**John VIII Jesus the Second Moses/Jesus Fulfills Passover**

Review:

1. Jesus greater than/ Lord of the Sabbath Jn 5:1-18

2. Passover points to Jesus Jn 6:1-70

3. Booths/Tabernacles point to Jesus. Jn 7:1-9:41

4. Feast of Dedication (Hanukkah) points to Jesus. Jn 10

John 10:22-24 Jesus at the Feast of Dedication, also known as the Festival of Lights—Hanukkah.

Jesus fulfills the expectation of the Feast of Dedication—of Hanukkah (the Hebrew word Hanukkah means dedication or revival).

This is a feast which celebrates the rededication of the temple after the abomination of desolation of Antiochus Epiphanes.

The actual desecration lasted from late Nov 167BC – Dec 25 (the 25th of Chislev), 164 BC Judas Maccabeeus successful revolt establishing the Maccabeean kingdom.

The tradition is that the menorah burned for eight days despite the fact that only one day’s supply of dedicated oil was found. (but this is not in any of the original accounts).

Judas Maccabaeus delivered Israel and resurrected Judaism. God will resurrect his people.

John 10:30 I and the Father are one. I am God!!!

1. John 10:36 Jesus has been “set apart.” Jesus has been dedicated by the Father.

2. v. 36 I am God’s son.

Jesus is what the Feast of Dedication looks forward to. He is the Dedicated one of God.

And remember, Hanukkah is about God bringing his people back from the dead.

This week: Jesus the Second Moses/Jesus fulfills the Passover

Background:

Jn 5:39,40 The Scriptures are about me.

5:45 I am greater than Moses. If you believed Moses, you would believe me (and therefore would not be offended that I healed on the Sabbath). You are rejecting Moses

John 6:1-15 Jesus Feeds 10,000+.

Theme: Jesus the second Moses/antitype to Moses and Jesus fulfills the Passover.

John 6:4 The Jewish Passover was near. (to set up the connection)

This is the second Passover in John. It is the only one he did not go to Jerusalem for. Why not? So that he could fulfill the Passover in this way?

Jesus to Phillip: Where should we buy bread? (Phillip was from Bethsaida. He lived closer to this site than the other apostles) 200 denarii = 200 day’s wages for a common worker for even one bite. Phillip faces the facts.

Jesus gives bread (like the manna) and fish.

People’s response: Increased faith. 6:14 “Surely this is the prophet” (cf Deuteronomy 18:17-19 Notice the strong words to the Jews: listen to him).

They did not necessarily see the connection between “the Prophet” and the Messiah.

What did Moses do? Gave them bread (sign #4), part the Red Sea (sign #5), gave water (Jesus will in John 7:38). Jesus will do all these things.

Jesus is reenacting the saving events in the history of Israel.

Jesus fulfills Passover. Jesus is the Second Moses. He is the one who saves.

Aside: Sign #5 Jesus walks on water Jn 6:16-24 (Matt14:22-33, Mark 6:47-51 where the power of Jesus is more emphasized. For example, Peter walking on the water. This is not the main emphasis of John with this miracle)

John’s emphasis: Jesus walks on the water as a parallel to Moses parting the water. An Exodus/Passover scene.

Q: Why did they leave without Jesus?

v. 20 “It is I” (I AM that I AM *ego eimi*) (Recalls Exodus 3:14 and John 4:26) Do not be afraid. Suddenly they are on the other side (recalling the crossing of the Red Sea)

[aside: This is when Peter walked on the water to Jesus (Matt 14:28-33]

Sign #5 (a bit of an aside, which only makes sense if you realize that John is showing Jesus as the antitype of Moses in the miracles he worked) Jesus walks on water Jn 6:16-24 (Matt14:22-33, Mark 6:47-51 where the power of Jesus is more emphasized. This is not the main emphasis of John with this miracle)

John’s emphasis: Jesus walks on the water as a parallel to Moses parting the water. An Exodus/Passover scene.

John 6:25-71 Discourse on Jesus as Bread of Life. A key discourse in John!

Read John 6:25-34

John 6:25-27 Seek spiritual food, not physical food (We need that message!)

“Work” for spiritual food. An interesting concept. (Reminds us of Matthew 6:19 Store up treasures in heaven)

v. 28-29 What is the work of God? Believe. Ironic on the part of Jesus and ironic for “faith –only” Christians today (who would say that no work is required, and therefore baptism is not required for salvation)

v. 30 Jews demand a sign again (recall clearing the temple). OK, you want us to believe in you: What work can you do to prove you are the One?

v. 31 Are you greater than Moses?

Jesus: Moses did not exactly give you bread, did he? Manna fell from the “heavens.” I give the bread that comes from heaven. I gave you bread just yesterday. I am greater than Moses. Isn’t that testimony enough?

(this comment is for the Jews, but also for the unbelieving reader If Jesus gave bread to 10,000+ is that enough for you to believe?)

Jesus does not yet make it absolutely clear he is talking about himself yet.

Just like Jesus gives the water that springs up to eternal life, Jesus gives the REAL bread—the bread which, if eaten, produces eternal life.

(Moses’ manna had to be eaten that day or it would spoil)

Q: In what sense is Jesus the bread of life? Jesus is spiritual food.

What is “bread” for you? What is it that will fulfill you? What will God give you, spiritually that you can really chew on. Jesus offers this!

v. 34 We want this bread!

Read John 6:35-44

v. 35 I am the bread of life. This is the first of his seven “I AM” statements.

I AM Again, I, I AM, recalling Exodus 3:14 All of these I AM statements are claims of deity.

I AM the bread of life 6:35

I AM the light of the world 8:12,9:5

I AM the door (and the gate) 10:7

I AM the good shepherd 10:1,14

I AM the resurrection and the life 11:25

I AM the Way the Truth and the Life 14:6

I AM the true vine 15:1

Not I have the bread of life.

Not I offer the bread of life.

Not I bring the bread of life.

I AM the bread of life. The thing we need to eat is Jesus!

What do you hunger for (35b) What do you thirst for? (35c)

Jesus gives real spiritual food and real drink.

Jesus: but you do not believe in me. Q: Do you really believe in Jesus. Do you consider him true spiritual food and drink?

If you do, then you have this bread, and Jesus will raise you up at the last day (v. 40)

People’s response: grumbling 6:41 (as they did against Moses in the wilderness Ex 16:22 and many others). “Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph? We grew up with this guy. Galilee? Nazareth? What does he mean he came down from heaven?

Pattern: Jesus does a miracle. Jesus explains the meaning, but the people are confused.

John 6:43 Stop grumbling! What I am telling you is true. I AM the bread of life.

Read John 6:45-59

Jesus takes it higher: 6:48-51. What is he claiming? He is spiritual bread which, if eaten gives eternal life.

Eat me and you will live. What an amazing claim of Jesus.

(Parallel to John 4:10 in which Jesus claims to be the living water.)

The people who ate the bread from Moses ate and later died, but not this bread.

v. 52 What does he mean?

v. 53-59 You must eat my flesh and drink my blood. He is talking about being the Bread of Life. This must have been particularly hard for the Jews to hear (drink my blood)

This is not a prefigure of the Lord’s Supper. He is not saying that eating the Lord’s Supper imparts eternal life. The Lord’s Supper is a remembrance of this fact.

Why would Jesus put it in such a shocking, almost repulsive way?

It means we must participate intimately in Jesus. We must accept his giving of his own flesh and blood for our eternal life. We do this initially in baptism, but we continue to do this in our lives as Christians.

What would it mean for you to “eat the flesh of Jesus?” or to “drink the blood of Jesus.”

It is about an unbelievably deep participation in Christ.

v. 57. He who eats me will live because of me.

Is that you? Are you eating/feeding on Jesus?

Read John 6:60-70 Response. This is a hard teaching!! So hard, even some of the inner core of disciples left him at that time.

What is hard about this teaching? 1. To believe it is true (but he created bread).

2. To eat and drink of Jesus.

v. 62 When I am lifted up on the cross, lifted up in the resurrection and finally lifted up in the ascension, you will see that I am indeed spiritual food.

v. 63 Besides, I am talking about spiritual, not physical things.

v. 66 Many left Jesus (but they probably kept going to church!) v. 67 John to reader: Jesus is talking to you. What about you?

Peter: To whom shall we go? Consider the alternatives:

If you do not eat the bread and drink the water, you will die in your sins.

Where will you go for spiritual food? Come to Jesus.