

# “I Am the Bread of Life”

John 6:35 - “And Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.”

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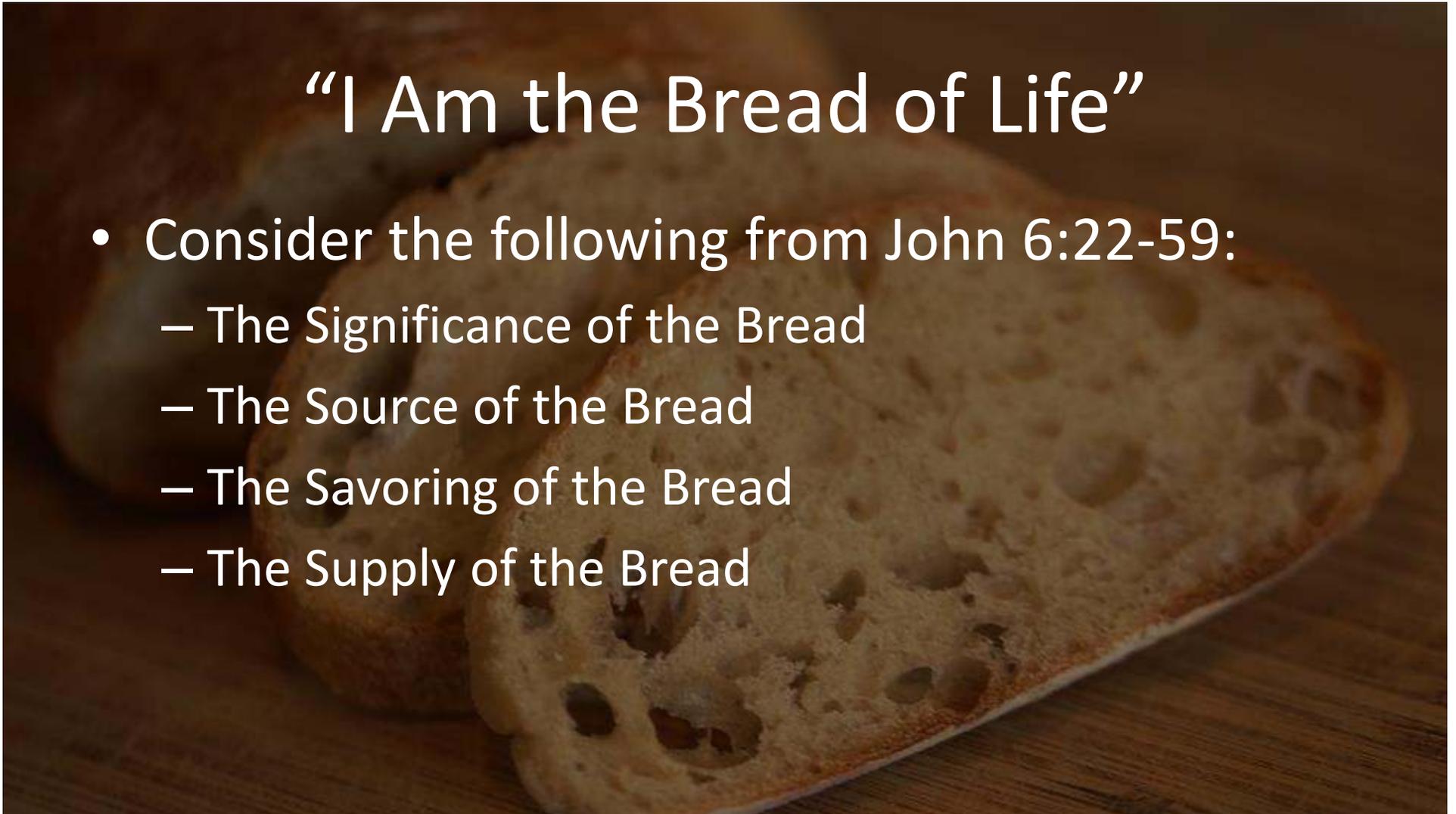
- The Bread of Life sermon is believed to have been delivered near the synagogue of Capernaum. (Greek: ἄρτος τῆς ζωῆς, artos tēs zōēs)
- It is actually part of a series of “I AM” sermons presented by Jesus as He was revealing Himself and His mission in this world.
  - “I Am the Light of the World”
  - “I Am the Door”
  - “I Am the Good Shepherd”
  - “I Am the Resurrection and the Life”
  - “I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life”
  - “I Am the True Vine
  - “I Am the Christ”
  - “I Am the Son of God”

# “I Am the Bread of Life”

- It has been mistakenly taught in liturgical faiths that this is Jesus’ “Eucharist” instruction. This is untrue for several reasons:
  - The Eucharist would necessarily have to include dried fish; the adherents do not include fish in it -- inconsistent
  - It trivializes the context, which encompasses the entire incarnate God, not merely His body
  - If it is speaking of the bread of the Lord’s Supper, it contradicts the texts that speak of the institution of the Supper on Passover
- Some brethren also mistakenly believe this passage is talking about the Body of the Lord in the Communion.

# “I Am the Bread of Life”

- Consider the following from John 6:22-59:
  - The Significance of the Bread
  - The Source of the Bread
  - The Savoring of the Bread
  - The Supply of the Bread



# The Significance Of The Bread Of Life

- What does the bread mean?
  - John 6:35 - “And Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.”
  - Bread is a universal comestible. Every country in the world has some form of bread.
  - Even in ancient times they made bread, and it has been found fossilized in many archeological digs.
  - It can and has been made from every form of grain and seed on earth
  - Bread is this associated with life, health, nourishment, and prosperity.

# The Significance Of The Bread Of Life

- Jesus said, “I am the bread of life.”
  - This is an exclusive claim. This kind of bread cannot be obtained anywhere else.
  - John 14:6 - “Jesus said to him, I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”
  - Matt. 27:43 - “He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now if He will have Him; for He said, 'I am the Son of God.'”

# The Significance Of The Bread Of Life

- John 1:34 - “And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.”
- John 14:9 - “Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father...”
- Acts 4:12 - “Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

# The Significance Of The Bread Of Life

- These statements cannot be reconciled with the statements or claims of any other man or faith. Whatever, bread Jesus happens to be is unique in this world
- There is only one Christ; and therefore, there is only one manifestation that is the bread of which Jesus speaks. Jesus and Jesus alone is the bread of life.
  - Matt. 23:10 - “And do not be called teachers; for One is your Teacher, the Christ.”
  - Isa. 9:6 - “For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

# The Significance Of The Bread Of Life

- Jesus, as the Bread of Life, is the One who gives and sustains life
  - He is the One Who gives the food that leads to eternal life - 27
  - He is the One God the Father sealed and ordained to this purpose - 27
  - He is the One that God the Father sent - 29, 40, 57
  - He is the One in Whom we must believe - 29
  - He is the True Bread from heaven - 32
  - He is the One Who came down out of heaven - 33
  - He is the Bread that gives life to the world - 33
  - He is the Bread of Life - 35, 48

# The Significance Of The Bread Of Life

- Jesus, as the Bread of Life, is the One who gives and sustains life
  - He is the One Who promises to end our hunger - 35
  - He is the One Who does the will of the Father - 38
  - He is the One Who will raise up believers in the last day - 39, 40
  - He is the Son - 40
  - He is the One Who declares the Father's will - 40
  - He is the One Who grants eternal life to believers - 40, 47
  - He is the One men approach who learned of the Father - 45
  - He is the One Who has seen the Father - 46

# The Significance Of The Bread Of Life

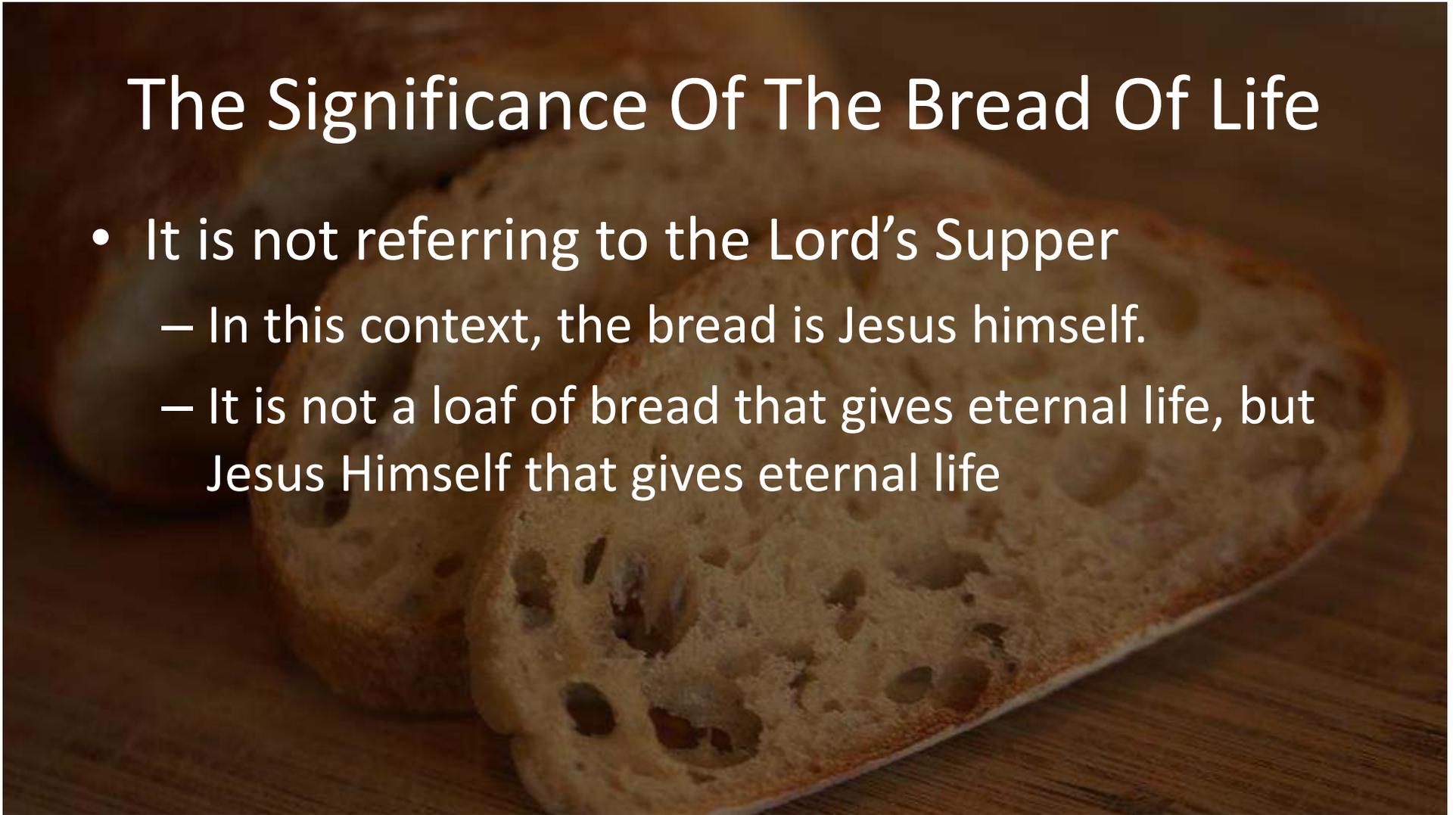
- Jesus, as the Bread of Life, is the One who gives and sustains life
  - He provides bread of which those who eat will not die - 50, 51
  - He is the Living Bread which came down from heaven - 51
  - He is the One Who gives His flesh for the life of the world - 51
  - He is the One Who gives His flesh and blood for food - 54, 55
  - He dwells in the one who partakes of Him - 56
  - He is the One in Whom partakers of Him dwell - 56
  - He is the One Who lives according to the Father - 57
  - He is the One of Whom partakers of Him will live by Him - 57

# The Significance Of The Bread Of Life

- What is the “bread” in this context?
  - Jesus refers to it as food in 27
  - It is that which gives eternal life - 27, 33, 35, 48, 50, 51
  - He says that this bread is His flesh - 35, 48, 51
  - It is contrasted with manna of which those who ate died - 49

# The Significance Of The Bread Of Life

- It is not referring to the Lord's Supper
  - In this context, the bread is Jesus himself.
  - It is not a loaf of bread that gives eternal life, but Jesus Himself that gives eternal life



# The Significance Of The Bread Of Life

- It is the teaching from and about Jesus which we must believe in order to be saved, namely:
  - That He was sent from God the Father
  - That He always did the Father's will
  - That He represents the Father
  - That He teaches what the Father wants us to hear
  - That this teaching includes the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ
  - That this teaching includes the fact that those who believe and obey Jesus will have eternal life.

# The Significance Of The Bread Of Life

- The key that unlocks this sermon is 45
  - John 6:45 - “It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me.”
- “The need of the immaterial is the most deeply rooted of all needs. One must have bread; but before bread, one must have the Truth.” (Victor Hugo)

# The Significance Of The Bread Of Life

- “As well as physical hunger, man also suffers from another form of hunger that cannot be sated with ordinary food. It is a hunger for life, a hunger for love, a hunger for eternity. Manna was the sign that prefigured the food that satisfies this profound hunger present in man. Jesus gives us this nourishment, or rather, He Himself is the living bread that gives life to the world. It is not a simple form of nourishment to sate our bodies, like manna; Christ is the bread of the last times, able to give life, eternal life, because the substance of this bread is the love of God.”  
(John Lateran, 6/20/14)

# “I Am the Bread of Life”

- We will consider: The Source of the Bread, The Savoring of the Bread, and The Supply of the Bread in the second lesson.

