

EXPERIENCING, ENJOYING, AND EXPRESSING CHRIST (1)

KEY STATEMENTS

Christ came to minister as a
Physician to heal, recover,
enliven, and save us
that we might be reconstituted to be His new and heavenly
citizens, with whom He could establish His heavenly
kingdom
on this corrupted earth.

We need to know, experience, and testify
that the kingdom of God is the power to subdue
rebellion and is the transfiguration of the Lord
Jesus.

Christ as the Word of God speaks
for God through His becoming
the ladder
that brings heaven (God) to earth
(man) and joins earth (man) to
heaven (God) as one for
God's building.

Even as the Divine Trinity is the
framework of the entire New
Testament,
so the Divine Trinity is the structure of the book of
Acts; chapter after chapter of Acts
unveils the operation of the Divine Trinity
for the carrying out of God's New Testament economy.

HWMR: EXPERIENCING, ENJOYING, AND EXPRESSING CHRIST (Week 7)

Scripture Reading: Reading: John 6:22-71

The Bread of Life

- John 6:22 The next day the crowd which stood on the other side of the sea saw that there had been no other small boat there except one, and that Jesus had not gotten into the boat with His disciples, but that His disciples had gone away alone.
- John 6:23 But other small boats from Tiberias came near to the place where they **ate the bread** after the Lord had given thanks.
- John 6:24 So when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor His disciples, they themselves got into the small boats and came to Capernaum, seeking Jesus.
- John 6:25 And when they found Him on the other side of the sea, they said to Him, Rabbi, when did You get here?
- John 6:26 Jesus answered them and said, Truly, truly, I say to you, You seek Me not because you have seen signs, but because you **ate of the bread** and were filled.
- John 6:27 Work not for the food which perishes, but for the **food** which abides unto **eternal life**, which the Son of Man will give you; for Him has the Father, even God, sealed.
- John 6:28 Then they said to Him, What shall we do that we may work the works of God?
- John 6:29 Jesus answered and said to them, This is the work of God, that you believe into Him whom He has sent.
- John 6:30 They said then to Him, What sign then will You do that we may see and believe You? What work will You do?
- John 6:31 Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, as it is written, “He gave them **bread out of heaven** to eat.”
- John 6:32 Jesus therefore said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, Moses has not given you the bread out of heaven, but My Father gives you the **true bread out of heaven**.
- John 6:33 For the **bread of God** is He who comes down out of heaven and gives life to the world.
- John 6:34 They said therefore to Him, Lord, give us this **bread** always.
- John 6:35 Jesus said to them, I am the **bread of life**; he who **comes to Me** shall by no means hunger, and he who **believes into Me** shall by no means ever thirst.
- John 6:36 But I have said to you that you have also seen Me, and yet you do not believe.
- John 6:37 All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and him who comes to Me I shall by no means cast out.
- John 6:38 For I have come down from heaven not to do My own will but the will of Him who sent Me.
- John 6:39 And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all which He has given Me I should lose nothing but should raise it up in the last day.
- John 6:40 For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes into Him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up in the last day.
- John 6:41 The Jews therefore murmured concerning Him because He said, **I am the bread** that came down out of heaven.
- John 6:42 And they said, Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does He now say, I have come down out of heaven?
- John 6:43 Jesus answered and said to them, Do not murmur among yourselves.
- John 6:44 No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up in the last day.
- John 6:45 It is written in the prophets, “And they shall all be taught of God.” Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me.
- John 6:46 Not that anyone has seen the Father, except Him who is from God, He has seen the Father.
- John 6:47 Truly, truly, I say to you, He who believes has eternal life.
- John 6:48 **I am the bread of life.**
- John 6:49 Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died.
- John 6:50 This is the **bread** which comes down **out of heaven**, that anyone may **eat** of it and **not die**.
- John 6:51 I am the **living bread** which came down out of heaven; if anyone **eats** of this bread, he **shall live**

forever; and the bread which I will give is My flesh, given for the life of the world.

John 6:52 The Jews then contended with one another, saying, How can this man give us His flesh to eat?

John 6:53 Jesus therefore said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you do not have life within yourselves.

John 6:54 He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up in the last day.

John 6:55 For My flesh is true food, and My blood is true drink.

John 6:56 He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me and I in him.

John 6:57 As the living Father has sent Me and I live because of the Father, so he who eats Me, he also shall live because of Me.

John 6:58 This is the bread which came down out of heaven, not as the fathers ate and died; he who eats this bread shall live forever.

John 6:59 He said these things in a synagogue as He taught in Capernaum.

John 6:60 Many therefore of His disciples, when they heard this, said, This word is hard; who can hear it?

John 6:61 But Jesus, knowing in Himself that His disciples were murmuring about this, said to them, Does this stumble you?

John 6:62 Then what if you saw the Son of Man ascending to where He was before?

John 6:63 It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words which I have spoken to you are spirit and are life.

John 6:64 But there are some of you who do not believe. For Jesus knew from the beginning who were the ones who did not believe and who was the one who would betray Him.

John 6:65 And He said, For this reason I have told you that no one can come to Me unless it has been given to him from the Father.

John 6:66 From that time many of His disciples went back to what they left behind and no longer walked with Him.

John 6:67 Jesus therefore said to the twelve, Do you also want to go away?

John 6:68 Simon Peter answered Him, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life,

John 6:69 And we have believed and have come to know that You are the Holy One of God.

John 6:70 Jesus answered them, Was it not I who chose you, the twelve? Yet one of you is a devil.

John 6:71 Now He spoke of Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, for he, one of the twelve, would betray Him.

Day 1

John 6:33 - For the bread of God is He who comes down out of heaven and gives life to the world.

John 6:35 - Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me shall by no means hunger, and he who believes into Me shall by no means ever thirst.

I. If we read John 6 carefully, we should have a deep impression of this chapter and pay attention to the sequence of seven crucial points:

II. The primary purpose for which the Lord Jesus came down out of heaven to the earth was to accomplish one central matter—to give Himself to us as food—the bread of life—so that He could be eaten by us as spiritual nourishment and be digested by us to become our constitution—vv. 50-51.

❖ Seven Crucial Points

- First, the Lord is the bread of life.
- Second, the Lord gives this bread of life, His flesh, for man to eat.
- Third, the Lord also gives His blood for man to drink.
- Fourth, He not only died but also resurrected.
- Fifth, because He lives in man, man lives because of Him and lives before God.
- Sixth, His Spirit, not His physical flesh, gives man life and makes man live.
- Seventh, His Spirit is in His spoken words—rhema. His words are spirit and are life.

❖ **The Lord Revealing Himself as the Bread of Life So That Anyone Who Eats of Him Would Not Die**

- The Lord Jesus **came down out of heaven** to be the **bread of life** so that anyone who **eats** of Him would **not** die.
- He is the bread that came down out of heaven in order for man to **eat**.
 - He who **comes** to Him will by no means hunger, and he who **believes** into Him will by no means ever thirst.
- The Lord being the bread that came down out of heaven means that He came to the earth in the form of food.
 - He wants us to **receive** Him and **take** Him in as life.

❖ **The Lord's Status**

- His status was the **bread of life**.
- His work on the earth was for Him to be **eaten by man** to be **man's life**.
- Strictly speaking, the Lord Jesus came to the earth to accomplish one central matter, that is, to **give Himself to man as food** so that man can **eat Him** as spiritual nourishment and be digested to become **man's constitution**.

(Revelations in John: Seeing the Essential Significance of Life and Building, chapter 9)

Day 2

John 6:27 - Work not for the food which perishes, but for the food which abides unto eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you; for Him has the Father, even God, sealed.

John 6:32 - Jesus therefore said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, Moses has not given you the bread out of heaven, but My Father gives you the true bread out of heaven.

III. Chapter 6 of the Gospel of John is a detailed discourse on the Lord Jesus being the bread of life; He declared, "I am the bread of life"—v. 48:

- The most important point in the whole chapter of John 6 is that the **Lord is our food**, the bread of life.
- To eat Him is **not** a once-for-all matter. It is a **daily matter** and even a **moment-by-moment** experience of the Lord.
- The Lord is **edible** because He is the bread of life. He is as **edible** as a piece of bread.

❖ **The Bread of Life**

- For our **experience** and **enjoyment**, Christ is the bread of life
 - As the bread of life, He is the **bread with eternal life**.
- Even though you may have been a Christian for many years, you still need Christ as your food every day. Christ is not only your life; He, as the bread of life, is also your **life supply**, your **daily food**.
- *John 6:27* says, "Work not for the food which perishes, but for the food which abides unto **eternal life**, which the Son of Man will give you; for Him has the Father, even God, sealed."
 - The food which abides to eternal life is the **Lord Jesus Christ Himself**.
 - This means that He came to be the **tree of life**.
 - What we need today is **Christ as the eternal food**, as the tree of life.

- **John 6:32** says, “Jesus therefore said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, Moses has not given you the bread out of heaven, but My Father gives you the **true bread** out of heaven.”
 - As the true bread Christ is the **bread of truth**, or reality. Christ is true, real.
 - The **reality** of the food we eat daily is **Jesus Christ**.
 - Christ is the true bread of life sent by God to bring us eternal life.
- **John 6:33** says, “For the bread of God is He who **comes down out of heaven** and gives life to the world.”
 - Christ is the bread of God who, through incarnation, **came down out of heaven** and gives life to the world.
 - As the bread of God He is God, He was sent by God, and He was with God.
- **John 6:35** says “Jesus said to them, I am the **bread of life**; he who comes to Me shall by no means hunger, and he who believes into Me shall by no means ever thirst.”
 - Bread of life refers to the **nature** of the bread, which is **life**.
 - Living bread refers to the **condition** of the bread, which is **living**.
- **John 6:47** says, “Truly, truly, I say to you, He who **believes** has eternal life.”
 - The Lord’s concept concerning God is that man should **believe into Him**, that is, **receive** Him as life and the life supply.

(The Conclusion of the New Testament: Experiencing, Enjoying, and Expressing Christ, Volume 1, chapter 279)

✚ We must exercise our spirit to feed on Him as the word and as the Spirit. Then we will receive Him into us, digest Him, experience Him, and apply Him moment by moment. This is all—there is nothing else. We must forget about our doing and our working and learn to eat Christ and live by what we have eaten of Him. This is the divine way of life for our daily living.

Day 3

John 6:51 - I am the living bread which came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he shall live forever; and the bread which I will give is My flesh, given for the life of the world.

John 6:53 - Jesus therefore said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you do not have life within yourselves.

- For us, the work of God is nothing other than **eating** Christ, **receiving** Him, and **living** by Him.
- Daily we must **eat** Christ in order to **live** by Christ.
- By **eating** and **drinking** of Christ, we will be **filled** with Christ.

(Life-Study of John, chapter 16)

❖ **Shedding His Blood for Our Redemption That God May Pass over Us**

- In **John 6:53** the Lord Jesus spoke about drinking His blood. To **drink** means to **receive**.
- The proper way to receive something into our stomach is by **eating and drinking**.
- To eat the Lord Jesus is to receive Him into us to be **assimilated** by the regenerated new man in the way of life.
- To eat His flesh is to **receive by faith** all that He did in giving His body for us.

- To eat His flesh and drink His blood is to receive Him, in His redemption, as **life** and the **life supply** by **believing** in what He did for us on the cross.
- As the Passover Lamb Christ not only shed His blood for our redemption; He also **imparts His life into** us for our nourishment.

(The Conclusion of the New Testament: Experiencing, Enjoying, and Expressing Christ, Volume 1, chapter 279)

Day 4

John 6:55-57 - For My flesh is true food, and My blood is true drink. He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me and I in him. As the living Father has sent Me and I live because of the Father, so he who eats Me, he also shall live because of Me.

❖ Our Need for Christ as Our Life Supply

- In our Christian life we **daily** need the experience of **contacting** the Spirit in a practical way.
- Whenever we come to the Word, we need to **exercise** our entire being, especially our spirit, to contact Christ, who is now the life-giving Spirit.
- We have seen that Christ is the bread of life, the bread of God, the heavenly bread, the living bread, and the true bread.
- Today this bread is not merely the **incarnated, crucified, resurrected, and ascended** Christ but the Christ who has become the **life-giving Spirit**.
- Even every moment we need to eat the One who is the Spirit who **gives life**.

✚ We are hungry ones around the sea in Galilee, and we need Christ as our life supply. We need Him to be our barley loaves and fish. We need Him as the generating life and the redeeming life. It is as the Spirit that Christ is this life to us. The Spirit who gives life is the generating life, the redeeming life, and the overcoming life. We need this Spirit as our life and life supply, as our food for daily nourishment.

(Life-Study of John, chapter 16)

Day 5

John 6:63 - It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words which I have spoken to you are spirit and are life.

1 Corinthians 15:45 - So also it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living soul"; the last Adam became a life-giving Spirit.

IV. "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words which I have spoken to you are spirit and are life"—6:63:

❖ Becoming the Life-giving Spirit

- It is as the **life-giving Spirit** that He can be the **life** and **life supply** to us.
- When we receive Him as the crucified and resurrected Savior, the Spirit who gives life comes into us to **impart eternal life to us**.
- Since He is the Spirit, we can **contact** Him as the Spirit within us.
- Since He is the Spirit, we can **take** Him and **feed** upon Him as our food.
- The best way to get the Spirit is to **call on the name of the Lord Jesus**.

(Life-Study of John, chapter 16)

Day 6

John 6:48 - I am the bread of life.

John 6:68 - Simon Peter answered Him, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life,

❖ Embodied and Realized in the Word of Life

- Christ, as the bread of life, is embodied in the **word of life**.
- In **John 6:63** the Lord said that “*the words which I have spoken to you are spirit and are life.*”
 - Words in this verse is rhema in Greek, which denotes the **instant and present spoken word**.
 - First, the Lord indicated that for giving life He would become the Spirit.
 - Then He said that the words He speaks are spirit and life.
 - This shows that **His spoken words** are the **embodiment** of the **Spirit of life**.
- The word is outside of us. When I **receive** the word **into me**, it immediately **becomes** the **Spirit**.
- When I **speak** the **word out**, the Spirit once again **becomes** the **word**.
- When you **receive** the word **into you**, the word **becomes** the **Spirit** once more, and when you **speak** the word **out**, it **becomes** the **Spirit** again.
- You **believed** the **word**, yet you **received** the **Spirit**.
- The Lord is the **Spirit** and the **word**.
- When we **contact** the word in **spirit**, we are actually contacting the Lord Himself as the **living bread**.
- We have seen six steps whereby Christ has made Himself available for us to receive
 - incarnation,
 - crucifixion,
 - resurrection,
 - ascension,
 - becoming the life-giving Spirit, and
 - being embodied in the word of life.
- He is the **Spirit and the word**. If you receive the word, you will have the Spirit as your enjoyment of Christ.

(Life-Study of John, chapter 16)