

# **The Bread of Life**

## **(John 6:1-21)**

- A recent poll revealed many professing Christians believe good works save you
- The point is, that by and large the Gospel has been completely misunderstood
- In fact, when we come to the miracles of Jesus, most people misunderstood them
- All had an opinion about what Jesus was doing, the religious leaders hated him
- John gives this account that the ordinary people loved him and flocked to Jesus

### **Our Need of the Bread of Life (6:1-24)**

- Jesus' miracles were effective signs testifying to His mission as God's Messiah
- In feeding the 5000 Jesus created something which beforehand did not exist
- This demonstration of Christ's power shows that He alone can create a new heart
- Jesus calls into being what does not exist, there is no reason to despair with him
- So long as there is life there is hope. Our Master can create as well as renew
- With a Savior who can create a new heart by his Spirit nothing is impossible

### **II. The Feeding of the Five Thousand (6:1-15)**

- “Now the Passover was near” (4) time of the feasts sets the scene for the miracle
- The Passover with its sacrificial lamb is the foundation for Jesus, the Bread of life
- Passover commemorated God’s provision of a sacrifice for Israel’s redemption
- John had heralded Jesus (1:29) as the Lamb that takes away the sin of the world
- At the previous Passover, Jesus taught He was the fulfillment of the temple
- Jesus saw the hungry crowds and asked Philip how he would feed them
- Philip’s answer was a practical and rational one: not even 6 months would cover it
- Andrew in the meantime had found a little boy with some loaves & fish (6:8-13)
- After the people are fed they want to take Jesus & make him king by force (14,15)
- The carnal heart desires Christ as king as long it results in feeding its selfishness

### **III. Jesus Walking on Water (6: 16-21)**

- The disciples meanwhile left by boat & found themselves in a terrible storm (19)
- A strange transition from feeding the multitudes to Jesus dealing with a storm
- These two miracles are side by side to display Christ's power over all of creation
- We are helpless and dependent, Christ alone satisfies the hungering soul
- The storms of life may suddenly come upon us, Christ rules the heavens and earth
- The heartbeat of the two miracles is that Jesus meets humanity's deepest needs