now asking of Jesus?
- Q. What had Jesus just told them in vs 27?

27Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.

That they "labor not for the meat that perishes but for that meat that endureth unto everlasting life" and then it continues and says; "that the Son of man (the Messiah) shall give unto you:"

So don't put your efforts into the physical understanding but put your efforts into understanding and obedience to the Spiritual.

But man can so easily fall back into the world and sees only what his eyes see and not what the Spirit shows us. In the physical we say, "show me a sign that I can believe". Jesus says,

John 20:29Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.

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30 They said therefore unto him, What sign shewest thou then, that we may see, and believe thee? what dost thou work? 31 Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat.

There may be two answers to why the question from the Jews for proof of Jesus power. First, they had been beguiled by many false prophets in the past and were leery of new prophets. The second possibility is that they were of the flesh like most of us and wanted to see proof of Jesus power. In other words, they could not believe without seeing.

The context shows it is likely the second as they equated seeing the manna with the proof of it being from God.

There was a long-held misconception that Moses was the source of the manna, when he was just an intermediary for God to convey what God was going to do to feed the Hebrew Nation.

32Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven.

Jesus now speaks to the idea that what they had seen had in the past was a type and shadow of a deeper spiritual meaning. God fed their ancestors physically through a miracle of manna. Jesus is going to offer Spiritual food that will lead them to eternity.

33For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world. 34Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread. (emphasis mine)

Like the woman at the well when Jesus offered her life-giving water, she took that in the flesh as meaning she could drink of that water and never need to drink water again. Like her,

they are missing the Spiritual nature of the offer Jesus is making as to food.

35And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst. (emphasis mine)

This is one of the first references to the Last Supper as an emblem or physical manifestation of taking Jesus into us. Consuming Him as if it were, meat to eat and blood to drink. It does not become the literal body and blood of Christ it is another metaphor, a type and shadow of the real, but not the real body and blood of Christ our Lord. Vs 60 shows us how hard it was for them to accept, it was because they were taking it literally, as to physically eat the flesh of the Lord and drink His Blood.

John 6:60Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it?

Jesus spoke often in what He called "proverbs", similes, or metaphors, in some ways many reveal a deeper truth about "types and shadows". Jesus explained this as we will see in

John 16:25 These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father.

The word **Proverb** in the Greek is according to Strong's Concordance.

"paroimia par-oy-mee'ah apparently a state alongside of supposition, i.e. (concretely) an adage; specially, an enigmatical or fictitious illustration -- parable, proverb."

Jesus uses illustrated stories to describe an event or an entity that themselves may be fictitious, but the moral truth is absolute. He would often start them out with; "Once there was a king, or once there was a rich man etc. He uses these parables to illustrate a truth or fact that He knows to be a moral truth.

Jesus is still talking to the Jews and is about to take them to a place they do not want to go. They are going to continue to struggle with the parables and types and shadows that Christ refers to in making Spiritual points. One of the biggest stumbling blocks for Jews then and people today is that Jesus was the True Son of God, sent to earth to save mankind from Sin. The Jews knew and still today understand that Messiah must come but they unfortunately missed His arrival when Christ appeared as the Messiah.

Remember this, we as Believers today have 2000 years of hindsight. God has revealed His Truth over those 2000 years

about His Son and about the Hebrew Nation He chose to be a light unto the world.

36But I said unto you, That ye also have seen me, and believe not. 37All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

Within the God head a plan was devised from before the fall of man. God knew man would fall, but a process, a plan was needed to honor God's commitment to free will. God could have created robots to love Him, but He wanted man to freely choose to love Him.

Q. What did God really want from man from the beginning? God simply wanted fellowship with man; to love and care for him. God wanted love of Him in return, that man would love and honor Him as God and Creator and be His eternal friend.

38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

This statement from Jesus solidifies His eternal state in Heaven within the Trinity, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Jesus also declares His mission is to do the Will of God the Father who sent Jesus to the world.

39And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.

There are two words in this verse that are challenging to decipher. Most think that the words "all" and "it" are a reference to Believers. I am of the opinion that it is more than that even though to us; belonging to Jesus, being "Saved" is the paramount importance.

If it were possible, I think that Jesus was given more than humanity to Save. I am not speaking of other beings, but of creation. But to be able to tell you all that was given to Jesus and will not be removed from His care is not revealed at this time. It is simply the words and idea that there is a vastness that is given to Jesus and will remain in His Control for eternity.

40And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

The totality of the Gospels reflects God's love. He was willing to sacrifice His own Son to save mankind. Those that believed in His Son and honored His Son would have eternity with His Son. Those who chose the flesh over the Spirit chose an eternity separated from God and His Son.

Believers, not prechosen but Believers that choose now to love and follow Jesus cannot be taken from Jesus.

41The Jews then murmured at him, because he said, I am the bread which came down from heaven.
42And they said, Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? how is it then that he saith, I came down from heaven?

It is a difficult thing indeed to believe with the Spirit as opposed to the flesh. What we see, hear, smell, taste or touch is reality to us. The flesh can be manipulated by Satan through thoughts and desires Satan does not want anyone to know about the Spiritual side of existence. But the mind is curious, and Satan knows that, so, to confuse us Satan offers a perverted spiritual existence. Some people are consumed by UFO's, Big Foot, extra-terrestrials, witchcraft, and a thousand other things that man fancies as a spiritual reality; all lies cast out by Satan and carried out by demons to deceive man.

As an example, in time most of us have grown up we have heard an increase in stories of bizarre otherworldly or other dimensional beings. Those stories are reaching a crescendo in many corners of the US. Our own government is and has been involved in many coverups and misdirection's all

intending to deceive us. But for what reason? Anytime we hear the term, unidentified sources, anonymous sources we should discount most of what is said to be true. However, Satan and his demons are quite able to deceive the world at large.

One of the most recent "anonymous sourced" or not by Stan Dayo declares that secret conversations in the Pentagon is about the return of the Samarian gods. Dayo claims he hears folks in the pentagon talking about the return of the Samarian gods. He does not name names, so in essence it is anonymous.

God warned us in 2 Corinthians 7:14

...<u>13</u>For such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. <u>14</u>No wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. <u>15</u>Therefore it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness, whose end will be according to their deeds.

I think of all this information we receive like a huge sheet that has dots that represent specific events, spread across the sheet with no clear pattern or design. Some of the dots are Biblical Truth, showing a path forward to Rapture and Tribulation. Others are false flags likely generated by Satan

and his demons. How do we separate them and make sense of all this information.

January 12, 2025

The reality is that often prophecy is not recognized until after an event that clearly shows itself to be true. So much of what we see and hear is just noise, meant by Satan to confuse man, to make man look at other things than the God of Creation.

1 Corinthians 14:33 For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.

The opposite is of course what the world has to offer; confusion, chaos, fostered by Satan and his demonic spirits.

John 8: 44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

I think it is prudent to observe what is going on and weighing it against God's Word. God told us what was to come not to cause us fear but to give us the ability to use our minds and know in our Spirits what is happening. 2 Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

So, what is the purpose of a "sound mind"? It discerns through the power of the Holy Spirit those things which are true. God says this:

Mark 13:5 And Jesus answering them began to say, Take heed lest any man deceive you:

Luke 21:8

Jesus answered, "See to it that you are not deceived. For many will come in My name, claiming, 'I am He,' and, 'The time is near.' Do not follow them.

2 Thessalonians 2:3

Let no one deceive you in any way, for it will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness—the son of destruction—is revealed.

1 John 4:1

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God. For many false prophets have gone out into the world.

2 Peter 2:1

Now there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them—bringing swift destruction on themselves.

1 Timothy 4:1

Now the Spirit expressly states that in later times some will abandon the faith to follow deceitful spirits and the teachings of demons,

2 Corinthians 11:13-15

For such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, masquerading as apostles of Christ. / And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. / It is not surprising, then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will correspond to their actions.

Acts 20:29-30

I know that after my departure, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. Even from your own number, men will rise up and distort the truth to draw away disciples after them.

Revelation 12:9

And the great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

Jeremiah 29:8

For this is what the LORD of Hosts, the God of Israel, says: "Do not be deceived by the prophets and diviners among you, and do not listen to the dreams you elicit from them.

Deuteronomy 13:1-3

If a prophet or dreamer of dreams arises among you and proclaims a sign or wonder to you, / and if the sign or wonder he has spoken to you comes about, but he says, "Let us follow other gods (which you have not known) and let us worship them," / you must not listen to the words of that prophet or dreamer. For the LORD your God is testing you to find out whether you love Him with all your heart and with all your soul.

Ezekiel 13:9-10

My hand will be against the prophets who see false

visions and speak lying divinations. They will not belong to the council of My people or be recorded in the register of the house of Israel, nor will they enter the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am the Lord GOD. / Because they have led My people astray, saying, 'Peace,' when there is no peace, and whitewashing any flimsy wall that is built,

Micah 3:5

This is what the LORD says: "As for the prophets who lead My people astray, who proclaim peace while they chew with their teeth, but declare war against one who puts nothing in their mouths:

Zechariah 13:2-3

And on that day, declares the LORD of Hosts, I will erase the names of the idols from the land, and they will no longer be remembered. I will also remove the prophets and the spirit of impurity from the land. / And if anyone still prophesies, his father and mother who bore him will say to him, 'You shall not remain alive, because you have spoken falsely in the name of the LORD.' When he prophesies, his father and mother who bore him will pierce him through.

Would you agree that God had a bit to say about deception?

Be observant but be not deceived because God has given us the tools to be aware. Know God's Word so you will know God's Truth. Pay attention to what is going on around you and in the world so you can give an answer to those who become fearful and search for the REAL TRUTH, Jesus the Messiah is that TRUTH.

43 Jesus therefore answered and said unto them, Murmur not among yourselves. 44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

Murmuring or complaining was prevalent then as it is today. We complain about a lot of things, me included. We need to stop complaining and rely on Faith in Jesus and what He has done. We need to have Faith in God in what He says He is going to do.

The idea of finding salvation without God's call to each person is not Biblical. God calls to the hearts of mankind. There are those often through difficult circumstances recognize they need someone, something that will help them. God continues to honor mankind's free will and drags no one into Heaven and forces no one into Hell. It is a choice each of us make. It is a call from God each of us hears. The question is what do you do when He calls?

The promise from God delivered by His Son is eternal Salvation. Being lifted up by Christ to eternity.

45 It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me.

Q. How many come to Jesus?

All that hath HEARD and LEARNED of the Father!

The Greek word for "learned" is "mathon" it is related to the Greek word for disciple which is "mathetes". It goes beyond learned knowledge and moves the Believer into Spiritual Faith, which is beyond common knowledge. We all start in the same place, hearing a call in our heart from God to come to Him.

46Not that any man hath seen the Father, save he which is of God, he hath seen the Father.

Q. When Jesus says; <u>46</u>Not that any man hath seen the Father, save he which is of God, he hath seen the Father. What does He mean?

God told Moses than no man can see His face, or the man would die. It declares the Holiness of God cannot be in the presence of sinful man. The only way that changes is for man to become Holy. The only way for man to become Holy and be in the presence of God is through the Blood of the Son, Jesus the Messiah.

The only man that has ever seen God is the Son of God, fully God because Jesus is God and fully man because Jesus laid aside His Power and Authority as God and became a man, but without sin. Holy in God's eyes. He has seen the face of God the Father.

You can imagine the challenge that the Jews would have not only in understanding this but believing it. They had always in their better days worshiped God, Elohim. They are now being told that God is not alone in the position of God. It is so far outside the physical understanding that they would have. Spiritual things at first are so hard to understand as they defy what we think we know in natural knowledge. There have been many scientists that are so well founded in science that the Bible is just a big lie to them. Marks called belief in the Bible or religion in general as "Opiate for the masses"; a way to escape reality.

There are stories of many scientists that set out to disprove the Bible and, in the end, become believers. When the Spirit is awakened in man, it then becomes the Reality that God intended. This flesh is temporary, the soul and Spirit of man of man are eternal. The only difference between the believer and the non-believer in the end is geography and pain. The believer forever with Christ in a New Earth and New Heaven and the non-believer in an eternal state of separation from God, no hope, just the agonizing reality of being lost in a horrifying existence, alone for eternity.

47 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.

When Jesus uses this term, "verily, verily", it is an indication to the hearer that what He is about to say is of great importance and should be remembered.

With Christ is life, without Christ is an eternal existence of being alone without hope. Non-believers' joke about they will be in hell with their buddies, having a beer. In their hearts they know that is not what it is going to be at all, but they keep repeating it just to assuage their fear of what is to come.

Our next verses has us look back in the Old Testament, we can see the "type and shadow" of manna and what it was really talking about. Jesus puts it into context here. It was always about Him; His body gives life.

48 am that bread of life. 49 Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. 50 This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die.

A mixed metaphor in that Jesus is talking about temporary physical life and eternal spiritual life.

Q. When Jesus says He is the bread of life what does He mean?

There are three specific ways in which bread was used by God.

1. Unleavened bread to be used as a ceremony in the temple. Leaven was used to show how sin operates. A small amount of sin like a small amount of leaven permeates the whole loaf. A small sin in our lives if not dealt with will eventually permeate our entire being.

When God called Israel out of Egypt that to was a type and shadow for us to learn by. God was calling man to come out of a sin life. Egypt was a type and shadow of Sin. God called Israel or in our case mankind to come out of the sinful life and live life with and through Christ.

- a. Exodus 23:15Thou shalt keep the feast of unleavened bread: (thou shalt eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded thee, in the time appointed of the month Abib; for in it thou camest out from Egypt: and none shall appear before me empty:)
- 2. He gave them bread in the form of Manna as a type and shadow of what was to come to not only sustain physical life but to direct our eyes to Spiritual life.
 - a. Psalms 78:...23Yet He commanded the clouds above And opened the doors of heaven; 24He rained down manna upon them to eat And gave them food from

heaven. 25Man did eat the bread of angels; He sent them food in abundance....

3. Jesus became bread for Spiritual life. The focus of the Temple and all that takes place there. He was the fulfillment of the Types, Shadows and Symbols that were written about. His Body became a symbol of the food that believers, fellow heirs would need to sustain, or remain Holy, Sanctified. It is the essence of Christ; we take Him into our lives and what we eat is what we become. As we continually feed on the Word of God, the Body of Christ we become more like Him.

Colosians 2:...16Therefore no one is to act as your judge in regard to food or drink or in respect to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath day-- 17things which are a mere shadow of what is to come; but the substance belongs to Christ.

Hebews 10:1For the Law, since it has only a shadow of the good things to come and not the very form of things, can never, by the same sacrifices which they offer continually year by year, make perfect those who draw near.

Romans 5:14 Yet Death reigned as king from Adam to Moses even over those who had not sinned, as Adam did, against Law. And in Adam we have a type of Him whose coming was still future.

Zechariah 3: ...7"Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'If you will walk in My ways and if you will perform My

service, then you will also govern My house and also have charge of My courts, and I will grant you free access among these who are standing here. 8'Now listen, Joshua the high priest, you and your friends who are sitting in front of you-- indeed they are men who are a symbol, for behold, I am going to bring in My servant the Branch. 9'For behold, the stone that I have set before Joshua; on one stone are seven eyes. Behold, I will engrave an inscription on it,' declares the LORD of hosts, 'and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day....

Matthew 4: ...3And the tempter came and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." 4But He answered and said, "It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD.""

51 am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.

Jesus is declaring that He is the manna from heaven. He is food to be eaten just like their forefathers did in the desert when God gave them manna from heaven to eat. Jesus declares that the "bread that I will give is my flesh".

For a moment think again about how if you were a Jew in that day, how would you receive this? In the world at that time with limited understanding it would be "cannibalism", eating human flesh.

Anytime we have been taught and raised in a way that we have become comfortable in and someone challenges those rules or knowledge, our first reaction is rejection of this new way of understanding an idea.

There can be grave danger in the way we interpret the Bible. For any of us to establish a new understanding if not consistent with God's whole word may lead us to catastrophic error. Therefore, as we discuss anything that may be new to us, be like the Berean's search out the scriptures daily and verify it on your own. If it is unverifiable then we need to relook at anything thing that is not provable by God's Word.

52The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying, How can this man give us *his* flesh to eat?

This new doctrine was so hard to comprehend as they were trying to manage it in their minds and not in their hearts. The mind learns something and through test and trial we verify that what we have just learned is physically true.

When the Spirit of God revives man's heart or man's spirit, a whole new level of learning and understanding takes place. Without the intervention of the Holy Spirit, these things are impossible to understand. We are watching a revival of the

Spirit of man by the Son of God and the Holy Spirit in this chapter that has continued to this day.

53Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.
54Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. 55For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. 56He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him.

We can see **if** these verses are taken on their own, how a non-believer could come to the conclusion that Jesus is talking about physically eating the flesh and drinking the blood of Jesus. That is exactly how these Jews were taking it.

But taking the whole council of God we know that this is a fulfillment of type and shadow that grew in the Old Testament. The thing that God spoke of was now before the eyes of His chosen people. He was trying to explain how important and eternity altering it would be for them to accept and take into their own lives the life-giving person of Jesus Christ the Messiah. The idea that we could have Jesus in our lives and our lives in Jesus was so foreign to them their physical minds could not accept it. If we do not allow Jesus

to consume us, AND we do not consume Jesus Christ, we are foreigners in the Spiritual land and unsaved.

57As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me. 58This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever.

We have all heard the term, "you are what you eat". Quite correct. If we consume unhealthy food, then we will naturally be unhealthy. If we consume healthy food, then we will most likely be healthy. If you consume TV or video games, then that is what you will emulate. If you consume pornography, then that too is what you will be. If we consume all the music that the world has to offer and not music that builds up the spirit, then you will be what you consume. You are what you eat, and Jesus is offering us Himself to consume so we can be like Him. Don't kid yourself for a moment, you are what you consume.

Fill your life with Christ and all that is good and wholesome, and you will be like Him, fill yourself with the world and you will be like the world and you will die as the world will die.

59These things said he in the synagogue, as he taught in Capernaum.

John recall is precise even to where Jesus was standing when He taught these things in Capernaum.

January 19, 2025

Just as a short recap, Jesus was telling His disciples that they must eat His flesh and drink His blood to have eternal life.

John 6: 53Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. 54Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. 55For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. 56He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him.

(Matthew 8:18-22; Luke 9:57-62; Luke 14:25-33)

60 Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard *this*, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it?

Discipleship is hard. It requires the Spirit to take charge over the flesh. The flesh does not give up willingly perhaps because we know in our Spirit that this flesh is meant to decay and die and we resist that idea. Even at Rapture this flesh, the very thing that has housed sin in our lives is meant to be destroyed, Praise God. We will be given a new body in the end, but for these disciples misunderstanding the means was too difficult to attain the end. They were thinking with their fleshly minds not their Spiritual minds. The idea of eating the flesh of the Messiah and drinking His blood was a bridge to far and is not what Jesus is saying. If only they had the awakened Spirit within them as is possible now for us.

61When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it, he said unto them, Doth this offend you? 62What and if ye shall see the Son of man ascend up where he was before? 63It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

We are in the flesh have a hard time understanding that this flesh is temporary, and the Spirit is eternal. Jesus is pointing out the futility in relying on our physical strength to achieve eternal life. There are many wealthy men and women today who seek eternal fleshly lives by any means possible. It is a fruitless effort according to Jesus.

64But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him.

Q. What do you think was so hard for them to hear?

Literally eating of flesh, they had not made the conversion to the Spiritual world to understand what Jesus was talking about taking about the Word of God as food. Jesus is the Word and we as Believers know from understanding the Scriptures that is what Jesus was talking about.

65And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father.

Q. We have all heard of "predestination", what does that mean to you?

I think what Jesus is talking about goes back to what the Father's desire was in the first place.

1 Timothy 2:4 ...3This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,...(emphasis mine)

Q. So what is God's desire or what is He predisposed to carry out for all mankind?

All to be saved.

Q. Then what is standing in the way of all men being saved?

The flesh and free will when dominated by unbelief.

Q. What does John 1:29 tell us that God did?

John 1: 29The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

Q. Which sins and how much of them did He take away and for whom did He take it away?

All sin for all mankind. Only condition, repent and ask Jesus to save you, believing He is the Son of God and is alive today.

The term sin can be singular or plural but to be singular would require article of "the or a" compared to a single sin. When God says "the sin of the world" that is plural meaning covering all mankind and all the sins in the world. Lacking the article to a specific sin or specific man, then this is unrestricted as to the number of "sin" and in this context and in relation to the whole council of God we know that Christ's blood covered and removed all sin. The reference is the world but did the world or the earth sin against God.

The word "world" is a reference to the inhabitance of the world, mankind. So, when it says the "world" God is speaking of mankind, all of mankind. So, in the reference God is speaking of all of mankind, then the "sin" that was

"taken away" was all of the sin of mankind, plural, not a single sin was left wanting to be covered and removed by the Blood of Christ. The Blood of Christ covered and removed all sin for all mankind. But wait, the act of Salvation requires something to access it?

That act of Salvation is a clear revelation of the Free Will of mankind. Man can choose to repent or not repent. The free gift of Salvation is there it requires a decision. No decision is a decision.

Repentance, the acknowledgement that we are sinners in general and sinners personally and that we recognize that we deserve individually death for the sins we have committed. WE ALL deserve DEATH, WE are ALL in need of a Savior, Jesus the Messiah.

Peter's Confession of Faith

(Matthew 16:13-20; Mark 8:27-30; Luke 9:18-20)

66 From that *time* many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.

These people or followers which is what a disciple is, choose to not follow Jesus any longer or take the "free gift" that was coming, but instead chose to walk in the law. And we all know that the Law is death. Their flesh was in control of their

very lives. That very flesh would bring death as they would rely on the Law to save them. The Law was given to show mankind how far short of God's Righteousness we are. The Law was a signpost pointing to the Messiah, Salvation. Those disciples that left Jesus could not understand because their flesh was abiding in the Law. With their free will they chose the Law.

67Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? 68Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. 69And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.

Christ is Jesus' title not His last name. Christ came from the Greek Christos and means the "chosen one, the anointed one, the Messiah in Hebrew".

Simon Peter's statement: free will of a sinful man that realizes that he is a sinner and there is no other hope than Jesus Christ and His Righteousness. Simon Peter realized this all in a moment based on many days of seeing and hearing Jesus.

70 Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil?

This word in the Greek for "devil" is "diablos", meaning accuser or slanderer.

Jesus knew the heart of Judas Iscariot and even so chose him to be one of the 12. Twelve of the most consequential men in history. But why chose him if Jesus knew Judas was going to betray him and even announced it here to the other 11?

30 pieces of silver is what God valued a slave at in:

Exodus 21:32 If the ox shall push a manservant or a maidservant; he shall give unto their master thirty shekels of silver, and the ox shall be stoned.

The Prophet Zachariah was valued at 30 pieces of silver as was his prophecy of Jesus's value to Judas.

Zachariah 11: 12And I said unto them, If ye think good, give me my price; and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver. 13And the LORD said unto me, Cast it unto the potter: a goodly price that I was prised at of them. And I took the thirty pieces of silver, and cast them to the potter in the house of the LORD.

Judas would do likewise and take 30 pieces of silver for Jesus's betrayal; the value of a slave set by God. He too would buy a potter's field and die there.

71 He spake of Judas Iscariot *the son* of Simon: for he it was that should betray him, being one of the twelve.

Out of all humanity that existed at that time Jesus had chosen these 12 men even one of them being a traitor to be His closest companions during this Ministry on earth. None of them knew what the future held except for Christ. He knew that not only would He be persecuted but they His Disciples would be persecuted as well for His sake.

All verses are copied from https://biblehub.com/ in King James