June 17, 2025

GOSPEL OHIV

Craig Smith • John 6:27-69 • June 22, 2025

"Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you"...They asked Him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?" Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the One He has sent." So they asked Him, "What miraculous sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? Our forefathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Jesus said to them... "For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." (John 6:27-33)

- Jesus came to <u>be</u> bread, not <u>give</u> bread "Then Jesus declared, 'I am the bread of life...I am the bread that came down from heaven...I am the bread of life...I am the living bread that came down from heaven.'" (John 6:35, 41, 48, 51a)
- Jesus came to rescue a <u>family</u>, not institute a <u>religion</u> "All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of Him who sent me. And this is the will of Him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all that He has given me, but raise them up at the last day." (John 6:37-39)

Non-essential doctrines are up for great <u>discussion</u> and <u>debate</u>, not <u>division</u> and <u>destruction</u> - "'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 him up at the last day...No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at

• Jesus came to fill our <u>desires</u>, not our <u>stomachs</u> – "He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty." (John 6:35b)

Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. (1 Peter 2:2-3)

• Jesus came to force a <u>choice</u>, not introduce an <u>option</u> – "'This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.'... 'I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.'" (John 6:51b, 53-54)

There's a difference between being a <u>fan</u> of Jesus and being a <u>follower</u> of Jesus...

From this time many of His disciples turned back and no longer followed Him. "You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve. Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We believe and know that you are the Holy One of God." (John 6:66-69)