

“Food Indeed!” John 6:48-58

I. *Christ’s flesh and blood was and is food and **is superior** to manna or any food, as His food is food for eternal life –*

⁴⁸ I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹ Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and are dead. ⁵⁰ This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹ I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.” John 6:48–51 (NKJV)

1. *Jesus is the Bread of LIFE! Manna, though bread from heaven was not life giving like Jesus -*

⁴⁹ Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and are dead. :49

A. *At the very least Jesus is talking about the physical death of those who died in the wilderness ...*

B. *Maybe also their spiritual death, as they lacked faith to enter the Promise Land – Oh, how many were supremely PRIVILEGED, yet failed?*

10 Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, ² all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. ⁵ But with most of them God was not well pleased, for *their bodies* were scattered in the wilderness.

⁶ Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted. ⁷ And do not become idolaters as *were* some of them. As it is written, “*The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.*” ⁸ Nor let us commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell; ⁹ nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents; ¹⁰ nor complain, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹ Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. 1 Corinthians 10:1–11 (NKJV)

C. *These who are arguing with Jesus are sons and daughter of unbelief, they failed as the fathers did, their fathers had the privilege of God’s Presence & Manna, these have the presence of God in Jesus Christ! We in our day have privilege too!*

2. *Giving His flesh is a reference to Christ death on the cross –*

If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.” John 6:51 (NKJV)

A. *For the Corinthians Christ’s Cross Food was the ONLY FOOD Paul determined to COOK – ² For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. 1 Corinthians 2:2 (NKJV)*

B. *Now, how do we EAT Christ’s Body? How do we eat spiritual food, like God’s Word?*

Not with our MOUTHS! But with our EYES, READING! And with our EARS, HEARING!

¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them, And Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; For I am called by Your name, O LORD God of hosts. Jeremiah 15:16 (NKJV)

Today we EAT Jesus, by reading about Him in God’s Word and hearing about Him in Sermons, or perhaps by reading about Him also in good Christian Books that are faithful to God’s Word! If reading and hearing are EATING or can be, what about the reading of books, the listening to the radio, or watching TV or movies that we do, is this EATING? G.I.G.O.

We call it “food for thought” Jesus / the Bible the Best Food for our minds!

“Flintstones meet the Flintstones, they’re a modern stone-age family, from the town of Bedrock, there a place right out of history ...” Memorized, without effort from my childhood!

If Christ’s flesh and blood, eating of it, by reading, studying, memorizing is superior to regular food, it also superior to our entertainment!

3. This would also mean we could have a television or entertainment FAST!

4. Since God, Jesus and God’s Word is superior, we should desire MORE of Him & it –
⁸ Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him! Psalm 34:8 (NKJV)

A. I have met people who would NEVER watch an R rated movie, but they would not watch a Christian Teaching DVD either, and barely read and study the Bible! If you give up the bad, make sure that you replace it with GOOD –

²⁴ “When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came.’ ²⁵ And when he comes, he finds it swept and put in order. ²⁶ Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last state of that man is worse than the first.” Luke 11:24–26 (NKJV)

B. Spend MORE (a LOT more) time reading the Bible than watching TV, movies or any other kind of media, and you will be interpreting your entertainment from a Biblical World-view rather than interpreting the Bible from an ungodly viewpoint.

II. This leads to the second aspect of Christ’s flesh and blood as food, and drink and that is they are absolutely necessary for Eternal LIFE –

⁵² The Jews therefore quarreled among themselves, saying, “How can this Man give us His flesh to eat?” ⁵³ Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. John 6:52–54 (NKJV)

1. I believe Jesus and God’s Word use eating terminology for things we don’t physically EAT, because reading or hearing ARE sometimes AND MAYBE A LOT OF TIMES, NOT AT THE LEVEL THEY SHOULD BE!

For instance, every once in a while, I have found myself in a conversation with a person and I ask them “Do you read the Bible?” And their answer to me is, “Yes, I read the Bible, once...”

If I asked the same person – “do you eat?” I doubt their answer would be, “Yes, I ate once!”

See eating is a daily thing – ¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread. Matthew 6:11 (NKJV)

Eating Christ, His flesh and blood, faith, His cross, the Bible are superior to regular food as the help us **that one may eat of it and not die. John 6:50 If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever John 6:51**

²³ Then He said to *them* all, **“If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. Luke 9:23 (NKJV)**

¹³ but exhort one another daily, while it is called **“Today,”** lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. Hebrews 3:13 (NKJV)

2. *Note the difference between a one-time faith, and a Biblically taught, life-time faith - ²⁹ And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him.” ³⁰ As He spoke these words, many believed in Him. ³¹ Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. ³² And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” John 8:29–32 (NKJV)*

A. *The peace, peace when there is no peace preacher preach the effectiveness of just saying “I believe” one time –*

¹¹ For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of My people slightly, Saying, ‘Peace, peace!’ When *there is no peace.* Jeremiah 8:11 (NKJV)

B. *Some will say, but what about the thief on the cross? I will answer, do you? Or will you have a faith like his?*

- *He called Jesus Lord.*
- *He acknowledged Jesus as King, when Jewish leaders said we have no king but Caesar!*
- *He spoke up about Christ’s innocence, when all the shouting was “crucify Him, crucify Him!” Even when Christ’s own disciples, who had a great deal of time with Him, fled!*
- *He believed despite not seeing miracles, definitely not one benefitting himself.*
- *He believed despite seeing our Lord in agony, mocked, humiliated, rejected!*
- *He saw no crown but a crown of thorns, and no kingly robe unless he saw that which the Roman soldiers mocked Christ with ...*
- *He trusted when the other thief mocked with the cruel crowd*
- *He owned up to His own sin, that he was deserving of His cross - “We receive the due reward of our deeds.”*

“He acknowledges his own ungodliness, and the justice of his punishment. He makes no attempt to justify himself, or excuse his wickedness. He speaks like a man humbled and self-abased by the remembrance of past iniquities. This is what all God’s children feel. They are ready to allow they are poor hell-deserving sinners.” J. C. Ryle

- *He immediately aims to evangelize his fellow thief, calling him to real repentance, calling him to stop his railing and blaspheming of Jesus.*

He is not an argument for procrastination, or for Every Death-Bed Prayer being answered – Proverbs 1:20-33, 2 Corinthians 6:2

III. *The third aspect of Christ's flesh and blood being food / drink is that it is food indeed, **truly, in reality, FOOD, Jesus** is more than what we NEED!*

⁵⁵ For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. ⁵⁶ He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. ⁵⁷ As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread which came down from heaven—not as your fathers ate the manna, and are dead. He who eats this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹ These things He said in the synagogue as He taught in Capernaum. John 6:55–59

1. *Everything that Food is, Jesus is THAT but MORE so! Jesus as food is necessary, I have already said so, NEEDED for eternal LIFE!*
2. *But not only eternal life in duration, but in quality food is tasty, delicious, Christ is MORE! God has blessed us with food and with taste buds, eating is a delightful thing –*



3. *Christ is true food in every ASPECT, including taste, satisfaction –*
⁸ **Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him! Psalm 34:8**
¹¹ **You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore. Psalm 16:11 (NKJV)**
4. *Develop your spiritual taste buds, eat / get-to-know Jesus –*
¹¹ **“These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full. John 15:11 (NKJV)**
² **Why do you spend money for what is not bread, And your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, And let your soul delight itself in abundance. Isaiah 55:2 (NKJV) – “delight itself in fatness.” Isaiah 55:2 (KJV)**

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