

“All Of Grace”
John 6:41-51

Introduction:

1. In The Time We Have Left This Morning:
 - Let's Turn Back To:
 - John 6 - Where:
 - We've Been Listening In To:
 - The Remarkable:
 - “Dialog At The Synagogue” Between Jesus & The Jews:
 - In Capernaum!
2. It Was On This Occasion:
 - That Jesus Made - And:
 - Will Make Again:
 - The Divine Claim:
 - “I Am The Bread Of Life!”
 - But - Instead Of:
 - Experiencing The Hope:
 - That Jesus Came To Give:
 - Their Hungry Souls!
 - We Find The Reaction Of The Crowd:
 - Next - In 6:41:
 - Where - John Tells Us:
 - “The Jews then murmured at him, because he said, I am the bread which came down from heaven!”
3. And - One Of The Main Reasons:
 - Why The Crowd “Murmured” At Jesus:
 - Was Because - As We Find In 6:42:
 - They Thought They Knew Jesus!
 - “And 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?”
5. Now - Even Though The Crowd:
 - “Murmured” These Things About Jesus:
 - Probably In Hushed Tones:
 - Behind Jesus' Back - Once Again:
 - There Was No Hiding From Jesus!
 - And So - In 6:43 - John Tells Us That:
 - “Jesus therefore answered and said unto them, Murmur not among yourselves!”
6. The Truth Was:
 - That Crowd Needed To Go:
 - To Jesus - To Get The Answers:
 - To Their Questions:
 - About Jesus!
 - But - Their Hearts Were:
 - Hardened - And:
 - They Were Not Willing:
 - To Listen To Or Learn From:
 - Jesus Himself!
7. And Yet - How Often:
 - Do We Still Do:
 - What This Crowd Did?
 - How Often Do We:
 - “Murmur” About:
 - Questions That Need:
 - Answered! Or:
 - Problems That Need:
 - Solved! Or Even:
 - Hurts That Need:

- Healed!
 - But We Still Never Include:
 - Jesus In Our Deliberations!
 - 7. Jesus Says To You:
 - What Jesus Said To Them!
 - “Stop!” - “Murmur Not Among Yourselves!”
 - But Even Then:
 - Don’t We Still - All Too Often:
 - Rely On Our Own Wisdom?
 - And - Our Own:
 - Comprehension & Conclusions About Things?
 - The Problem That:
 - They Had - And:
 - The Problem That:
 - We Have:
 - Is Summed Up Well:
 - By The Apostle Paul!
 - In 1 Corinthians 2:14 - “But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God!”
 - The Reason They - And:
 - The Reason We:
 - Don’t Really Know Jesus!
 - And - The Reason We:
 - Don’t Listen To Or Learn From Jesus:
 - Is Because Of The Hardness Of Our Hearts!
 - 8. And Jesus Knows This Too!
 - And That Is Why - From 6:44-51 - Jesus Explains:
 - To Them & To Us:
 - What It Takes:
 - To Really Know Him - And:
 - To Come To & Believe In Him:
 - For Everlasting Life!
 - What It Takes:
 - Is Nothing Less:
 - Than God’s Grace!
 - And So - Jesus Continues:
 - 6:44-51 - “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. / 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. / Not that any man hath seen the Father, save he which is of God, he hath seen the Father. / Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life. / I am that bread of life. / Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. / This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. / I 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!”
 - 9. This Is What It Takes:
 - To Really Know Jesus - And:
 - Receive The Life:
 - That He Came To Give:
 - As The Bread Of Life!
 - It Takes Nothing Less:
 - Than God’s Grace!
 - And - Praise God - That Is Exactly:
 - What He Offers!
- * So - As We Just Read From 6:44:
1. **God’s Gracious Initiative:**
 - Makes It Possible:
 - For You To Know & Believe In Christ!
 - Again - Jesus Knows Our Biggest Problem:

- 6:44 - “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!”
- In This Verse:
 - Jesus Reveals The Divine Side:
 - Of Man’s Salvation!
 - And - The Absolute Necessity Of God’s Grace!
 - Because Without It - There Is:
- Deep Hopelessness!
 - As Jesus Said:
 - “No Man Can Come To Me!”
 - This Is Why The Crowd:
 - Kept Murmuring Against Jesus!
 - In & Of Themselves:
 - They Could Not Know Him Or Come To Him Or Believe In Him!
 - And - This Is True:
 - Of All Of Us!
 - “No Man Can Come To Me!”
 - We Are In A State Of Complete Hopeless & Inability!
 - But - Then Jesus Offers:
 - Divine Helpfulness!
 - “No Man Can Come To Me, Except The Father Which Hath Sent Me Draw Him!”
 - Jesus Wants You To Know That:
 - Even Though You May Be:
 - Unable To Come To Him!
 - God Himself Is More Than Able:
 - To Bring You To Him!
 - In Fact - Jesus Links:
 - His Own Sending - By The Father:
 - With Their Drawing!
 - Since God The Father:
 - Was Able To Send Jesus:
 - As The True Manna From Heaven!
 - God Is Able To Draw You:
 - In The Same Power!
 - And - When God Draws You:
 - To Jesus - Like Fishermen:
 - Drawing A Net Into A Ship:
 - You Will Come To Him!
 - And - As Jesus Sad In:
 - 6:37 - “All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out!
 - And - When He Does This:
 - Jesus Then Promises:
 - Definite Hopefulness!
 - For A Third Time In This Chapter:
 - Jesus Says - “And I Will Raise Him Up At The Last Day!”
 - Which Means - You Will Experience:
 - “Everlasting Life” - In All Of Its Fulness!
 - And - If This Has Been:
 - Your Experience - Then:
 - Remember - It Is All Because Of:
 - God’s Grace - And:
 - His Gracious Initiative:
 - To Draw You To Christ!
 - Even As The Lord Said:
 - In Jeremiah 31:3 - “The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, [saying], Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee!”
 - If This Is True For You:

- Then - Rejoice In:
 - God's Grace - To Bring You:
 - To Christ!
- Because Now - You Really Can:
 - Know Him!

* But Also - As We Find In 6:45-46:

2. ***God's Gracious Illumination:***

- Makes It Possible:
 - For You To Know & Believe In Christ!
 - Because Jesus Adds:
 - "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. / Not that any man hath seen the Father, save he which is of God, he hath seen the Father!"
 - In 6:43 - Jesus Brings Up A Verse:
 - From Isaiah The Prophet:
 - Isaiah 54:13 - Where Isaiah Wrote:
 - "And all thy children [shall be] taught of the LORD!"
 - So - Neither Jesus Or Isaiah:
 - Was Saying That:
 - Everyone In The World:
 - Would Be "Taught Of God!"
 - But Only - All The True "Children" Of God:
 - Will Be Taught Of God!
 - In Other Words - This Will Be:
 - The Evidence - If You Are:
 - A True Child Of God:
 - Through Faith In Christ!
 - And - The Evidence Is:
 - That You Will:
- Respond To God's Message!
 - The Message Of His Word!
 - God Draws Sinners To His Son:
 - By Opening:
 - Their Eyes!
 - Their Ears!
 - Their Hearts!
 - So That - They Will:
 - Listen & Learn From Him:
 - Through His Word:
 - And - Become His Student / Pupil!
 - And - Those Who:
 - Respond To God's Message:
 - Will Also:
- Respond To God's Messenger!
 - The Messenger Of His Son!
 - When You Come To Christ:
 - That Is Evidence That:
 - God Has Illuminated Your Heart:
 - With His Truth!
- And - If There Is:
 - This Evidence - In Your Life - Then:
 - Remember - It Is All Because Of:
 - God's Grace!
 - His Gracious Initiation - And:
 - His Gracious Illumination:
 - To Teach You The Gospel!
- And - To Teach You:

- Of All You Need To Know & Believe:
 - About God! (Sovereign)
 - About Yourself! (Sinner) And:
 - About Christ! (Savior)
- And - If This Is True For You:
 - Then Rest In:
 - God's Grace - To Teach You:
 - About Christ!
 - Now - You Really Can Know Him - And:
 - Believe In Him!

* But - Even More - As We Find Next In 6:47-50:

3. ***God's Gracious Invitation:***

- Makes It Possible:
 - For You To Know & Believe In Christ!
 - As Jesus Continues:
 - "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life. / I am that bread of life. / Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. / This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die!"
 - These Are The Truths:
 - That You Must Know & Believe:
 - In Order To Be Saved!
 - And So - For The Ninth Time:
 - Jesus Draws Attention To These Truths:
 - With His "Verily, Verily" Formula!
 - And So - Implied In This:
 - Is Another Gracious Invitation:
 - To Believe In Him!
 - Isn't This The Whole Point Of John's Gospel?
 - 20:31 - "But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name!"
 - And So - Jesus Himself:
 - Invites You:
- To A Greater Quality Of Life!
 - So Often - When We Hear The Words:
 - "Everlasting Life" - We Think In Terms Of:
 - Quantity! And - Though:
 - There Certainly Is That:
 - As We Will See!
 - It Is More About:
 - The Quality Of Life:
 - That Comes From Jesus:
 - As "The Bread Of Life!"
 - Because Jesus Is:
 - The Source & Sustainer Of This Life:
 - He Offers A Life:
 - Of Eternal Fulfilment And Satisfaction In Him!
 - No Want!
 - Psalm 23:1 - "The Lord Is My Shepherd; I Shall Not Want!"
 - And Yet - He Still Invites You:
- To A Greater Quantity Of Life!
 - A Life Of No Want:
 - With No End!
 - And - This Is Because:
 - The Bread That Jesus Offers:
 - Is Far Greater Than Even:
 - The Bread That God Gave:
 - Their Fathers In The Wilderness!

- They Ate Manna:
 - And Still Died!
 - But - The Bread That Jesus Is:
 - Is Enough To Sustain You:
 - Through This Wilderness & Beyond!
- And - If There Is:
 - This Expression - In Your Heart:
 - Even Of Faith & Belief In Christ!
 - Then Remember - It Is All Because Of:
 - God's Grace!
 - His Gracious Initiation!
 - His Gracious Illumination! And:
 - His Gracious Invitation:
 - To "Believe On The Lord Jesus Christ" - And - "Be Saved!"
 - Is This True For You Today?
 - It May Be God's Role:
 - To Draw You:
 - To Faith In Christ!
 - But - It Is Your Responsibility:
 - To Believe - And To:
 - Personally & Actively Express:
 - The Work Of God Going On In Your Heart!
 - And - If This Is True For You!
 - Then - Respond To:
 - God's Grace - With Greater Love & Devotion!
 - Because Now - You Can Really Know Him!
 - And - Believe In Him!
 - And - Live With Him!
 - Forever!

* But - All Of This Is Made Possible - Because Of:

4. God's Gracious Implementation:

- That We Find In 6:51!
 - The Gracious Implementation:
 - Of The Gospel!
 - Because - Without This:
 - We Would Still Be Lost And Undone!
 - In The First Part Of:
 - 6:51 - Jesus Reiterates:
 - What He Already Said!
 - "I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever!"
 - But Then - In The Last Part Of:
 - 6:51 - Jesus Tells Us:
 - What He Means By His Bread!
 - "And the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world!"
 - So - Jesus Is Both:
 - The Gift & The Giver:
 - Of The Bread Of Life!
 - And - This Is How He Gives:
 - His Gift!
 - Jesus Gives Life To The Word:
 - By Giving His Life:
 - For The World!
 - And - This Gift Is:
 - A Voluntary Sacrifice!
 - Two Times He Says:

- "I Will Give!"
 - "I - Myself - Will Give!"
- Jesus Offered Himself:
 - In His Own Flesh - Willingly:
 - So That He Might Secure Life:
 - For Those Whom:
 - His Father Gave To Him & Draws To Him!
- Even As We Are Told:
 - In Hebrews 9:14:
 - "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"
 - But - His Gift Is Also:
- A Vicarious Sacrifice!
 - So That - Anyone In The World:
 - Who Comes To Him & Believes In Him:
 - Might Know That:
 - He Gave His Life:
 - For Them!
 - Even As We Are Told:
 - In Isaiah 53:4-6 - About Jesus:
 - "Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. / But he [was] wounded for our transgressions, [he was] bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace [was] upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. / All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all!"
- And - This Is:
 - The Great Exchange - That Was Made:
 - By Jesus - On The Cross:
 - For The Salvation Of:
 - Your Soul!
 - In Mark 8:37 - Jesus Asks:
 - "What Shall A Man Give In Exchange For His Soul?"
 - The Only Exchange Possible:
 - Is The Exchange Of:
 - God's Life For Your Life!
 - And - This Is What:
 - The Lord Jesus Christ:
 - Came To Do!
 - So That Now:
 - You Can Really Know Him!
 - And Believe In Him!
 - And Live With Him!
 - And Have Fellowship With Him:
 - Forever!

Conclusion:

1. And - If All This Is True For You:
 - Then - Remember That:
 - It Is All Of God's Grace!
 - Even As William Newell Once Wrote:
 - O The Love That Drew Salvations Plan!
 - O The Grace That Brought It Down To Man!
 - O The Mighty Gulf That God Did Span!
 - At Calvary!
2. The Salvation Of Your Soul:
 - From Start To Finish:
 - Is All Of God's Grace!

- His Gracious Initiative!
 - His Gracious Illumination!
 - His Gracious Invitation! And:
 - His Gracious Implementation!
 - So That - When You Just:
 - Accept His Invitation:
 - And Believe In Christ:
 - You Can Now:
 - Rejoice & Rest In:
 - His Life & Love!
3. So - Have You Accepted:
 - God's Gracious Invitation?
 - If Not - Do So:
 - This Very Day!
 - If So - Then:
 - Recommit Your Life:
 - To Him!
 - Because God Has Made It Possible:
 - To Really Know Him!
 - All Through His Grace!

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