



Gospel of John

1-22-23



- 1a In the Beginning – Love from Eternal Past
- 1b Come & See – Love Calls Forth Disciples
- 2-3 Everyone Who Believes – God Loved World
- 4 But Whoever Drinks – Love the Living Water
- 5 Pick Up Your Mat – Loving the Lonely
- 6 I Am Bread
- 7 He Sent Me
- 8 I Am the Light
- 9 You Have Seen Me
- 10 I Know My Own
- 11 I Am the Resurrection

6:35 Jesus said,
“I am the Bread of Life!”
 Whoever comes to me will
NEVER go hungry,



Loving the Bread of Life

Christ Walking on the Waters
by Julius ergius Von Klever

John the Evangelist & Peter
by Albrecht Dürer (1526)



Profoundest Biblical Metaphor

I AM the Bread of Life

*Profoundest ... because it applies Today
Applies Tomorrow ... Ten Thousand Years ...*

we will have NO LESS days to praise

SADLY ... John 6 tells us that on hearing ...

Many Disciples LEAVE

So ... the BEST image, metaphor, picture ... TURNS OFF

End of John 6, after Bread of Life ... Many Disciples Scram

HOW do we Perfectly Picture this Pitiful Pernicious Piece

Perhaps ONE Stanza of an OLD classic mournful dirge



You ever been hungry?

**100% Doucette
Blueberry Muffin**

c/o Sue Shaw Bakery

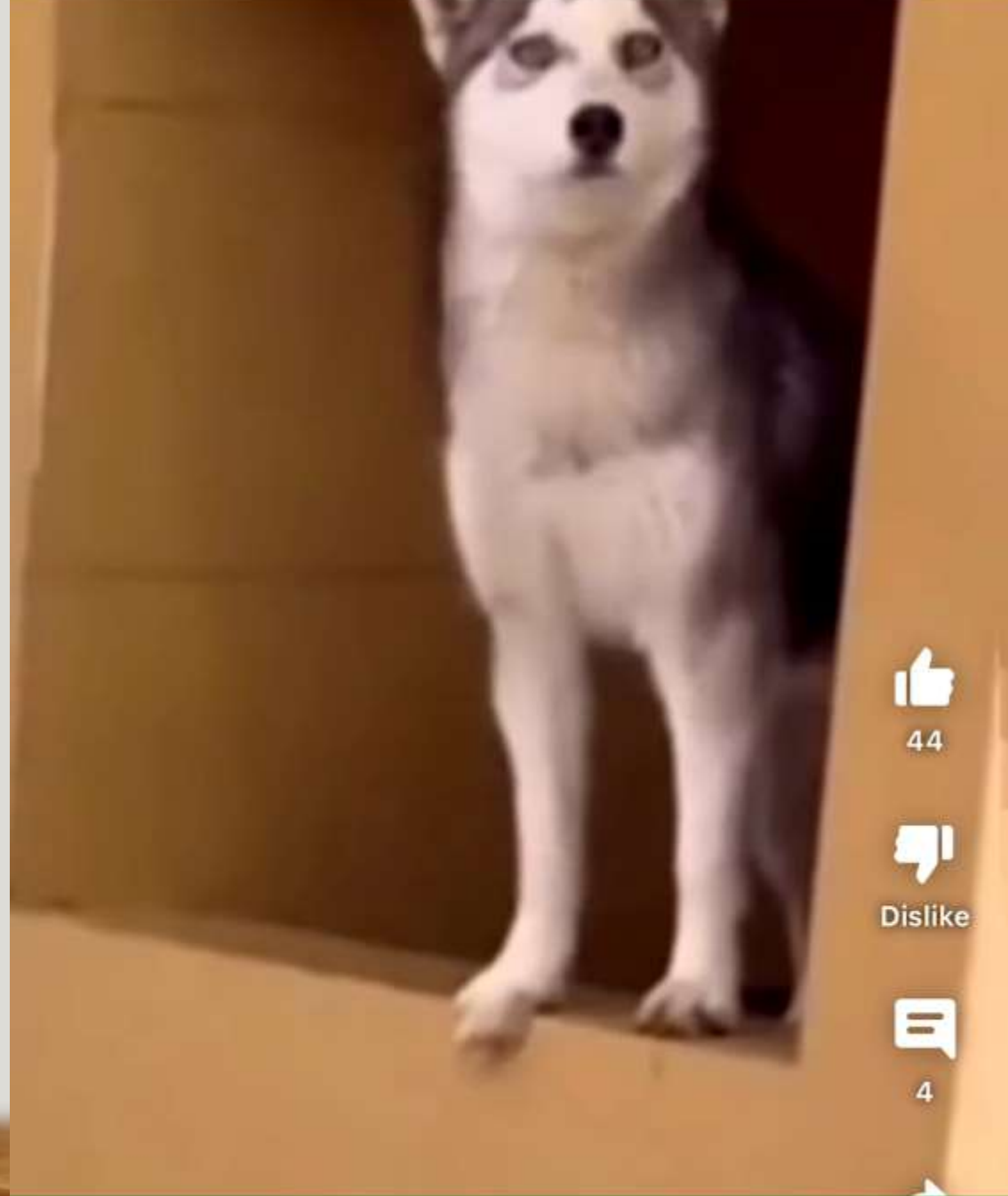


since we're gonna look at the *Bread of Life*

You ever been hungry?



Kinda ... difference between
Men & Women at DINNER



Some claim this song goes back to a
16th century ballad "The Unfortunate Rake"
Many versions since ... Even old 1905 Miners' song
Most popular is 1964 version by **The Animals**
Seems this pictures the wayward **DRIFT**

Pictures inclination to **LEAVE ... Go Backward**

Oh, mother, tell your children
Not to do what I have done
Spend your lives in sin and MISERY
In the House of the Rising Sun

Well, I got one foot on the platform
The other foot on the train



John 3, Jesus & Disciples go into Judean
countryside and disciples baptize

John 4, Jesus was heading to Galilee ... thru Samaria

Woman at the Well – **No Guile Gal**

4:43-54 Jesus heads up to Galilee ... to Cana

4:46 Heals Royal official's son sick at Capernaum

John 5 ... Jesus heals a man paralyzed 38 years at Pool of Bethesda

House of Mercy

After healing paralyzed man ... Jesus teaches on Works of Father

Matthew 14 & Mark 6 - John Baptist beheaded **before** 5,000 Fed

John 6 ... Feeds 5,000 ... Walks on Water ... *then*

Jesus IS the Bread of Life



We are so use to this statement

Jesus IS the Bread of Life

Often ... rightly so ... inspired many messages

Yet—when was the last time you looked *INSIDE*

The **WHOLE** of Chapter 6?

Reading **WHOLE** of 6 ... Bread **URNS** Multitude **AWAY**

Bread of LIFE!

Jesus elaborates, **MANY** Disciples leave ... skedaddle ...

MANY Fly Away

HOW can such a beautiful image **TURN OFF** so many?



Christ Walking on the Waters
by Russian Painter
Julius Sergius Von Klever
(1850-1924)

Alternate title:

**Metaphor that Made a
Multitude MAD**

Miracle for Disciples' Eyes only defies understanding ... what FOLLOWS is a **SAD STORY**

John 6 ... two Stories: Feeding 5,000 & Walking on Water
then ... *t h e n* the

Profoundest *Biblical* Metaphor

Jesus, **“I AM the Bread of Life!”**

Simile – *similar* – “I can fly *like* an eagle” = “as, like”

Simile – this car drives *like* a boat ... or *like* a trash truck

Metaphor – **“IS”** ^{THE} _{THING} here are some **Famous Metaphors**

- **“Wall** of Separation between church & state” = *1,000+ books*
- “World is a **STAGE**, all men & women merely players”
- “Art **washes** away from the soul the dust of everyday life” ...
- “I am the good **SHEPHARD** ... lay down my life for the sheep”



We've **ALREADY** seen several **Biblical Metaphors**

John 1 “Make **STRAIGHT** they way of the Lord”

“Look, the **LAMB** of God.”

John 2 “Stop turning my Father’s **HOUSE** into a market!”

“Destroy this **TEMPLE**” < *his body*

John 3 “No one can see the kingdom of God unless they are

BORN Again

“**LIGHT** has come into the world ... loved **DARKNESS**”

John 4 “The **WATER** I give them will become in them a
SPRING of water welling up to Eternal Life.”

“My **FOOD** ... to do the will of Him who sent me.”

John 5 “John was a **LAMP** that burned and gave **LIGHT**”

In case you are wondering ...

John 1:1-3 is NOT METAPHOR

- 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**
- 2 He—the WORD, Christ—was with God in the beginning.**
- 3 Through Him ALL things were made....**
- 4 In Him was LIFE ... LIFE was the LIGHT of ALL Humankind.**

John 1:1-3 is NOT about METAPHOR ... but REALITY ...

As in Genesis 1 “God spoke ...” ... *beyond our understanding*

John 1:1-3 is NOT about METAPHOR ... but about ...

HISTORY of Eternity

Metaphor – **“IS”** ... here are more **Famous Metaphors**

“Arts & Sciences are BRANCHES of same tree”

“He was a FISH out of WATER in his new job”

“Life is a HIGHWAY” ... “Beat a dead HORSE”

“First rays of sunshine STROKED my face.”

“Her eyes were DIAMONDS” ... “Early BIRD” ... “Night OWL”

“He is a shining STAR” ... “Child is the APPLE of my eye”

“Snow is a white BLANKET” ... “He has a heart of STONE”

“She has a heart of GOLD”

Artful Metaphors FREE the Mind to See the Sunshine

Metaphor – “**IS**” more **Famous Metaphors**

“Hope is the Thing With Feathers” by Emily Dickinson

Hope is the thing with feathers

That perches in the SOUL

And sings the tune without the words

And never stops at all.

Bible is **FILLED** with metaphors ... like Heb. 4:12 & John 15:5

Word of God *IS living ... sharper than any two-edged sword*

I am the Vine, ye are the branches

Artful Metaphors **FREE** the Mind to See the Sunshine

WORSE ... Using word “Metaphor” – *CHEAPENS the Vision!*

Saying “Heart of Stone” is a *Metaphor* ... SOFTENS the stone

Trying to EXPLAIN how Jesus is “Shepherd” & “Vine”

Weakens the Shepherd’s Staff ... and Welts the VINE

Beauty & Power of Metaphor is in Touching *Infinity*

Beauty & Power of Metaphor is in Touching *ETERNITY*

Best USERS of Metaphor make BILLIONS of \$\$\$\$

Songs of EVERY Era ... for Love, Grief, Joy, Longing ...

Isa 64:8 *We are the clay, and You are our potter*

Artful Metaphors FREE the Mind to See the Sunshine

WORSE ... Using “Metaphor” – CHEAPENS the Vision!

Amazing grace how SWEET the sound

That saved a wretch like me

I once was LOST, but now I'm FOUND

Was BLIND but now I SEE

'Twas grace that TAUGHT my heart to fear

And grace my fears relieved

Songs of EVERY Era ... for Love, Grief, Joy, Longing ...

I am the Vine, ye are the branches

Artful Metaphors FREE the Mind to See the Sunshine



Sadly, John 6, Jesus IS the Bread of Life > TURNS disciples AWAY

Yesterday, and days before

Sun is cold and rain is hard

I know, been that way for ALL MY TIME

'Til forever, on it goes

Through the circle, fast and slow

I know, it can't stop, I wonder

I want to know, have you
ever seen the rain?

*I want to know, have you
ever seen the rain?*

Comin' down . . . sunny day

Yah missed it ...
if yah think he's
merely singing
about WET Rain

John 6 – raining
on Sunny DAY
of Bread of Life

Many LEFT



Matthew 14 – John the Baptist is Beheaded

Jesus hears about this, takes boat to a solitary place

Crowds hear and follow him ... he lands ... **HEALS sick**

Getting late ... “remote place” disciples want to send away

Jesus takes 5 loaves & 2 fish ... **FEEDS 5,000**

Jesus sends disciples away on Sea of Galilee ... **WIND Rises**

In the early morning ... Jesus comes **Walking on Water**

Arrive at **Gennesaret** ... people bring sick to Jesus

just touching his garment ... they are **HEALED**

Mark **MIRRORS** a lot of this ... but arrive at **Bethsaida** ...

Long after John 5 in Jerusalem
John 6 opens with Jesus crossing to
the “far shore” of Sea of Galilee

Positions himself on hill

Feeds 5,000 ... then

THEN Disciples cross Sea to SOMEPLACE

Mt 14 “**Shortly before Dawn**” ... Jesus

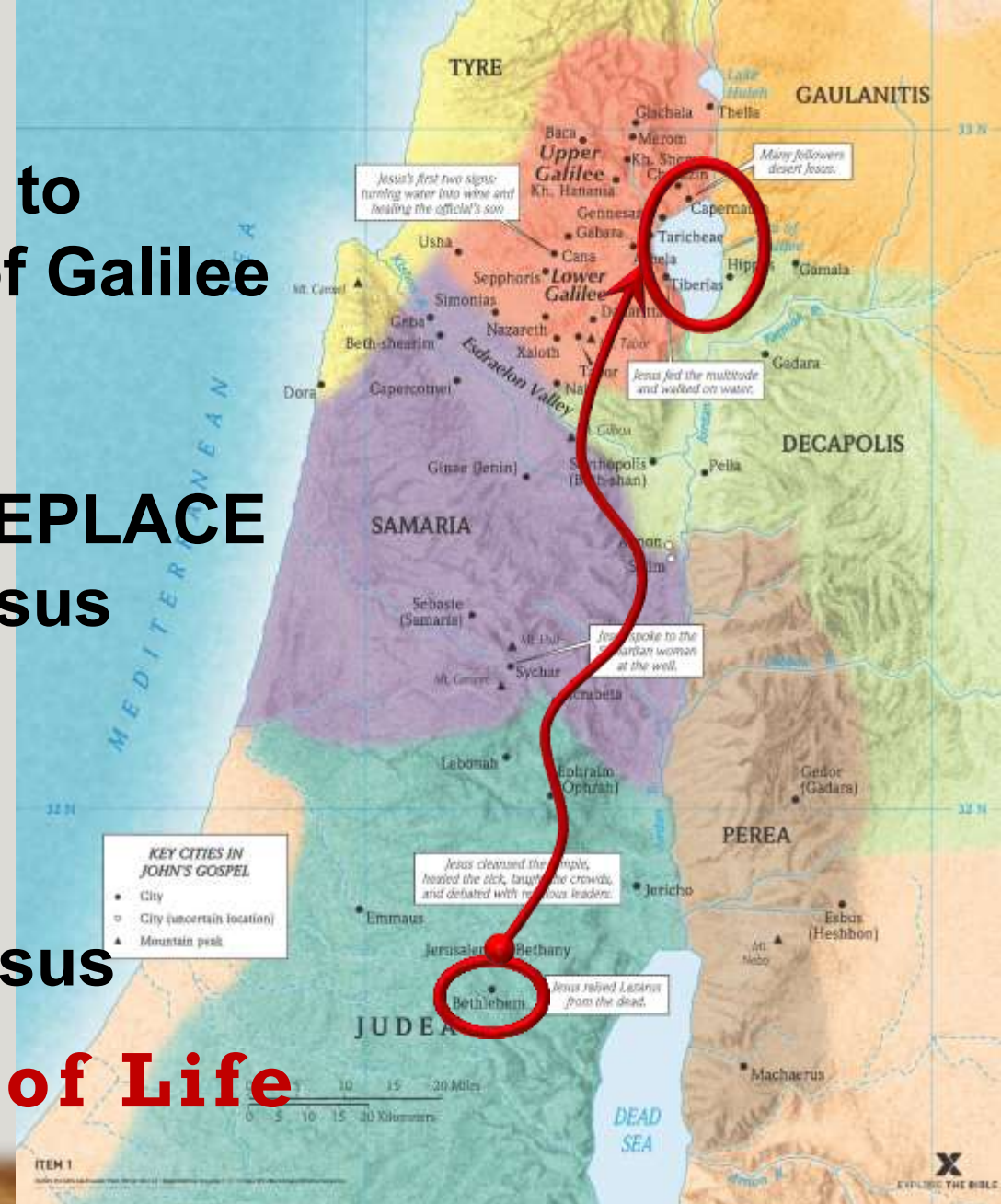
Walks on Water

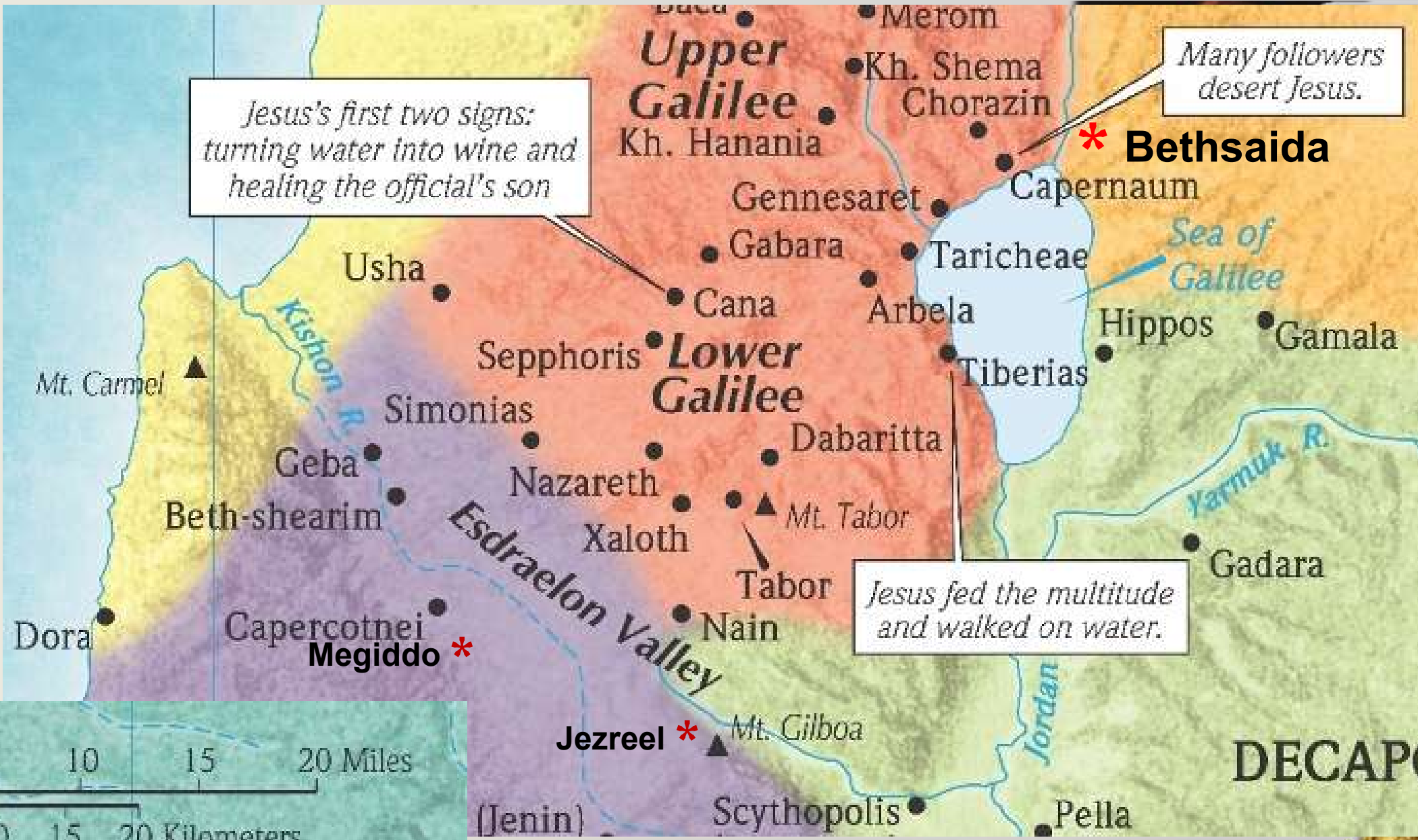
John 6:20 “**It is I, don’t be afraid**”

Disciples set off for Capernaum ...

Others go to Capernaum to see Jesus

There—Jesus tells about **Bread of Life**





*Jesus's first two signs:
turning water into wine and
healing the official's son*

*Many followers
desert Jesus.*

*Jesus fed the multitude
and walked on water.*



Sea of Chinnereth / of Kinneret
Sea of Galilee ...
1st Century Sea of Tiberius

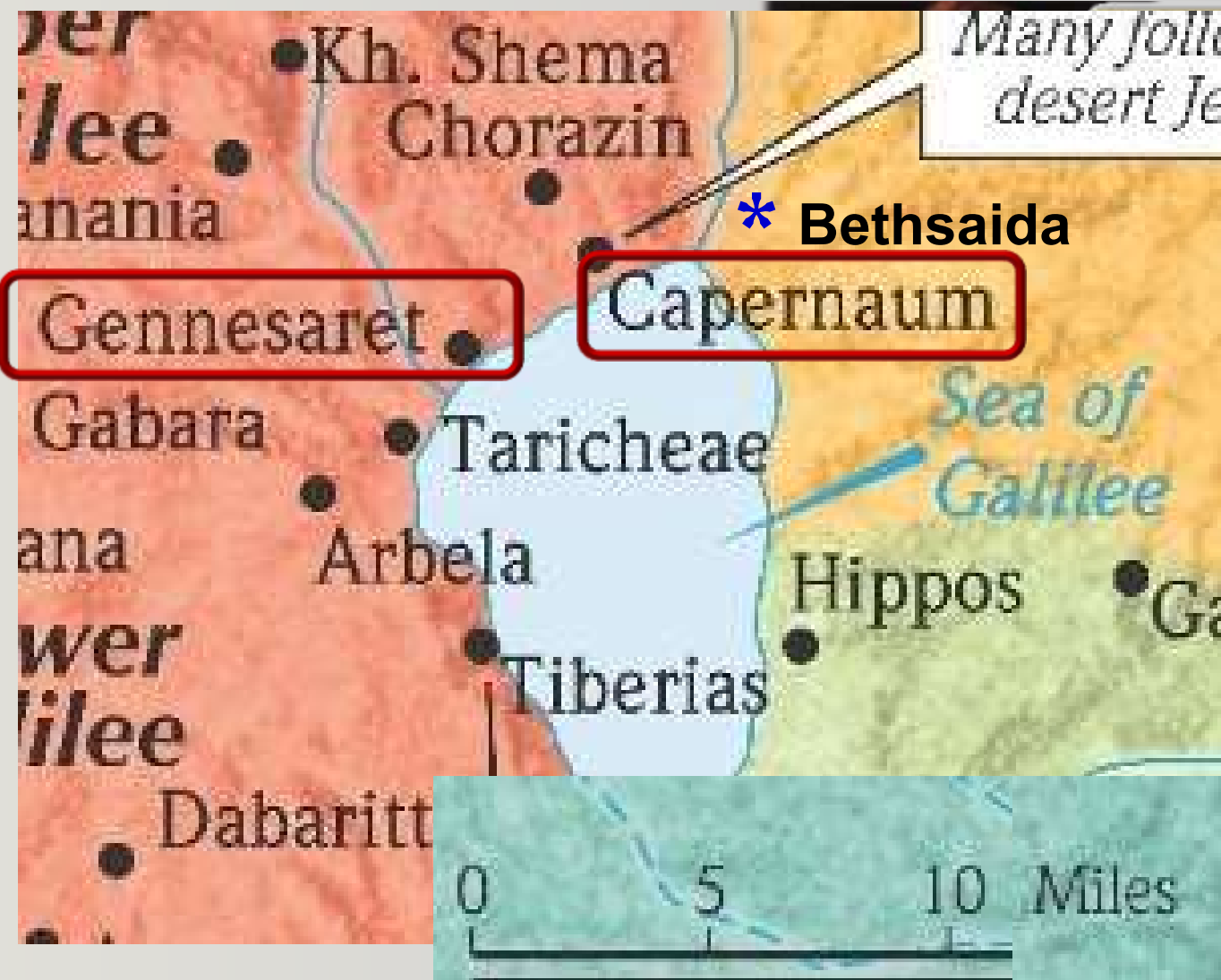
After walking on the water

Matthew 14 said disciples
arrived at Gennesaret

Mark 6 said disciples
arrived at Bethsaida

John 6 said crowds head
to Capernaum for Jesus

John 6:25 CROWD “found him on other side of lake”



**You ever
been hungry?**



FOOOD!
**I just couldn't
stop thinking
about it ...**



After Feeding the 5,000 ... Walking on the Water

John 6—Home to the

Profoundest Biblical Metaphor

5:25 Found Jesus on the other side of the lake ...

**26 “Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me,
not because you saw the signs I performed but
because you ate the LOAVES and had your FILL.**

27 Do not work for food that spoils ...

Today, easy bread & Junk Food & have restaurants

In A.D. 31, BREAD was worth MORE ...



In A.D. 31, BREAD was worth MUCH, much MORE

Bread was often *LIFE* ...

In A.D. 31 ... lucky to have TWO good Meals a Day

In A.D. 31, to be REGULARLY FILLED ... was

To Be WEALTHY ~ above the NORM ~ Prosperous

Emperors drew crowds to Coliseum with BREAD & Blood

Egypt was a GREAT supplier of GRAIN

BREAD has always been the BEST FOOD

BREAD most common single food with all meals

one **CAN** LIVE on just BREAD & WATER



**5:27 Do not work for food that spoils ...
but for food that endures to Eternal Life,
which the Son of Man will give you.
For on him God the Father has
placed his seal of approval.”**



**28 Then they asked him,
“What must we do TO DO the WORKS God requires?”**

**29 Jesus answered, “The WORK of God is this:
to believe in the one he has sent.”**

TROUBLE ... they cannot yet believe salvation is that

EASY

5:30 they ask for a sign ... like Moses' Manna

**32 Jesus clarifies, "Very truly I tell you ...
not Moses ...**

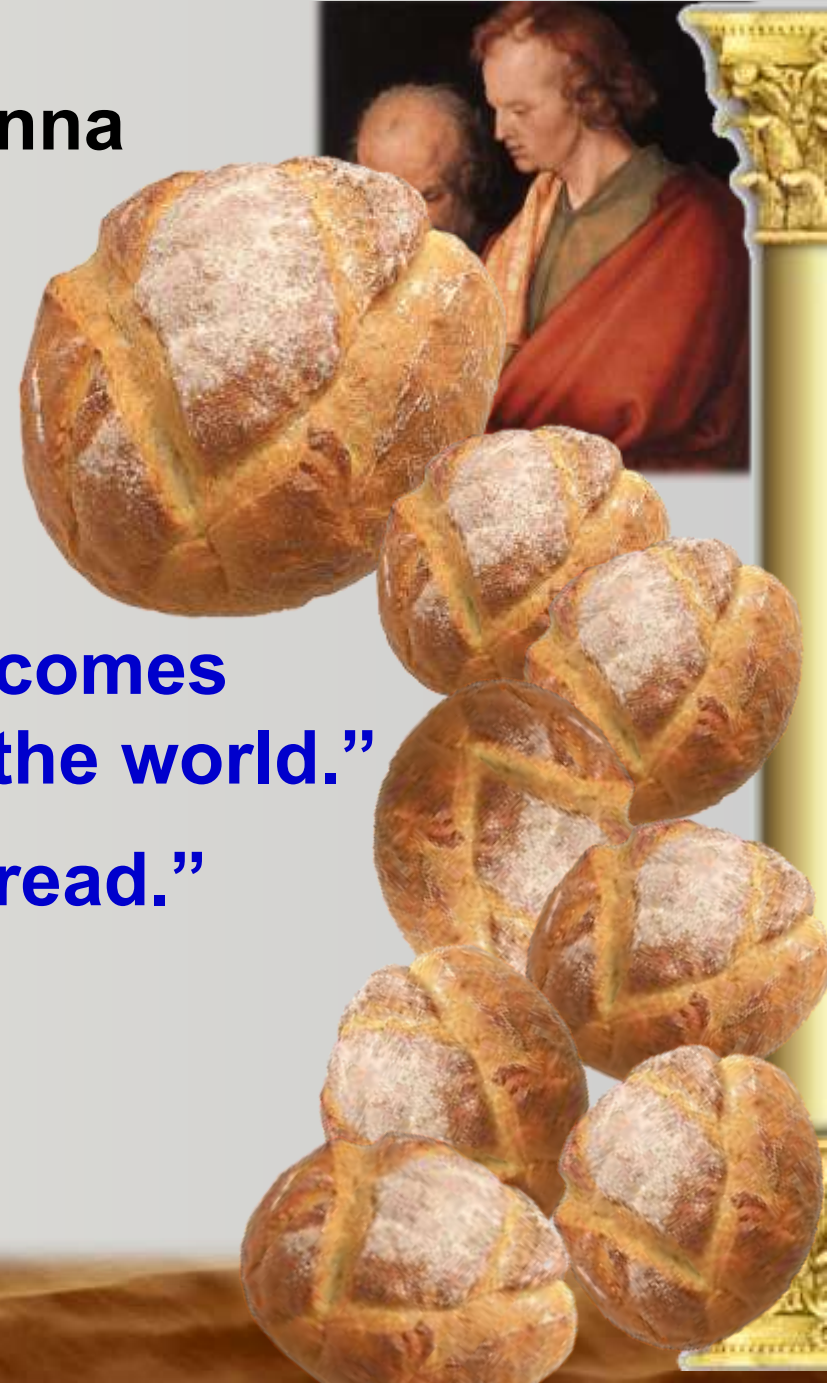
**but it is my Father who gives you the
true bread from heaven.**

**33 For the bread of God is the bread that comes
down from heaven and gives LIFE to the world."**

34 "Sir," they said, "always give us this bread."

35 Then Jesus declared,

"I AM the bread of life."



35 Whoever comes to me
will never go hungry, and whoever
believes in me will never be thirsty.

5:36-39 ... raise them up on **Last Day**

40 For my Father's will is that
everyone who looks to the Son and believes in Him
shall have Eternal Life, and

I will raise them up at the **Last Day**.

5:41-46 Jews grumble ...

Jesus says how He came down from heaven

Only Son has seen the Father



**47 Very truly I tell you,
the one who believes has Eternal Life.**

48 I AM the Bread of Life.

**49 Your ancestors ate the manna in
the wilderness, yet they died.**

**50 But here is the Bread that comes down from heaven,
which ANYONE may eat and NOT DIE.**

**51 I AM the Living Bread that came down from heaven.
Whoever eats this Bread will live forever.
This Bread is my FLESH, which**

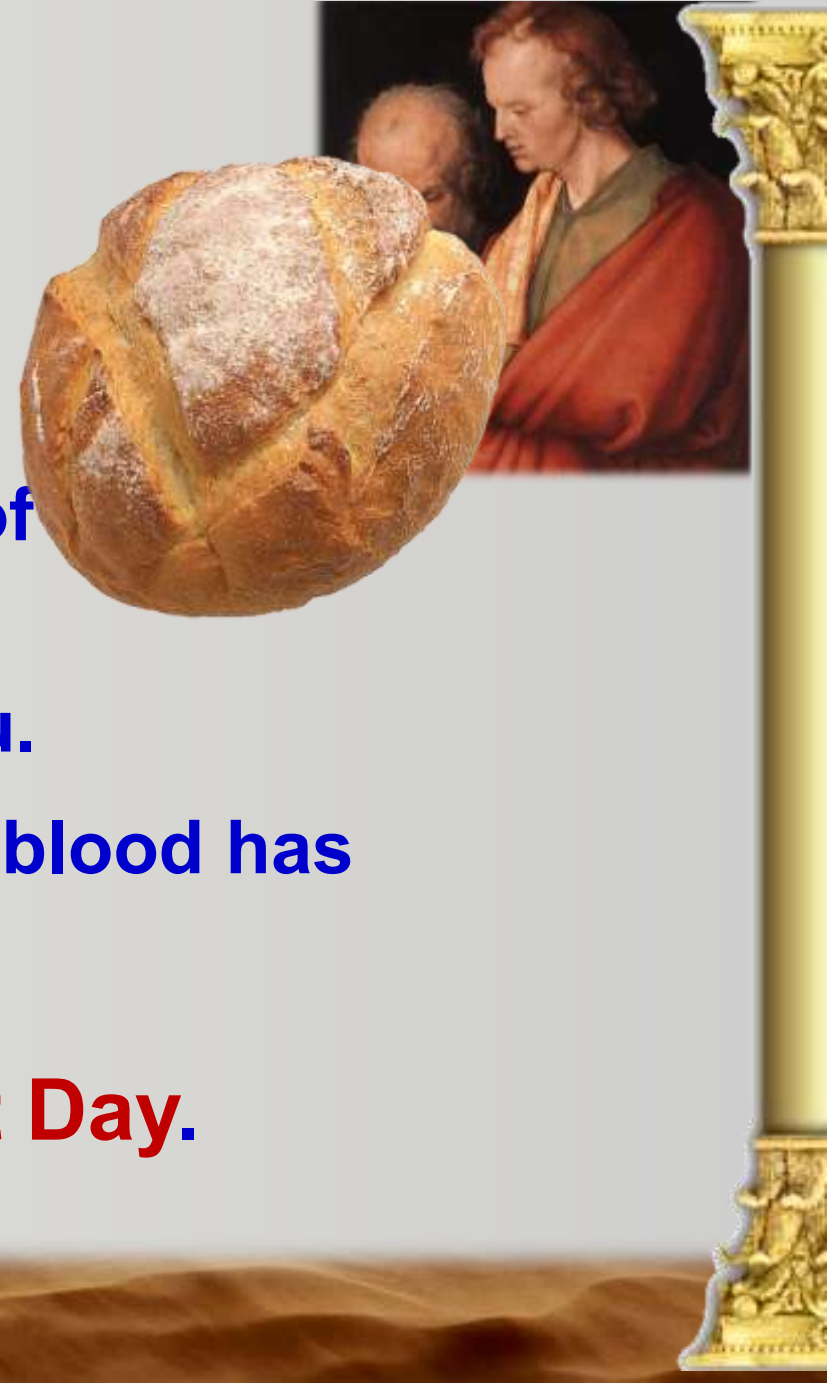
I will give for the LIFE of the world.”



52 Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?”

53 Jesus said to them, “Very truly I tell 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 them up at the **Last Day**.



6:55-58 ... kind of repeats himself ...

59 ... teaching in synagogue in Capernaum.

60 On hearing it, many of his disciples
said, "This is a hard teaching.

Who can accept it?"

6:61-63 Spirit gives LIFE....

64 Jesus knew who would betray ...

Almost Dizzying ...

Bread of Life = Soul Food

= *without it DIE*



Jesus adds to the confusion ...

**John 6:65 Jesus went on to say,
“This is why I told you that NO ONE
can come to me unless the
Father has enabled them.”**



MOST did NOT get it ... the Profoundest Biblical Metaphor

**66 From this time many of his disciples
turned back and no longer followed him.**

Knowing WHOLE story ... it is Music ... Poetry ... *Golden*

To hear Jesus say, “I am the Bread of Life.”

Jesus adds to the confusion ...

**John 6:65 Jesus went on to say,
“This is why I told you that NO ONE
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Father has enabled them.”

MOST did NOT get it ... Profoundest Biblical metaphor

**66 From this time many of his disciples
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Knowing WHOLE story ... it is Music ... Poetry ... *Golden*

To hear Jesus say, “I am the Bread of Life.”

**RAINING
On a
SUNNY
DAY**

**Coming Down
Sunny Day**



Yet ... the **WHOLE** passage even **PRESSES** US

- ✓ Even **WE** are stretched ... stressed ...
- ✓ Metaphor – the Image ... **BREAD** ...
- ✓ Bread of **LIFE** ... Never Hungry Again

WITHOUT Jesus ... NO **LIFE** on earth

Without Jesus ... there is **VACANCY** of Soul ...

Without **PARTAKING** of Jesus ... Spiritually **STARVE**

Your Spiritual Belly Bloats in Self-Pride ...

Worms Rot the Soul ... Skin's Moral Sensitivity Dries ... **DIES**

Your Spiritual **EYES** grow **YELLOW** w *materialism's* Jaundice



Jesus ... to Twelve who saw him Walk on Water

5:67 Jesus asked the Twelve:

“You do not want to leave too, do you?”

68 Simon Peter answered him,

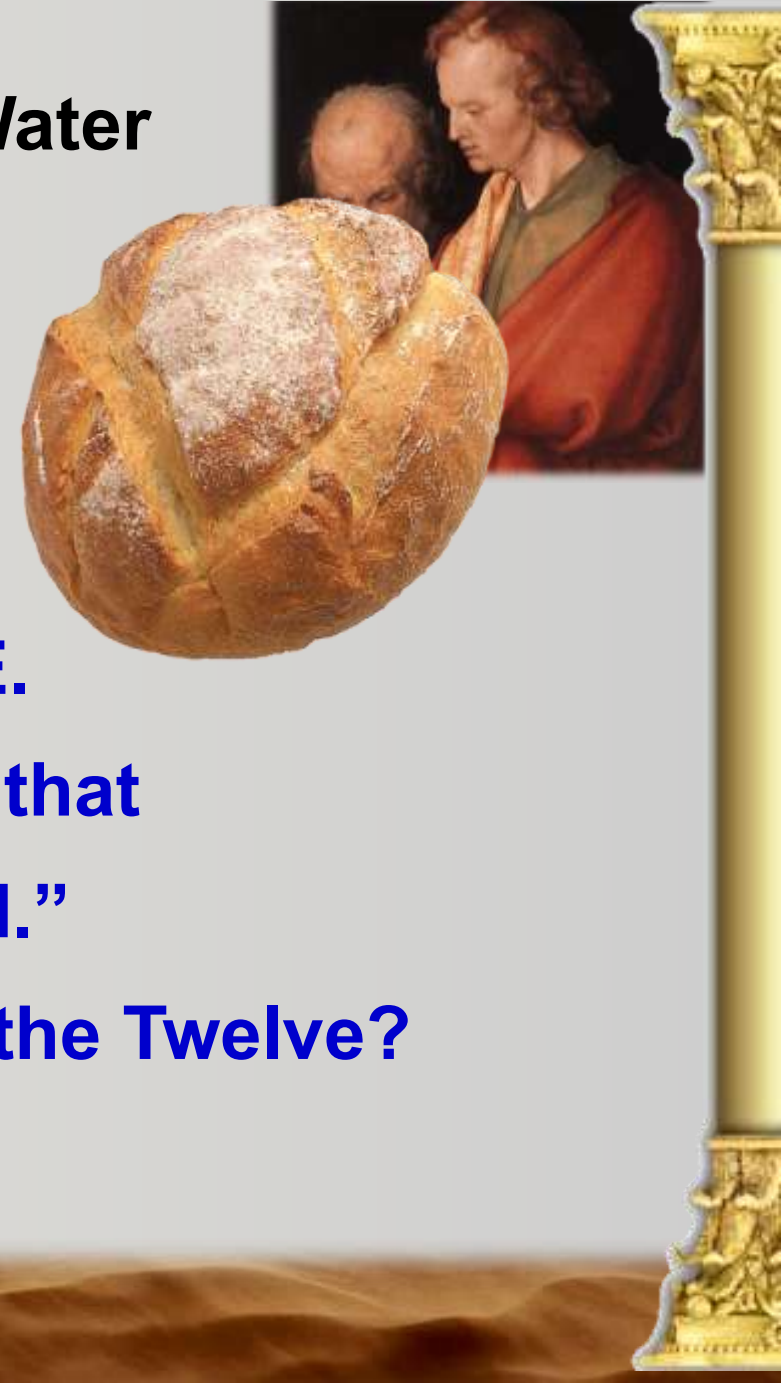
“Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of Eternal LIFE.

**69 We have come to believe and to KNOW that
you are the Holy One of God.”**

70 Jesus replied, “Have I not chosen you, the Twelve?

Yet one of you is a Devil!”



After Feeding the 5,000 ... Walking on the Water

John 6—is home to the

Profoundest Biblical Metaphor

I AM the Bread of Life

Remember ... the BEST is the HARDEST to Grasp

Jesus said “**Raise them on LAST DAY**” x4 ... **39, 40, 44, 54**

Most COMFORTING Biblical Metaphor or Image is

Marriage Supper of the Lamb

Marriage = Eternally Growing in Love & Devotion

COMFORTING metaphor – *how we will FEEL Eternally*



Profoundest Biblical Metaphor

I AM the Bread of Life

*Profoundest ... because it applies Today
Applies Tomorrow ... Ten Thousand Years ...*

we will have NO LESS days to praise

Marriage Supper of the Lamb ... is on the Last Day

Bread of Life - ETERNAL

**Col. 1:16-17 For by Him ALL things were created ...
in heaven & on earth.... ALL things were created
through Him & for Him. He is before ALL things, AND
in Him ALL things consist.**



Profoundest Biblical Metaphor

I AM the Bread of Life

Profoundest ... cause His Bread is ETERNAL

Profoundest ... cause His Bread is UNIVERSAL

ANY where to be had with BELIEVING

Profoundest ... cause His Bread NEVER gets OLD

Profoundest ... cause His Bread is FREE

WORK – is to **Believe** that God sent Jesus—**THE LIFE**

SAD ... Jewish Leaders Wanted to Kill Jesus

SAD ... MANY Disciples Left Jesus ... because

Bread for the Belly was more important than

SOUL FOOD

